

# Tennessee Nurse

The voice for professional nursing in Tennessee since 1905

Quarterly circulation approximately 98,000 to all RNs, LPNs, and Student Nurses in Tennessee.



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## I Am TNA

by Irma L. Jordan, DNP, APRN, FNP/PMHNP-BC

As I wrote out my title, I have to tell you I feel a great deal of satisfaction! Not so much because of all the letters but because all of those degrees/certifications have an "N" in them! *I am a nurse*; and what has become even more important to me is *I am a professional nurse* and *I have a voice in nursing!*



Irma Jordan

Things didn't start out with the end in mind...I took a meandering path through my nursing career. My career choice was more one of practicality than a burning desire to become a nurse. I attended Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing (now Baptist College of Health Sciences) after discovering they paid tuition and housing if I agreed to work at the hospital for 18 months. I graduated with a diploma in nursing in 1973. For the next 14 years, I worked in various areas in the hospital, finally settling into work in a dialysis clinic. This is where events began to line up and exhibited a profound impact on my "nursing path."

I took a position as a transplant coordinator for the University of Tennessee, Memphis, and began to work closely with two RNs (one was an FNP and the other had a PhD in nursing). I had thought about going back to school, but made one excuse or another as to why this wasn't possible for me. What would a degree do for me? I was a very good nurse and didn't think more education would make a difference in how I did my job. (Sure knew I wouldn't be making that much difference in salary!) Then

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## A Change Advocate and Policy Developer in Practice

by Sharon Y. Fleming MSN, RN, CPNP-PC  
University of Alabama Huntsville

Today's nurses are faced with the challenge of how they can position themselves to be most effective in orchestrating policy changes in their surrounding communities and workplace. They must look at one of their most effective leaders and political activist, Florence Nightingale, and other successful leaders that achieved great accomplishments in policy development, as examples and mentors. They must choose to "buy-in" to the idea that nurses, by developing skills practiced by other political leaders in the past, can with collective power, make a difference in our society's healthcare by participating in policymaking.



Sharon Fleming

Because of high unemployment rates that continue to persist in this year, the healthcare industry is met with multiple challenges. Families that once had commercial insurance are faced with difficult choices regarding compliance with primary care, dental care, and preventive care decisions. Many nurses and nurse practitioners view the problem as enormous, and, due to lack of experience in the political realm, often take a backseat on issues. Nurses must recognize the example that Florence Nightingale, and many other nurse leaders, exhibited in order to gain strength to make bold attempts at policy change in this nation.

The writings of Florence Nightingale are still pertinent today. Healthcare reform is still a major issue in this society, and the topic of most media podiums. Nightingale became an activist when she recognized the need for change and reformation in the prisons, hospitals, army, and

English workhouses located in Europe and India (Schuyler, 1992). Although exhausted, and even sick at times, she recognized the need to deny herself the pleasures of life, in order to allow God to use her in the fight for humanity and the education of future healthcare advocates. Florence Nightingale was a mentor as she taught her students proper observation and assessment skills.

How did she, a frail, young, inexperienced activist, make a difference that continues to be recognized today? She used what she knew and maintained her commitment to humanity. As a nurse, she recognized the need for change and set an agenda to make things happen. When engaging with the Commission and Military, she used the power of listening and observation, recognized body language and conversation stoppers. She became a leader that was respected not only because of her caring spirit, but also because of her brilliance in tackling problems. When she went to the Barrack Hospital located in Scutari, she began to use her knowledge of statistics to write reports that eventually, through better management, became the best statistical department in Europe (Nightingale, 1859/1992).

Florence Nightingale wrote letters, 147 books and pamphlets, and countless reports concerning sanitation and health (Nightingale, 1859/1992). She is an example of how we can use written and communication skills, not only by networking, but also by forming coalitions of people with common interests to support common goals. Nurse practitioners must become passionate about an issue that they find in their communities, as reflected by Ruth Malone with her fight for recognition of the abuse by the tobacco industry, and let their voices be heard. Ruth Malone didn't succumb to obstacles, as her example Nightingale, until she was before the shareholders' board of Philip Morris, with her group of advocates, strategically prepared with evidence of the abuse and plans to overtake

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### TNA & TASN Joint Convention

October 14-16, 2011

Franklin Marriott Cool Springs  
Franklin, TN

See details on pages 5-7

### TNA Legislative Summit Provides Nurses Day on Capitol Hill

Gov. Bill Haslam welcomed more than 1,150 attendees to the Tennessee Nurses Association annual *Legislative Summit* on April 12, 2011, at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. The enthusiastic nursing students, registered nurses, and nursing faculty from 22 schools of nursing across the state attended the event to learn about becoming more involved in health policy development and the legislative process.

Susan Cooper, MSN, RN, Commissioner of the Department of Health, also delivered greetings. The keynote speaker, Karen Daley, PhD, RN, MPH, FAAN, President, American Nurses Association, presented *Health Care at a Turning Point: Seizing the Opportunity*.

A *Legislative Update on TNA Bills of Interest* was given by Wilhelmina Davis, Manager, TNA Government Affairs, so attendees could discuss important bills introduced in the current General Assembly with their legislators during appointments they had scheduled with them in the afternoon.

"Spending time at the legislature is always an eye opening experience for students and nurses

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Gov. Bill Haslam delivered welcoming remarks to more than 1,150 nursing students and nurses at the 2011 TNA Legislative Summit on Capitol Hill in Nashville.

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## I Am TNA

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one day it struck me—the job wasn't what needed to be different, it was the person doing the job. My view on what a nurse is began to change.

My nursing path, a nice unassuming relationship, suddenly changed. I was now considering getting my BSN, MSN and becoming a family nurse practitioner. I applied and was accepted to UTHSC-Memphis and completed both programs. I can remember my first semester, faculty member Diane Greenhill, EdD, RN, looked at me and asked if I was a TNA member. Now, for those of you who know Diane, you know telling her “no” is not an option—especially when it comes to professional involvement! I became a TNA member my first semester at UT, 22 years after I became an RN.

Something else happened while at UT, my views on my responsibility to nursing began to change. I was working in a residency training program outside of Memphis, the only FNP at the site. I knew these future physicians needed exposure to the educational preparation of nurse practitioners and the role we can fill in healthcare, so I began precepting FNP students. I was developing an interdisciplinary practice without realizing what I was doing! So for five years I developed a practice while precepting both FNP students and medical students.

Exposure to students and their thirst for learning is contagious. So once again I began to contemplate returning to school. I knew I wasn't interested in a doctoral research program, I was all about practice. I had heard of the Doctor of Nursing Practice and this peaked my interest; but could I do it? And why was I interested in going back to school? I started with the second question, why? The “why” came about when I went to work in a community mental health center—if I wanted to provide quality care to the consumer, I would need to become a psychiatric nurse practitioner. Then I was faced with the “can I do it?” Well, as you can tell from the initials after my name I could and I did!

I really believe the saying, “to whom much is given, much is expected.” I was fortunate to have great nursing mentors and felt it was now my turn to return what I have been privileged to receive. I currently practice one day a week at a primary care office providing mental health care to this population, and I am an assistant professor at UTHSC. I am once again able to share my love and passion for nursing with students. I am also the Tennessee State Representative for the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and serve on the TNA APRN Council Executive Committee. Both of these organizations have given me the opportunity to serve nursing at the state and national level.

I was once asked if I believed nursing was a “calling.” I had to think on this for a while and came to the realization that I don't think so. A “calling” to me implies that one is being led or directed. To me, nursing is my career and through my career, I have become educated, skilled, proficient and ultimately a professional nurse. I am TNA.

## TNA Legislative Summit

(Continued from page 1)

alike,” said Sharon Adkins, MSN, RN, Executive Director, Tennessee Nurses Association. “It is exciting to see their enthusiasm when they realize the role they can play in policy development.”

The attendees received information on how a bill is passed into law, the general basics of becoming involved in health policy development, and how to contact legislators.

*Founded in 1905, TNA is the only full-service professional organization for the state's 80,000 registered nurses. The mission of TNA is to promote and protect the registered nurse and advance the practice of nursing in order to assure a healthier Tennessee.*



**Pictured during the Legislative Summit, from left, are Karen Daley, PhD, RN, MPH, FAAN, President, American Nurses Association, who presented *Health Care at a Turning Point: Seizing the Opportunity*; Susan Cooper, MSN, RN, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Health; and Sharon Adkins, MSN, RN, TNA Executive Director.**



**Bethel University in McKenzie, Tenn., had nearly 30 nursing students attend the Legislative Summit. Visiting the TNA display in Legislative Plaza were, from left, Julie Doster, Senior; Andrew Rank, Junior; Lindsay Pierce, Senior; and Kirsten Brady, Senior.**

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The official publication of the Tennessee Nurses Association shall be the *Tennessee Nurse*. The purpose of the publication shall be to support the mission of the Tennessee Nurses Association through the communication of nursing issues, continuing education and significant events of interest. The statements and opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the association, its staff, its Board of Directors, or editors of the *Tennessee Nurse*.

**Article Submissions:** The Tennessee Nurses Association encourages submissions of articles and photos for publication in the *Tennessee Nurse*. Any topic related to nursing will be considered for publication. Although authors are not required to be members of the Tennessee Nurses Association, when space is limited, preference will be given to TNA members. Articles and photos should be submitted by email to [cglass@tnaonline.org](mailto:cglass@tnaonline.org) or mailed to Managing Editor, Tennessee Nurses Association, 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296. All articles should be typed in Word. Please include two to three sentences of information about the author at the end of the article and list all references. Preferred article length is 750–1000 words. Photos are welcomed as hard copies or digital files at a high resolution of 300 DPI. The Tennessee Nurses Association assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged articles or photos. TNA is not responsible for unsolicited freelance manuscripts or photographs. Contact the managing editor for additional contribution information.

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## From the President

### In Recognition of Family Caregivers

by Beth Smith, PhD, RN, CCRA

When I first agreed to run for the position of TNA President, I advised the nominating committee that I would need more support than usual for this position, as well as potentially needing to participate in some meetings via teleconferencing due to my heavy work-related responsibilities. Little did I know that my responsibilities would increase by more than 20 hours a week by the addition of family care adding to my overly



Beth Smith

full schedule of activities. My mother, who has always been an extremely independent and self-sufficient woman, developed COPD that has become progressively worse. As she approaches her 90th birthday, despite appropriate known medical treatment regimens, her activities have become increasingly more limited. She no longer can go up and down stairs, drive her car, volunteer her time at the animal shelter or local church-related thrift shop, work in her garden, prepare meals, or participate in dozens of other activities which have brought her pleasure and a sense of purpose. Although my brother and his wife live in the house on the ridge above hers, they aren't able to provide her with the type of assistance she needs. So this spring, after her second debilitating episode of pneumonia, I found myself serving as her primary family caregiver and commuting to and from work—more than 150 miles a day. I quickly established an alternative strategy with my employer to set up a temporary office in mother's library in order to minimize the frequency of that travel.

As professional nurses, we are aware of the important significance of family to the health and well-being of the clients we serve. Given the practically daily updates on the aging of our population and of our nursing workforce, we are certainly aware of the numbers of aged persons being maintained at home and the associated elder abuse that has increased with this same trend. What I didn't realize was that I, too, was going to become part of the National Statistics of those individuals known as family caregivers sooner than I had expected.

Did you know that 78% of the adults living in the community and in need of long-term care actually depend on family and friends as their only source of assistance? Did you know that more than 65 million people in the United States provide care for a chronically ill, disabled, or aged

family member or friend? According to an AARP survey completed in 2009, the majority of these non-medically prepared family caregivers spend an average of 20 hours a week providing care. In addition, at least 13% of these caregivers spend 40 or more hours a week providing care. A statistic that should come as no surprise to anyone is the fact that women comprise approximately 66% of the family caregivers. National Alliance for Caregiving 2009 data reported that 51% of the care recipients surveyed lived in their own homes and only 29% lived within the home of their family caregiver.

None of these family caregivers are compensated for the care that they provide. The National Alliance for Caregiving and Evercare estimates that the economic value of this "gratis" service to be over \$375 billion per year. This figure is greater than twice the amount of money spent on home health and nursing home services combined! Although the value of the services provided by a family caregiver may be great, the actual impact on families creates many financial hardships. During the economic downturn in 2009, one of every five family caregivers had to move into the same household with their loved one in order to meet expenses. According to AARP, in 2007 alone, more than 10% of the median income of a family caregiver (an average of \$5,500 out-of-pocket expenses) was spent. In March of 2009, the National Alliance for Caregiving and Evercare reported that 47% of working caregivers indicated that the financial increases in caregiving expenses had caused them to use up almost all of their personal savings.

In a 2010 study, MetLife found that every six out of 10 family caregivers are gainfully employed in addition to their caregiving responsibilities. MetLife also estimated that American businesses can lose as much as \$34 billion per year because of the need of employees to care for loved ones aged 50 years or older. The MetLife study also found that caregivers caring for elderly loved ones cost employers 8% more in health care costs. This cost was estimated to be approximately \$13.4 billion a year. The survey statistics published by the National Alliance for Caregiving are similar. They found that 73% of family caregivers are gainfully employed while providing 20-40 hours a week or more in caregiving services. Of these, 66% have had to

make some kind of adjustments to their work life. These changes have ranged from frequently being late, taking a leave of absence (FMLA), changing to a part-time schedule, or having to give up gainful employment entirely.

I am fortunate. My employer hires regional personnel that frequently work from an at home office base. So, getting the authorization to set up a temporary office in my mother's library was not difficult to accomplish. The distance required to travel to the office is currently more manageable when I can plan ahead for those days I must be present in the office. Nonetheless, adjustments in my work and in my personal and professional life had to be and have been made. I am fortunate that my colleagues on the TNA Board of Directors, in TNA itself, and the staff in the TNA office have supported me through this life-changing series of events. I am fortunate that I belong to a strong, professional nursing organization that "has my back" and is there constantly striving to move our profession forward, safeguarding our professional nursing practice in Tennessee, and (most importantly to me at present) supporting me in my added role as a family caregiver.

## A Change Advocate

(Continued from page 1)

the problem (Mason, Leavitt & Chaffee, 2007). She did her homework, knew what she was going to say, and recognized that unless she spoke out, all of the letters that the families had written would go unheard. The coalitions of nurses were able to harness the power of the media at future gatherings to make a difference.

We must recognize the issues in society today and imitate the savvy example of other nurses who have accomplished their goals in changing policy and procedures. We must realize that we may face rejection, because implementation of policy is generally unpredictable, and change rarely happens overnight (Milstead, J.A., 2008). We must be incremental in our attempts to implement new policies, by positioning ourselves in positions of authority, such as agency leaders in government offices (Mason, Leavitt & Chaffee, 2007). According to Mason et al., (2007) there is often resistance with change, but convincing an organization to try a pilot plan of the suggestion we are advocating, can allow others to see the effectiveness of the innovation that is being introduced. Nurse leaders that are inexperienced in politics must recognize that often there are individuals that may look at their ideas as a "threat," and feel their "turf" has been invaded (Mason, Leavitt & Chaffee, 2007). Recognition of the importance and experience of individuals already advocating in similar areas will help to prevent misunderstandings and failure (Mason, Leavitt & Chaffee, 2007).

In conclusion, according to Gebbie et al. (2000), nurses must recognize the influence they can make in our healthcare dilemmas, and expose themselves to policymaking opportunities, in order to make a difference. If Florence Nightingale would have failed to act on her beliefs, changes regarding sanitation and hygiene possibly could have been delayed, and many people's lives would have been lost. Nightingale was a changing force in the nursing profession and to our society. Today's nurses must use her as our example, and imitate her positive steps, views, and tenacity to make changes that will improve our healthcare system.

## About the Author

Sharon Fleming is an instructor in nursing at Vanderbilt University and a doctoral student in her last semester at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH). Fleming has worked in pediatrics for more than 30 years (starting at Cleveland Clinic), completing her nurse practitioner degree in 1998 at Georgia State University, working as a child advocate in Atlanta, Ga., primary care practitioner in Huntsville and Nashville, and a graduate teaching assistant at UAH.

\*References available by contacting [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org).

## The Faces behind the Phone Calls and E-Mails from TNA

Greetings! My name is **Barbara Martin** and I have been with TNA as the Executive Assistant since January 2011. I moved here from Lafayette, Ind., to be closer to family after my position was eliminated there. I have a daughter and son-in-law in Franklin, Tenn., and another daughter, son-in-law and grandson in Boston, Mass.

My past spreads over working in a middle school for 18 years, Purdue University for five years, and an aluminum manufacturing company prior to joining TNA. I was born and raised on a grain and livestock farm and continued that same life until one year ago when I became a Tennessean.

I enjoy traveling, gardening, cooking, sewing, decorating and staging homes. I have been active in 4-H for over 40 years working as a project leader, 4-H leader and judge for various projects and pageants. I also worked with the Indianapolis 500 Festival Princess Pageant for six years.

I'm **Wilhelmina Davis**.

I first began working for TNA in January 2004 as a contract registered lobbyist. It was my job to present to legislators issues and concerns of legislation which could impact the nursing profession. In 2007, I went to work for the Tennessee Department of Health as a Legislative Liaison. This position was much like that of a lobbyist, except in a much broader manner. In January 2011, I returned to TNA and began working as Manager of Government Affairs. My responsibilities include communicating with legislators and staff on behalf of the association and its membership, monitoring and attending key legislative committee meetings, developing and coordinating other government relations agendas, as well as developing and coordinating fundraising and grassroots programs.

I was born and raised here in Nashville. I am the mother of three children, two sons, Christopher and Johnathan. My



Barbara Martin



Wilhelmina Davis

daughter Samina died in 2003, and I have one grandson, Johnathan, Jr.

I am working toward a degree in Ministry at Belmont University with a concentration on grief counseling. It is my desire to help others understand and work through the grief process.

My most pleasurable pastime includes almost any activity with my grandson, which usually includes biking, challenging games of badminton, tennis, or long walks.

My name is **Kathy Denton**.

I am the Member Services/IT Administrator and have been on the TNA staff for 23 years. My responsibilities include member benefits and services, maintaining computer equipment and software, database management, network server management, and I am the staff liaison for the Tennessee Nurses Foundation and the Public and Professional Relations Committee.

I am happily married to a great guy and have a wonderful daughter and granddaughter. I've lived in the Nashville area my entire adult life. While growing up, my mother was bitten by wanderlust so I've lived in many places. I'm happy to have settled in Nashville and like the friendly people and the climate more here than anywhere else I have lived.

I enjoy singing in the church choir, even a solo once in awhile, gardening, reading and making cards.



Kathy Denton

My name is **Cheri Glass**,

and I began working at TNA more than nine years ago. I am the Communications and Marketing Administrator, and my responsibilities include serving as webmaster, managing editor of the *Tennessee Nurse*, doing the layout and design work for marketing materials and other items, and serving as staff liaison for the Government Affairs and Health Policy Committee, the Nursing Practice Committee, the School Health Task Force, the APRN Council, and the Editorial Board. I truly enjoy the diversity of my work at TNA and having the opportunity to work with nurses.

My husband and I have been happily married for 31 years and enjoy cat fishing and grilling in our spare time. We have two grown children and three grandchildren. We both grew up in Nashville, but spent more than 20 years away while my husband did farm management work in Kentucky and the Chesapeake Bay area. We came "home" to Nashville in 2001 to be closer to our mothers, siblings and family, and we are glad we did!



Cheri Glass

My name is **Karen**

**Langeland**, and I joined the Tennessee Nurses Association as Executive Assistant in March 2003. In January of this year, my role at TNA changed from full-time to part-time, and I am now the Education & Meetings Administrator. I work out of my home and focus on the TNA CE Approval Unit, as well as doing the meeting planning for TNA.

I am married to my high school sweetheart, and we will be celebrating our 42nd wedding anniversary this summer. We have three children, Nicole, Jacqui and Jon-David, and 3 grandchildren. We moved to the Nashville area in 2002 and settled in Spring Hill. I have to say, after living in Atlanta for five years, Spring Hill felt like a sleepy little town in the middle of nowhere.

I love spending time at home and with my family, which is scattered about in Michigan, Georgia and California. Hobbies include walking (cheap therapy), heirloom sewing, gardening, and reading.



Karen Langeland

# 2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention

## TNA & TASN Joint Convention



Competence, Compassion and Civility:  
Cornerstones of Nursing



October 14 - 16, 2011  
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs  
Franklin, Tennessee

### REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Credentials \_\_\_\_\_

First Name for Badge \_\_\_\_\_ TNA Member I.D.# / RN License# \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Nursing Area \_\_\_\_\_

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I am a:  TNA Member  Non-Member  Full-time Student  Retiree  New Member  First Time Attendee

Please change my membership record to reflect the above information.

Checking here indicates TNA will not provide your contact data to sponsors, exhibitors or attendees of this event.

I require special accommodations to participate in this program. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian Meals  Diabetic Meals  Food Allergy Identify Allergy \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete the following information by entering a check mark beside activities you will attend.**

Note: These activities are included in your registration fee unless otherwise indicated.

By completing this information TNA can ensure that we provide adequate counts for meal and break functions.

**Friday, October 14**

Lite Continental Breakfast  \_\_\_\_\_

Morning Break  \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Luncheon  \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, October 15**

Continental Breakfast  \_\_\_\_\_

Morning Break  \_\_\_\_\_

Luncheon with Exhibitors  \_\_\_\_\_

Afternoon Break  \_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday, October 16**

Continental Breakfast  \_\_\_\_\_

**Need More Information?** Contact TNA by phone 615-254-0350, by FAX 615-254-0303, by email [tna@tnaonline.org](mailto:tna@tnaonline.org), by visiting our website at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org), or by mail 545 Mainstream Drive, Ste. 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296.

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# Make Plans Now to Attend!

2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention

October 14 - 16, 2011

Franklin Marriott Cool Springs

Franklin, Tennessee

Make plans now to attend the 2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention! Again this year the Tennessee Nurses Association and the Tennessee Association of Student Nurses are joining together for the convention! The event offers an exciting agenda packed with interesting educational sessions and enjoyable activities for all nurses and students who attend.

Educational sessions will focus on a variety of informative, innovative topics related to your practice. In addition, plenty of networking opportunities will be available for you and your colleagues, including an expanded Poster Presentation session.

The Tennessee Nurses Foundation Silent Auction will be held for the sixth year and again offer a unique assortment of items for sale with proceeds going to support TNF programs.

**TNA Achievement Awards Luncheon**

The TNA Awards Luncheon offers an opportunity to honor nurses and other individuals by acknowledging their exceptional dedication, commitment and professionalism to the profession of nursing.

**Hotel Information - Franklin Marriott Cool Springs**

To make a room reservation at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, you may visit <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bnacs-franklin-marriott-cool-springs/?toDate=10/16/11&groupCode=NRSNRSA&fromDate=10/13/11&app=resvlink> or you may call 1-888-403-6772 and mention the conference name. The special room rate of \$119 per night plus tax will be available until the group block is filled. The Franklin Marriott Cool Springs offers complimentary guest parking.

# 2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention

## CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

The Tennessee Nurses Association is issuing a formal Call for Resolutions for the 2011 TNA House of Delegates to be held during the *TNA & TASN Joint Convention* on October 14-16, 2011 at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, Franklin, Tenn.

Resolutions can be submitted by any TNA member. **If you wish to submit a Resolution, please submit it in writing to TNA no later than August 25, 2011.** If you should need assistance, please contact Barbara at the TNA office at [bmartin@tnaonline.org](mailto:bmartin@tnaonline.org).

## TASN Invitation to Attend 2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention

The 2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention, October 14-16 at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, is sure to be exciting for all who attend. The TASN Board Members have been working feverishly to make the annual state convention especially worthwhile for the student attendees. Breakout sessions are being planned to shed light on many different nursing subsets including *Military Flight Nursing*, and the *Importance of Professional Organization Involvement*. There is also a Mini-NCLEX Review and a *SNA Round Table Discussion* session in the works. The convention is being designed to aid students in their professional development and to be a fun get away from school mid-semester. On behalf of the TASN Board of Directors, we hope to see you in October!



2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention Registration Fees										
NOTE: Only paid registrants, displaying an official TNA convention name badge will be allowed entrance to convention program events.  <small>The Tennessee Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.</small>	Early Bird Registration (Must be postmarked by 8/24/11)			Regular Registration (Postmarked between the dates of 8/25/11 until 10/3/11)			On-Site Registrations (On-Site Registrations will be accepted after 10/4/11)			Amount
	Member	Non-Member	TNA Member Full Time Student or Retiree	Member	Non-Member	TNA Member Full Time Student or Retiree	Member	Non-Member	TNA Member Full Time Student or Retiree	
<b>Convention Registration Options - Friday, October 14 through Sunday, October 16, 2011</b>										
<b>Full Registration</b> - Includes attendance at all educational activities, entrance to Friday Awards Luncheon, Exhibit Hall, Saturday Luncheon, all Continental Breakfasts, and all Breaks	\$265	\$315	\$235	\$280	\$320	\$250	\$305	\$355	\$275	\$
<b>Friday Only</b> - Includes educational activities for the day, Lite Continental Breakfast, Awards Luncheon, and Breaks	\$150	\$190	\$125	\$170	\$210	\$145	\$190	\$230	\$165	\$
<b>Saturday Only</b> - Includes educational activities for the day, Continental Breakfast, entrance to Exhibit Hall, Luncheon, Breaks	\$210	\$245	\$190	\$230	\$265	\$210	\$250	\$285	\$230	\$
<b>Sunday Only</b> - Includes educational activities for the day and Continental Breakfast	\$60	\$80	\$40	\$80	\$100	\$60	\$100	\$120	\$80	\$
<b>Guest Tickets (Additional Guests Only)</b>							<b>Guest Ticket Pricing</b>		<b>Quantity Ordered</b>	
Friday - Awards Luncheon							\$30 each			\$
Saturday - Exhibits and Schools of Nursing Luncheon							\$25 each			\$
<b>Total Amount Due — Registration &amp; Guest Tickets</b>										\$
<b>PAYMENT METHOD</b>										
<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Employer Sending Check    Employer _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> American Express Name of Card Holder _____ Address of Card Holder _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ 3-Digit Authorization Code (Located on back of card) _____ Signature _____ 4-Digit American Express (Located on front of card) _____										

Please Complete Reverse Side



## Make Plans Now to Attend!



### TNA & TASN Joint Annual Convention

*Competence, Compassion and Civility:  
Cornerstones of Nursing*

**October 14-16, 2011**  
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs  
Franklin, Tennessee

*Sponsor and Exhibitor information available online!*

**Visit [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) for details**

The Tennessee Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

# 2011 TNA & TASN Joint Convention

## TNF's Sixth Annual Silent Auction October 14-15, 2011



*Sixth Annual TNF Silent Auction*  
October 14-16, 2011  
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs

Donor's Name/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of donated item (please submit one item per form): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated monetary value of donated item:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Submission of this form to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation constitutes a written agreement between TNF and Donor in that Donor agrees to provide TNF with the donated item by: (1) getting the item to the TNF office at 545 Mainstream Dr., Suite 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296 on or before October 7, 2011; (2) getting the item to their local District President on or before October 7, 2011 (District President contact information can be obtained by calling 615-254-0350 or email [tnf@tnaonline.org](mailto:tnf@tnaonline.org)); or (3) taking the item to the TNA staff office at the Franklin Cool Springs Marriott in Franklin, TN between Thursday, October 13, 2011 and no later than 8:00 a.m. Saturday, October 15, 2011. The Silent Auction begins Friday, October 14, 2011.

This donation becomes the property of the Tennessee Nurses Foundation and is to be offered for sale at an auction, the proceeds of which go to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation. Should donor provide any displays or samples of the donation to coincide with a donated gift certificate, TNF will not be held responsible for those items. It will be the sole responsibility of the donor to either pickup the samples or displays, as stated above, at the hotel or to pay the shipping charges on the return.

Donors will be listed in the winter issue of the *Tennessee Nurse* (circulation 100,000+). The Tennessee Nurses Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) (3) organization.

Please fax to 615-254-0303 or mail the form to **TNF, 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296**. For questions regarding this event please contact TNF Staff Liaison, Kathy Denton at 615-254-0350 or email [tnf@tnaonline.org](mailto:tnf@tnaonline.org).



The Tennessee Nurses Foundation's mission is to promote professional excellence in nursing through programs such as:

- Leadership Nursing
- Memorial Educational Scholarships
- Arthur Davis LPN-RN Scholarship
- Nursing Research Grants
- Tennessee Professional Assistance Program
- TNA Membership Dues Scholarship Program
- Honor A Nurse Program

This year TNF sponsored *Nurses Walk for Health* events during the entire month of May all across Tennessee to kick off *National Nurses Week*. The new *Honor A Nurse* program has been added to TNF's initiatives and the *Nurses Change Lives* specialty nurse license plate has taken off with almost 2,000 plates currently on the roads of Tennessee. Purchase yours today at your local County Court Clerk's office. Visit [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) for details on all of the Foundation's initiatives.

These worthwhile endeavors come from donations to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation. If more nurses were able to receive funding provided by the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, it would make such a huge difference in the growth of Tennessee nurses as leaders within our



profession. We hope you will help us achieve our goals!

Donations for the Silent Auction will be accepted up to Saturday, October 15, the last day of the event. Donations cannot be shipped to the hotel. The item(s) need to be brought to TNA's staff office at the hotel on the day of the event, or arrangements need to be made with your local District President to get the item to the auction. If needed, Silent Auction donations will be accepted at the TNA headquarters office at 545 Mainstream Dr., Suite 405, Nashville until October 7, 2011. Please fill out the TNF Silent Auction Donation form at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) by clicking on the TNA Convention link on the homepage or by clicking on the *Tennessee Nurses Foundation* link from the list on the left-hand side of the page. A donation form is also in this issue of the *Tennessee Nurse*.

Items suggested for donations include, but are not limited to:

- autographed sports items
- tickets to the theater/movie/sports
- restaurant/spa treatment gift certificates
- a week of vacation at a time share
- horseback ride
- jewelry, apparel, paintings, gift baskets, etc.

Antique nursing books and prints have been very popular. You can also share some of those lovely items that you would rather stop dusting. If you are downsizing, we would love your gently used treasures. Also, many times your local merchants may donate gift certificates to their establishments as a means of advertising. Please check with your local merchants for donations.

Your donation is TAX DEDUCTIBLE, as the Tennessee Nurses Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) (3) organization.



### Tennessee Nurses Association Members Only Request for Absentee Ballot

Please send an absentee ballot for the 2011 Tennessee Nurses Association election. **"Request for Absentee Ballot" must be received at TNA by September 14, 2011.** I understand that mailing this ballot to me in the manner and form approved discharges TNA's responsibility to me in the matter of absentee voting. Absentee ballots will be mailed September 15, 2011.

I further understand that requesting an absentee ballot removes my name from the list of eligible voters at the TNA Annual Meeting. No "group requests" will be honored. Fill in the form and return it by email to Barbara Martin at [bmartin@tnaonline.org](mailto:bmartin@tnaonline.org) or fax it to 615/254-0303.

**Completed absentee ballots must be received at TNA headquarters by the close of business on September 29, 2011.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

District Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Member ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Electronic Signature: (Required to receive ballot)

\_\_\_\_\_

## Summer To Do List: Living Up to Trust

by Kate Payne, JD, RN

Director of Ethics, Saint Thomas Hospital, Nashville

It's summer now. The Nurses Week celebration at the start of May is many weeks past. I love that week because it's about what is best in all of us as nurses. It honors core commitments to nursing practice. Some people think the annual recognition week is frivolous at best. I don't. I think it's a way to formally recognize good work, the hard work of nurses in a myriad of roles. Something we don't do often enough and should.



Kate Payne

The theme for this year's Nurses Week from the American Nurses Association was *Nurses Trusted to Care*. This is such an appropriate choice for our profession, which was once again at the top of the annual Gallup Poll in Honesty and Ethics in the Professions. Since being added to the survey in 1999, nurses have been at the top every year but one. In 2001, shortly after the attacks of 9/11, Gallup added firefighters to test how they were perceived. That year they were number one with nurses at number two. Americans rate nurses' honesty and ethical standards either "high" or "very high." Military officers, pharmacists, teachers, and physicians rounds out the top five professions. What is it that Americans see and experience that causes them to rate nurses so highly? To trust us to care? More importantly how do we keep that trust alive in every day practice with all the change swirling about us, with a downturn in the economy, health care reform, and many other stressors?

### Ethics in Action Builds Trust

Nursing ethics or ethos was in full view earlier this year with the attack on U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords of Arizona on January 8th. In that attack, 18 people were shot and six died. In a moving memorial service attended by thousands and viewed by millions more on television, President Obama made note of all the acts of bravery on the part of the victims as well as the bystanders. In his very moving speech he also made note of the bravery and expertise of the first responders, nurses and doctors, and expressed the gratitude of the nation. As Representative Giffords' recovery continues, the press shares glimpses into the care she is getting. Always there are nurses.

Most recently we have seen nursing ethos in action as nurses responded to disasters across America and around the world. At the end of May in Joplin, Mo., St. John's Regional Medical Center took a direct hit from the tornado that tore

the roof off the hospital and decimated the town. Nurses ran into rooms filled with gas and water from broken pipes, and carried patients out and down the stairs and loaded them into trucks to drive them to the next town for care and treatment. Nurses continue to respond to that ongoing disaster and will as the town rebuilds.

I think this is what people see, what they trust, when they think about nursing. They know that nurses will respond whether it's the most recent disaster or to their question at the bedside, in the clinic, or the office. In Obama's speech, he asked what else was required of us (as citizens) beyond prayers and concern to really honor the fallen and be true to their memory? This is a question that could be asked about anyone who has had a serious illness or injury, or died, really about anyone that nurses care for. He talked about the need for more civility in everyday interactions, to listen and empathize with each other, to be grateful for favors and sacrifices made on our behalf, and to show kindness, compassion and generosity to all in our lives. This sounds like the list of values I get when I ask nurses what do you live by? What guides your practice? So if nurses are trusted to care, what is trust?

In the book *The Speed of Trust*, Stephen M.R. Covey and Rebecca R. Merrill observe that trust is the one thing that changes everything else. It is confidence that you can rely on another person in their integrity and abilities. Without it everything crumbles. Trust is a pragmatic action you can create through aligning values with actions. Trust is about character and competence. This summer build trust by being intentional about aligning values with actions. Such actions demonstrate nursing competence. For that new nurse remember kindness and add patience to teach what he or she doesn't know. Have compassion for that patient that has lost their job, has no insurance, and is faced with a difficult diagnosis, as well as the family member having trouble coping. Be a good listener with everyone you interact with. Really listen and empathize, stand in their shoes before you speak. Make it part of your practice this summer and the years to come, to add praise to your practice. Consider it an ethical obligation to tell a fellow nurse, "good job today."

### Trust the Practice

There is a reason nurses are trusted to care, and there is proof of nursing value and affect. In October 2010, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued a report on the future of nursing. It recommended an increase in the number of nurses that hold a bachelor's degree be increased from 50% to 80% by the year 2020, so that more can go on to be advanced practitioners and teach. This may not seem a proper goal given all the other pressing health care concerns we have, but the report is taking the long view that if we don't change the patterns of nursing education, there will not be enough nursing resources for the foreseeable future to meet patient needs. Nursing schools turn away tens of thousands of qualified applicants, due in part to a faculty shortage. This has far reaching consequences for the nursing workforce, which is on the verge of losing some 500,000 to retirement.

In March of this year, a seminal study about nurse staffing and inpatient hospital mortality was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. While there have been similar studies in the past, none have shown such a direct link between the level of staffing and patient experience along with sufficient statistical controls. This study showed that nurse staffing below target levels was associated with increased mortality and reinforced the need to match staffing with patient needs. In April, another study published in *Health Services Research* showed a direct relationship between nurse staffing and hospital readmissions and emergency department visits within 30 days of discharge. The study demonstrated the relationship of investment in additional nurse staffing to cost savings in reduced post discharge utilization. In addition, nurses working overtime demonstrated increased stress and fatigue, which affected the quality of discharge teaching negatively and led to higher emergency room readmissions and costs.

Live up to the trust the public places in nursing by knowing and using this research and the IOM report to promote high quality nursing education and patient care. These studies all point to the value of nursing and require long-term commitment, not just crisis thinking. Know that there is real evidence about the value of nursing and celebrate it every day, not just during Nurses Week.

\*References are available by contacting [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org).

## APRN Focus

### How the health care reform law affects APRNs

by Lisa Summers, DrPH, CNM

Now that the health care reform bill has been signed into law, it is a good time to review ANA's advocacy for health system reform and take a look at how advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) were recognized in and incorporated into the "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" (PPACA).

PPACA was the culmination of many years of policy and advocacy work on the part of ANA and its members. Prior to the 2008 elections, ANA published a *Health System Reform Agenda* that updated principles first disseminated in the early 1990s, calling for guaranteed access to high-quality, affordable health care for everyone. In addition, ANA worked in concert with the nursing community to develop *Commitment to Quality Healthcare Reform: A Consensus Statement from the Nursing Community*, which included many recommendations specific to APRNs. ANA members held elected officials to their promise of universal health coverage by joining ANA's health reform team and contacting members of Congress, testifying at hearings, sharing personal stories, and attending rallies and events. And in the process, APRNs educated members of Congress and their staffs about the value of APRNs.

There are many important provisions of interest to APRNs in the new law relating to education, new models for patient care delivery, and reimbursement. Some of the highlights include the following:

- \$50 million a year to establish graduate nurse education (GNE), including programs for each of the four APRN roles.
- A mandatory funding stream for Title VIII programs, which include advanced nursing education grants that prepare nurse practitioners (NPs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs).
- A demonstration grant to create a one-year residency program for NPs in federally qualified health centers and nurse managed health centers (NMHCs).
- \$50 million in grants for NMHCs.
- A grant program for school-based health centers.
- The recognition of NPs and CNSs as "Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Professionals."

- A 10 percent bonus payment under Medicare for primary care practitioners, including NPs and CNSs.

ANA joins with our newest organizational affiliate, the American College of Nurse-Midwives, in its celebration of success in a long-fought battle for payment equity. Since the original recognition of CNMs under Medicare in 1988, CNMs were reimbursed at 65 percent of the rate paid a physician for the same services. Effective January 2011, the reimbursement rate for CNMs for covered services will be 100 percent, increasing access to midwifery care for disabled and senior women in need of reproductive health services and maternity care.

Many important details are not spelled out in the legislation, but will be left to the regulatory process, during which various agencies will be responsible for issuing rules. Some of those details, such as the formulation of the interdisciplinary team in the medical home and requirements for ordering durable medical equipment, are particularly important to APRNs.

This "rule making" is a complicated and often a long process (typically as long as 18 months), although the administration is moving forward quickly. ANA is following the process closely and will provide updates to members. Likewise, we are following the formulation of various commissions and will work to ensure that the interests of nursing are represented.

While there is much to be celebrated, not all our legislative priorities for APRNs were addressed in PPACA, notably the certification of home health services and Medicaid reimbursement.

For more information, refer to the Health Care Reform Toolkit on [www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org), which includes summaries and detailed coverage of PPACA, a timeline for implementation, and the key provisions related to nursing, including APRNs. If you have questions relating to ANA's work on behalf of APRNs, contact Lisa Summers, DrPH, CNM, senior policy fellow, department of Nursing Practice and Policy, at [lisa.summers@ana.org](mailto:lisa.summers@ana.org).

Lisa Summers is a senior policy fellow, Department of Nursing Practice and Policy at ANA.

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### Salute to Nurses Awards National Nurses Week



Frances Edwards, MSN, RN, received the *Tennessean's* Lifetime Achievement Award in its annual Salute to Nurses Awards event held each year during Nurses Week. Edwards was honored for her 60 years in the nursing profession and her efforts to improve the health of Tennesseans and the welfare of registered nurses over throughout her career. Edwards was also recognized for her work to educate legislators about the "politics of healthcare" in the nursing profession and her involvement in political advocacy and health policy development. Edwards, at left, was presented the award by last year's recipient, Janie Parmley, MSN, RN, BC. Both are long time members of the Tennessee Nurses Association.

# LPN Connect Spotlight

## The Heart of a True Caregiver

by Susie O'Dell, LPN

When I received an e-mail that I might be featured in the *Tennessee Nurse* publication, I was absolutely thrilled... especially since I am an LPN. I have contributed several articles for the monthly *LPN Connect E-Newsletter*, but WOW! What an opportunity for an LPN to have an article in this publication, so all healthcare workers can see that the *Tennessee Nurse* is for all of us, LPNs and RNs.



Susie O'Dell

My name is Susie O'Dell and I have had the honor of being an LPN since 1992. I've been blessed to have many nursing opportunities in my career including the hospital, industrial nursing, home health, and corrections. I have gotten to do it all. Everything I am writing comes from the heart.

On November 18, 2009, I received a phone call at my place of employment from my dad...and since my dad had never called me at work, I was scared to death. The voice on the other end of the phone said, "Susie Q something has happened to Ruth (that is my mom)." I asked what happened. He said, "I don't know. I went over to the garage to close the garage door and when I came in she was in the floor between the wall and the chair in the kitchen."

I told him to call 911 and he said he had already called and they were on the way. I told daddy to tell mom that I loved her and I would meet them at the hospital. My dad stuttered and said, "I can't, she is really bad." I assured my dad that mom would be okay. The voice I heard on the other end of the phone was not the strong, tough man I had known all of my life, but one of a scared, broken man that I never knew.

I immediately called my supervisor and told him that I had to leave because something had happened to my mom. My employer was great, as they believed in family first, no matter what. Since I worked 45 miles away every mile I drove got longer and longer. I was numb by the time I got to the hospital. As I ran into the emergency room, I was in a true panic looking for my family. My mom had back surgery in November 2009 at UT Hospital so she could continue going to the UT Football games with my dad because they had been going to the games since 1939. All the while I thought she had fainted when she got up due to a drop in blood pressure or else her sugar had bottomed out.

When I got to my mom, it was evident that she had suffered a massive stroke. The doctor told us mom would be going to UT Hospital by helicopter. At that time, I honestly thought I was going to lose it. Heck, I couldn't lose it...*I was a nurse!* That just went right out the window. My family proceeded to their cars to head to Knoxville, and I trailed behind my mom following the ambulance to meet the helicopter. I was watching the ambulance service deliver mom to the helipad with tears streaming down my face yelling to mom that I loved her. The co-pilot evidently saw me and he got out of the helicopter and knelt down and prayed for my mom before they flew away into the sky. He gave me a thumbs up, and they were out of sight before I could get my car started.

When I arrived, the emergency room was full and they had mom out in the hall. We needed information and nobody seemed concerned *except us!* We stopped every healthcare worker coming and going, and finally an LPN stopped and asked what she could do to help us. Finally, God had sent us an angel. I don't know who the LPN talked with. All I know is she was concerned enough to get mom into a room and get the ball rolling—thank God for this LPN!

My mom and dad worked hard all of their lives, and I could not understand how this could be happening to such a wonderful, Godly lady. Finally, after seeing several physicians and testing, we got the news that mom would be disabled for the rest of her life with total paralysis on her right side, and she could not communicate. Nor did she have control of bowel or bladder! Mom did not know who in the world we were, or where she was or what had happened.

She was at UT Hospital for four weeks in the arms of angels. Now, here I am a nurse, but an industrial nurse for the last 14 years! I haven't done feeding tubes,

catheters, NG tubes, crushing meds, pain management, rehab, suction machine, patient lift, or any total patient care since I worked at UT Hospital in 1992-1993. My mind was running all over the place. The physician gave us instructions that mom would need total patient care 24 hours a day, and we would need to speak to the social worker for placement in a nursing home! Honestly, I thought I would smother to death just at the thought. I begged and cried to the physicians to please discharge mom to her home instead of a *nursing home*, but no dice. They all said I was in denial and I could not give her the care she needed by myself.

I believe I cried an ocean for those next five days. I called everyone I knew and begged them to pray for my precious mom and my family, because I promised my mom that would never happen as long as I could wiggle. Mom always told me that if she couldn't function on her own to go on with my life and admit her to a nursing facility because she did not want to be a "burden" to anyone. Little did I know that the day she had a stroke she was filling out her advance directive. She had it all filled out, but she hadn't signed it. It was lying on the table with the pen on the paper as if she was going to sign it and was distracted. Who knows?

The physician talked with my dad and explained if she didn't have a feeding tube she would starve to death. My dad was in shock I believe. He immediately told them to put in the feeding tube. How in the world do you tell your dad not to try everything in the world to save his soul mate? She's my mother and I love her too. She had filled out the blessed paper and we all knew her wishes, but dad had the last say. My sister and I took night about staying with mom at the hospital and dad stayed in the daytime while we both worked. When the day came for mom to be transferred to a nursing home, I thought I would cry forever. The physician assured me mom would have rehab for at least six weeks and then she would be re-evaluated for long term care, but she needed 24-hour care.

We stayed with mom at the nursing home 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We never left her a minute. Upon her fifth week at the nursing home, I waited on the physician early that morning. That was the day my mom was coming home one way or another. I had asked for my vacation at work and FMLA which was a total of 15 weeks. Three weeks of paid vacation and 12 weeks of unpaid FMLA. I had saved some money over the years and made some very good investments so I knew I could handle it for four months. I was prepared to do whatever it took. I discussed this with my dad and sister, and they agreed that if the physician agreed, I could try to bring

her home. They also agreed it would be a very hard task for me. As a nurse, you think you can do anything if you put your mind to it. That's what we do! We try to save the world and nothing is impossible. Well, when the physician came in, I told him to get her discharge papers ready that mom was going home. He looked at me with a sweet smile and said, "Now Susie, you know you can't take care of your mother at home. I know you are a nurse and you want more than anything to take her home, but you will be dead before you lose your mother." He was right and deep down I knew it, but I just had to try. I owed that to my precious parents. In January 2010, he agreed to send her home with Hospice, so at least I would have some help with her baths and have nurses to check on her weekly.

It has been the biggest adjustment in my entire life. I hadn't lived at home with my parents since 1973. When the physician made his last visit to see my mother, he was excited about going camping that weekend. He told my mom that she was doing so much better, and he was so pleased with her care. For the first time, I really thought she understood what he said. Mom smiled out of the left side of her mouth and tried so hard to talk with him. He then passed away on that camping trip.

Spending these months with my mom has been priceless. I decided to terminate from my employer to care for my precious mother. Not all days are good days, but I am so very blessed to have had these days to read and sing to my mother. We look at pictures, and I try desperately to trigger something so she will remember, even if it's just temporary. If I have another minute, or another day, or another year, it has been a treasure. I would not have done anything different.

I've personally learned a lot about myself since I chose to move in with my parents. Every day is a gift. While my mom cannot do anything for herself, what she has done for me is far more than that. She has been there for me when I needed her, and now I am there for her when she needs me. I will be here as long as it takes.

I love being a nurse. It is my true purpose on this earth. It is the most rewarding career ever if you are in the nursing field for the right reason. It is nothing you can learn from a book. It comes from the heart. That is why it is a gift. It does not matter in this world what initials are behind your name to clarify your title. It does not make you a better nurse or a better person. Please remember to treat all your co-workers with respect and work as a team. Learn from each other because it is not all about you. It is about making a difference in someone else's life.

*\*Editors Note—Susie O'Dell's mother passed away on May 29, 2011.*

### Specialty Nurse License Plates Available at County Court Clerk's Offices



TNA Executive Director, Sharon Adkins, MSN, RN, proudly puts her specialty nurse license plate, *Nurses Change Lives*, on her car. Nearly one-half of the proceeds from the sale of the plate go to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation to help support its initiatives. The plates are now available across Tennessee at your local County Court Clerk's Office. Visit [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) for more information on TNF initiatives.



### LPN Connect—Special New Online Service Especially for LPNs

The Tennessee Nurses Association's special online subscription service *LPNConnect* is gaining more subscribers every week! This special service for Tennessee's Licensed Practical Nurses includes online services to help LPNs stay informed on issues related to their nursing practice and network with other LPNs across the state.



*LPNConnect* offers subscribers the following benefits and services:

- Access to an LPN only password protected area on the TNA website at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) that contains articles and other information of interest.
- An LPN Listserv exclusively for use by *LPNConnect* subscribers to communicate with other LPN subscribers by email. Topics of discussion on the *LPNConnect* Listserv may include questions on nursing practice, the announcement of meetings and events of interest to LPNs.
- A monthly *LPNConnect* newsletter containing nursing related news.
- Webpages within the protected LPN area filled with other information of interest to LPNs in Tennessee, including important legislative information and updates on health policy development.

Subscriptions to *LPNConnect* are available for a special introductory price of \$25 per year until August 1, 2011. *LPNConnect* is open to any LPN with a current Tennessee nursing license.

To subscribe, visit the TNA website at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) and click the *LPNConnect* link on the left on the home page. You will purchase your subscription and pay online with a credit or debit card through a secure form. When your payment is processed, you will receive an email with instructions on registering for your account login and password.

We need your suggestions for additional content to include in the *LPNConnect* area! Please send your suggestions and feedback to [cglass@tnaonline.org](mailto:cglass@tnaonline.org).



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# LEGISLATION

## Legislative Update

by *Wilhelmina Davis*  
 Manager, TNA Government Affairs

After weeks of meetings, reviewing, debating and compromising, members of the 107th Tennessee General Assembly completed their business for the first session and adjourned on Saturday, May 21, 2011. This year, more than 2100 bills were introduced for legislative consideration. There were many changes in the manner of doing business this session, especially on the House side. Instead of multiple sub-committees for each standing committee, only one subcommittee was allowed. The new system proved to be efficient and timely as bills moved through the legislature, thereby resulting in an earlier adjournment. It's important to keep in mind, not all bills were considered this year, those that were not defeated or were not withdrawn, remain alive and may be acted on next year. The General Assembly is scheduled to return on Tuesday, January 12, 2012.

The Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA Government Affairs & Health Policy Committee gave considerable and careful review to bills having potential impact, whether positive or negative to the nursing profession. This year was very contentious, causing TNA to work diligently and exhaustively on legislation purposely introduced, which if enacted, would impede or limit the work of advanced practice registered nurses, as well as any legislation seeking to amend the nurse practice act (bills are listed and summaries provided below). Throughout the legislative session, every attempt was made to keep you informed of legislative actions, either through legislative alerts, or the weekly Legislative Update of bills posted at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) under Government Affairs. A special thanks to those who took time out of their busy schedules to visit or make contact with legislators when it was necessary that legislators hear from the membership and a special thanks to nurses who when called, were ready to present testimony.

This year, TNA sponsored legislation in an attempt to make consistent the proper use of the term "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) throughout the Tennessee Code. Since the term APRN encompasses Nurses Practitioners, Certified Nurse Anesthetists, Clinical Nurse Specialists and Certified Nurse-Midwives. **SB 0344 Overbey/HB 0299 Harrison** seeks to make that correction in the code only where the term refers to all four specialties. The bill mirrors the APRN Consensus Work Group and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing APRN Advisory Committee's definition of an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN).

Although, this legislation would not affect or make any change to nursing scope of practice, the bill was met with much opposition and misinterpretation. The Tennessee Medical Association (TMA), as well as others, believed that making this change could result in "unforeseen consequences." After meeting and discussing our intent with both House and Senate sponsors, it was agreed that more discussion and education of the legislature was necessary. Therefore, TNA requested the bill be taken off notice so that we might have time to address and inform those who expressed apprehension.

A major concern for TNA was **SB 0170 Watson B./HB 0244 Cobb J.—Sunset - board of nursing**. After much discussion during the last days of session, it was agreed to by both Government Operations committees to extend operations of the Board of Nursing for another year. This means that after June 30th of this year, the board will be in yet another "wind down." Before passage, both sponsors of the legislation explained to the legislative body the reason for putting the BON, as well as other boards, in "wind down." They indicated that by doing so, both House and Senate Government Operations Committees would begin to take a more precise and coordinated review of each board and would look at the make-up and restructuring of the boards. The outcomes and results of committee actions will result in new legislation being introduced next year.

Although session has ended, TNA will continue to work throughout the summer on bills referred to summer study. One such bill, **HB 1896 Hensley—Interventional Pain Management** legislation, was referred by the House Health Subcommittee for further study. As you will recall, TNA, along with the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) and Physician Assistants (PAs), oppose this legislation which would have restricted practice. We

worked together as a collaborative group to meet with legislators and disseminate information explaining the following reasons for our opposition:

- **No Evidence of Harm.** There is no objective evidence that anyone has been harmed by an injection performed by a CRNA, NP, or PA.
- **Increase Costs.** The bill will increase costs and decrease access to care by limiting the performance of common procedures such as facet blocks and SI joint injections by CRNAs, NPs, and PAs.
- **Limit Access to Care.** The bill will force the closure of many pain management facilities, especially in rural areas.
- **Increase dependence on drugs.** Because injections are an effective alternative to the use of narcotics to treat chronic pain, the bill will inevitably increase the use of drugs by patients experiencing chronic pain.
- **Reduce Competition.** The Federal Trade Commission has recently opposed similar proposed restrictions in Alabama because of the adverse effect they would have on competition.

Another bill TNA will be concerned with this summer is **SB 1466 Bell/HB 1673 Matheny—Riding of motorcycle without helmet**. If enacted, it would allow persons who are 21 years of age to ride a motorcycle without a helmet if they provide proof of comprehensive medical coverage, providing at least \$15,000 in medical benefits for injuries from a crash. TNA opposes this legislation because of the threat to public safety. The House bill was deferred to a summer study by the House Subcommittee of Transportation and the companion Senate Bill was deferred by the Senate Transportation Committee to the first calendar of 2012.

In an effort to regulate and have more oversight of clinics referred to as "pill mills," TNA worked in collaboration with the PAs, CRNAs and Tennessee Medical Association on amendatory language to **SB 1258 Yager/HB 1040 Ramsey—Regulation of pain management clinics**. Once enacted, the bill will establish regulations for pain management clinics and require such clinics to apply for and be charged a fee for certification with the Department of Health (DOH). The definition of "pain management clinic" is clearly defined as a privately owned facility in which a medical doctor, an osteopathic physician, an advanced practice nurse, and/or a physician assistant provides pain management services to a majority of the patients with certain prescription medications. The bill authorizes the Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the Board of Medical Examiners, the Board of Osteopathic Examination, the Board of Nursing, and the Committee on Physician Assistants, to promulgate rules necessary for implementation. Such clinics will be subject to discipline for violations, inspection and investigation by the appropriate boards.

TNA also opposed legislation allowing employees of personal support service agencies to assist with the administration of medications. The bills were taken off notice in Senate General Welfare, and were not considered in the House Health Subcommittee.

**SB 1703 Burks/HB 2031 Curtiss—Home health services - assistance with medication.**

**SB 2072 Burks/HB 2121 Curtiss—Assisting clients with medication in the clients' homes.**

Other bills of interest include the following:

**SB 0505 Watson B./HB 0597 Casada—Proof of licensure of health care practitioners.** Requires certain additional health care practitioners, including physicians, podiatrists, advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, psychologists, acupuncturists, professional midwives, and more, to communicate proof of their licenses or certificates of registration by placing such proof in each office, wearing certain identification, in writing to patient at the initial office visit, and on their website, if applicable. Enacted as Public Chapter 0075 (effective 01/01/2012).

**SB 0686 Tracy/HB 0977 Sparks—Outpatient cosmetic medical procedures - licensure.** Empowers the board to license and regulate cosmetic medical procedure clinics where outpatient elective cosmetic medical procedures are performed and prohibits operation without a license. Requires the clinic to follow the current license application process used for healthcare facilities to gain license approval from the board. Requires licensed

physicians directly supervise cosmetic procedures. House General Subcommittee of Health & Human Resources deferred to summer study.

**SB 0817 Crowe/HB 0829 Hensley—Authentication of verbal orders.** Requires that verbal orders given by a physician or authorized individual and authenticated by a "read back" must be signed within 14 days from date of order.

Although we cannot in this article, list or give summaries of all legislation monitored this session, please feel free to visit TNA's website [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org), and click on the Government Affairs link for additional bills or visit the Tennessee General Assembly's website at [www.capitol.tn.gov](http://www.capitol.tn.gov) for other legislative information.



I WANT TO PUT NURSE POWER INTO  
 TENNESSEE POLITICS BY  
 SUPPORTING TN-PAC!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Office) \_\_\_\_\_  
 FAX \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

I WANT TO MAKE MY CONTRIBUTION TODAY

I am contributing:  
 \$5,000     \$500     \$50  
 \$2,500     \$250     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$1,000     \$100

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PLEDGE

I pledge to contribute:  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Month. (Minimum monthly pledge is \$15.)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Quarter.  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Semi-annually.

Note: Pledges must be paid by credit or debit card. TN-PAC will automatically charge your card as directed. Pledges will continue until written notice is received by TN-PAC to discontinue a pledge.

PAYMENT METHOD

I am paying by Cash  
 I have enclosed my Check  
 Please charge my credit or debit card  
 VISA     MasterCard     American Express     Debit

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address of Card Holder \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit Authorization Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Located on back of Card)  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Tennessee Nurses Foundation Report

by Sharon Bailey, MSN, RN, APN-CNS  
TNF President

Have you worn out your walking shoes for nursing? When this article goes to press, Nurses' Week 2011 with the theme *Nurses Trusted to Care* will be history. The celebration ends but the walk continues. Nurses continue to make footprints in time—for each other and for the persons in health and illness for whom we care.

TNF and the TNA Districts worked together this year to sponsor nursing walks across the state. The approved logo is available for future TNF supported walks promoting healthy life styles for the citizens of Tennessee.



What Tennessee nurse in your life has “walked the walk” professionally? The “Honor a Nurse” program information is available on the TNA website at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) under the Tennessee Nurses Foundation link. With your \$50 tax-deductible donation to TNF, your honored nurse's name will appear in the *Tennessee Nurse* as well as in the designated “Honor A Nurse” section of the Tennessee Nurses Association's (TNA) website at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org). A photo and brief paragraph may also be submitted to further recognize your honored nurse. Individuals other than nurses can

honor special nurses that have made a difference in their care or the care of a family member. The donation to the Foundation will go toward continued support of the TNF programs.

Part of the path taken by TNF is to partner with other organizations to accurately portray the professionalism of nursing and to promote a positive image of the profession and nursing. The public already invests trust in nursing as reflected in national surveys. Our challenge is to maintain that trust.

Nurses occasionally take a climb up the academic school hill or the grant-writing mountain. The Tennessee Nurses Foundation supports education for nurses who are members of the Tennessee Nurses Association by providing annual scholarships for those nurses seeking higher education. The TNF board reviews grant applications and awards financial support for research every six months.

My nursing shoes are not worn out yet although I have walked many places in 41 years. I have had opportunities to practice in many areas of nursing and it has been quite a journey! I believe strongly that TNF provides me with opportunities to ensure that some young nurse in the future has the necessary shoes (and tools) to continue the walk of our profession. Please consider keeping TNF's many available programs funded. Thank you, and if you will excuse me, I need to get back to the work (walk) of nursing!





**I Want to Support the  
Tennessee Nurses Foundation**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

---

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Office) \_\_\_\_\_

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FAX \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please accept my donation of:**

\$1,000     \$250     \$50  
 \$500     \$100     Other \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to make my donation as an Annual Pledge**  
(Annual pledges limited to gifts of \$250 or more)

I will honor my Annual Pledge  
 Semi-Annually (July & January)  
 Quarterly (July, October, January, April)

**Please use my donation for:**

Capital Campaign/Building Fund (Restricted)  
 General Fund (Unrestricted)  
 Memorial Education Scholarship (Restricted)  
 Leadership Nursing Program (Restricted)  
 Research Grants (Restricted)  
 In Tribute     In Memory

In Name of \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement to:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment**

Check enclosed for the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Charge my credit card in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 VISA     MasterCard     American Express

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_    3-4 Digit Authorization Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Support Tennessee Nurses Association while you shop



Life is full of tough decisions, but using the Tennessee Nurses Association Platinum Plus® Visa® card with WorldPoints® rewards for all your purchases is an easy one. Choose the rewards that are right for you. Redemption options include unlimited cash rewards, airline travel with no blackout dates, brand-name merchandise, gift cards—even once-in-a-lifetime experiences. This credit card program is issued and administered by FIA Card Services, N.A.

To apply, visit [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org), click on Join TNA, and then Member Benefits. Look for the Bank of America information and click the link to apply securely online.

## New TNF Honor A Nurse Program

The Tennessee Nurses Foundation (TNF) welcomes you to publicly recognize a special nurse in your life. With your \$50 tax-deductible donation to TNF, your honored nurse's name will appear in the *Tennessee Nurse* and in the designated “Honor A Nurse” area of the TNA website at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org). The contribution form is available on the TNA website under the link on the left for TN Nurses Foundation, and a photo of and brief paragraph about your honored nurse may also be submitted.

This program is available to honor any Tennessee nurse. Honor a nurse friend, nurse family member, or nurse colleague by marking their anniversary, birthday, special event or occasion, or as a memorial. Patients, or the patient's family, may honor a nurse that truly made a difference in their care or the care of a family member. **Visit [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) today and Honor A Nurse.**



[www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org)

## Tennessee Nurses Association

# CAREER CENTER

Connecting Professionals with Industry Leaders



## job seeker

- Advance Your Career
- Post your Resume Anonymously
- Search Through Premier Job Postings
- Receive Job Alerts

## employer

- Hire qualified job seekers
- Save time and money
- Post multiple positions
- Receive resume alerts

For more information, visit us online at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org)



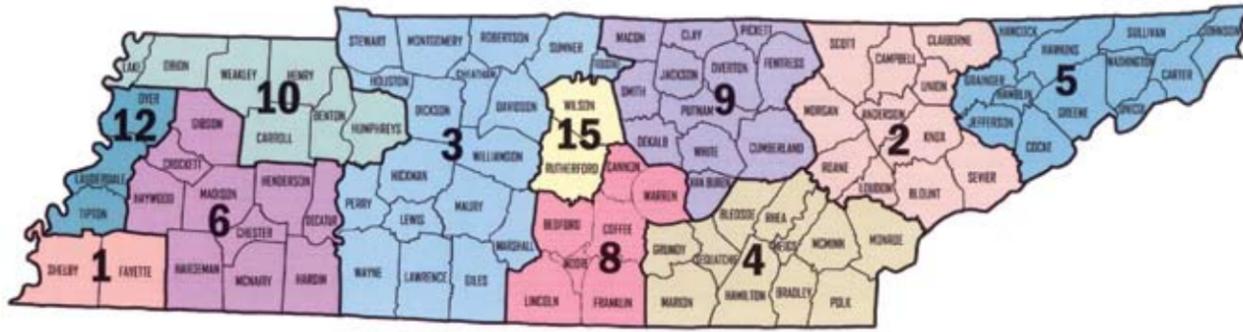
## Enhance the value of your continuing education offering!

Submit it to the  
**Tennessee Nurses Association**  
for CE approval.

*The Tennessee Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.*

Visit the Continuing Education link at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org) for details

# New and Reinstated Members



## District News

### District 5

District 5 has been busy getting the word out about the legislative agenda this year. We were fortunate enough to have Sharon Adkins, MSN, RN, TNA Executive Director at the District 5 meeting in April to speak to the membership. We are seeing more interest from the recent graduates, so we continue to follow up with them. District 5 President “Billie” Sills appeared on a local TV show to talk about Nurse’s Day and the District’s Nurses Day Celebration Dinner that the district holds annually and the Nurses Walk for Health. Sills has been invited back to talk about nursing again. We held our last Board meeting at the end of May and our next Board meeting will be held in August. The first fall General Meeting will be in September. The District 5 Board wishes all of our colleagues a wonderful and happy summer.

*“Billie” Sills, MSN, RN, ARNP, BC  
District 5 President*

### District 6



District 6 had a zumba instructor lead the “warm-up” session during its Nurses Walk for Health.

The District 6 Nurses Walk for Health took place on Saturday, May 21 at Liberty Garden Park in Jackson. More than 20 nurses (members and non-members), friends and family members were welcomed to join us.

We had a zumba instructor to lead our “warm-up” session. We walked for about 30-45 minutes, and then Linda Folkerts (a belly-dancing instructor!) from Savannah, Tenn., gave a mini-session on belly-dancing. Smoothie King was also present to serve sample size smoothies.

We tied a “community service” to our event by raising money for the Chyanne Scott Memorial Fund. As of today,

we raised approximately \$390 with the sale of our t-shirts and donations.

Also, we would like to thank Pam Burroughs (TNA District 12) for joining us!

*by Keesha Reid, MSN, RN, FNP-C  
Member of District 6 and TNA Secretary*

### District 8

District 8 decided to sponsor a membership for a new nursing graduate. A drawing was held at Motlow College (our only RN program in District 8) to award a graduating nursing student a free membership to TNA for one year post graduation. Those students residing in District 8 who were interested in belonging to TNA put their names “in a hat” and one was selected. The winner is Jennifer Smith of Woodbury, Tenn. She was sent a card of congratulations to let her know that as soon as she has passed her boards, she will receive her free one-year membership in TNA.

We are exploring ways to “connect” in our very large and very rural district. Our last meeting in March was held using “ITV” (interactive television) at Motlow College in Lynchburg and in Fayetteville. We were able to see each other and hear each other without having to drive far from our homes to attend a meeting. This is definitely something we see ourselves pursuing in an effort to increase meeting attendance.

*Susie Compton, MSN, RN  
District 8 President*

### District 15

District 15 had a well attended meeting in April with 85 people present. The District sponsored a CNE presentation by Mary Gunther, PhD, RN, Associate Professor and Chair of the MSN Program at UT Knoxville, entitled *Violence at Work: Nurse to Nurse*. The students and members attending welcomed the information presented and all were thrilled with the knowledge they had learned that could be used at work now and in the future. Several commented, “I didn’t know that was what was happening to me at work.”

Dara Rogers made and sold Easter baskets this April with all donations going to help the oncology unit at Middle Tennessee Medical Center in Murfreesboro. This was a very successful year for her project. Congratulations to her!

Members of District 15 and the students of MTSU collected toiletry items for the Domestic Violence Center of Murfreesboro. The Center was very thankful for the items as they were really needed for the victims of Domestic Abuse.

*Janice Harris, MSN, RN  
District 15 President*

### District 12



The District 12 Nurses Walk for Health was held May 20. There were 34 Practical Nursing students from the Tennessee Technology Center at Newbern and Union City. Both instructors participated in the walk but were not pictured in photo. The instructor for Newbern is Dora Woody, and the instructor for Union City is Shannon Miller.

### District 1

Kristen L. Adcock, James J. Brewer, Berenese Canady, Lewis Daniel Chapman, Jr, Nita A. Davidson, Jessica Edwards, Jennifer Feuerbacher, Michelle Ann Henry, Johnnie L. Hogg, Angela R. Hudson, Donald Morris Jacobsen, Paula Langley, Gail P. Lanigan, Donna J. Lynch-Smith, Maria R. Macintire, Virlira Pass, Judy L. Pinson, Jessica Lynn Sheets, Kimberly N. Stephens, Nancy L. Stewart, Amanda L. Taylor, Kevin Turnage, Pearl Woodall

### District 2

Olufunke D. Abidakun, Amanda Leann Bodkins, Teresa W. DeBusk, Norma Jean Gomez, Julie Kelley, Christina A. Long, Polly M. McArthur, Denise P. Miller, Katherine Hope Morgan, Kimberly New, Adriana Olson, Elizabeth F. Patterson, Barbara Kelly Penn, Debra S. Rose, Hope R. Sellars, Phyliss A. Shults, Nancy Kunze Zagaya

### District 3

Pamela D. Ark, Nikki G. Baldi, Amy Baldwin, Jody Elizabeth Barnwell, Kim Lowery Biggs, Vickie Joann Bissinger, Brandy Michelle Bridgewater, Fadra Bryson, Christina Buckley, Barbara Jean Bunting, Joel W. Campbell, Enjoli Carl, Mary P. Carter, Janelle M. Delle, Bonnie Michell DeNormandie, Sarah H. Dillon, Derrick Tyrone Ellis, Amber Fisher, Ashley Guepe Hall, Daphne Hardison, Brian Harnett, Sarah Edwards Higgins, Sandra Hill, Pamela K. Hoffner, Lauren Houghton, Marlo D. Kemp, Jodi Kushner, Sherry Dawn Lancey, Lauren Ann Levanduski, Kathy Moss, Rachandra Nicole Oggs, Shelley Webb Ploch, Sally P. Proffitt, Mary Caroline Reed, Monica Lynne Satterwhite, Angela F. Sims Evans, Jenna Lea Smiley, Nashoria Smith, Carole E. Speer, Laura Jo Spencer, Amy Suh, Shiela I. Thompson, Brooke Jett Vanderpool, Jessica Walker, Patricia Jo Wanex, Pamela Waynick-Rogers, Andrea Kathleen Zarichnak

### District 4

Nancy Moss Casaday, Robert Bruce Dickinson, Terri Frazier Dunn, Rebekah Gilman, Terry Bunn Hood, Mary Rhea Long, Felecia G. McHone, Aleyamma C. Oommen, Shirley Scarlatti, Jessi Steve, Latricia L. Stone, Wendy A. Strickland, Vickie S. Thomas

### District 5

Virginia J. Bowers, Pamela Burdett, Mark James Everett, Marie Herrmann, Jeffrey Hill, Sharon D. Loury, Jasmine Love, KarisJoy McKenzie, Patricia Niday-Teixeira, Lynn Patterson, Norma Lindell Stevens, Joshua Dane Thornsberry, Ted A. White, Kathy L. Williams

### District 6

Renee Hardy Anderson, Sheila A. Holland, Cheryl J. Howell, Twanna Y. Irvin, Tina L. Snyder, Jenny Webb

### District 8

Cliff Huffman

### District 9

Angel V. Brewer, James P. Bryant, Rachel M. Hall, Estee Katrina Lee, Linda McQuiston, Sharon A. Templeton

### District 10

Josefina Batton, Esther Christian Sellars

### District 12

Kimberly E. Harrison

### District 15

Rachel B. Carlton, Tammy Harris, Cathey Annette Hunter

## Member News

**Jennifer Barut, MSN, RN-BC**, was named one of six finalists in the recent ANA "I am a Nurse, I am a Leader" video contest. She is the Educator in the video and also wrote the script for and coordinated the video with the other staff. Barut is a Nursing Professional Development Specialist with the Department of Nursing Education and Professional Development for Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital. To view the videos, visit <http://www.youtube.com/iamanurseiamaleader>.



Jennifer Barut

**Norma Lester, MSN, RN, CDDN, CLNC**, a longtime Democratic activist, is one of two people who were nominated by the Democratic members of the General Assembly to become the party's two designated members on the Shelby County Election Commission. The Tennessee Election Commission approved Lester's nomination in early May.



Norma Lester

Misty Sperry  
Chambers

Jeanne Yeatman

**Misty Sperry Chambers, MSN, RN, and Jeanne Yeatman, BSN, MOM, MBA, RN, EMT**, were recently included in the Women to Watch Class of 2011 by the *Nashville Medical News*. Ten women were selected for this honor for 2011. Chambers is a Clinical Operations/Design Specialist for Earl Swenson Associates, Inc., and Yeatman is Program Director of Vanderbilt LifeFlight.



Carole Myers



Gary Ramsey

**Carole Myers, PhD, FNP, APN, and Gary Ramsey, DNP, RN**, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Myers is an Assistant Professor, and Ramsey is a Clinical Assistant Professor and Chair of the Undergraduate Nursing Program at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Nursing. Phi Kappa Phi, whose motto is "Let the love of learning rule humanity," is an interdisciplinary society recognizing and honoring high scholarly achievement across a broad range of university subject matters. The University of Tennessee chapter is one of three founding chapters and has been in existence since 1899. The Society currently has over 300 chapters in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines.



From left, Dr. Ann Floyd Koci is pictured with the 2011 recipients of the Excellence Awards for faculty at Tennessee Technological University which include Assistant Professor Bedelia Russell, MSN, RN, CNOR, CPNP, who received the Excellence in Teaching Award; Assistant Professor Judy Duvall, MSN, RN, CCRN, who received the Excellence in Research Award; and Assistant Professor Tammy Howard, MSN, RN, WHNP-BC, RNC-OB, who received the Excellence in Service Award. Russell and Howard are TNA members.

## Ann Floyd Koci Faculty Awards Presented at Tennessee Tech

Dr. Ann Floyd Koci, founder of the Excellence Faculty Awards at Tennessee Technological University, began the awards to honor faculty. Koci said, "I feel very strongly that the people of the Upper Cumberland region of Tennessee deserve the most competent, compassionate nursing care. In order to prepare such nurses, our nursing school must have competent, innovative, and dynamic faculty."

"My father was always so proud of my nursing and my work as a Family Nurse Practitioner," said Koci. "These awards are just a small way for me to honor my father and the people of Tennessee. I appreciate that Tennessee Tech has allowed me to have this opportunity to honor them. We have good memories of Tennessee plus our children, grandchildren, and new great grandson all live in Tennessee."

## Do You Need A Change?

TNA and ANA protect your practice and legislate for higher standards and better working conditions for all Registered Nurses. There are over 80,000 Registered Nurses licensed in the State of Tennessee. That number is huge in comparison with other licensed healthcare professions. Support TNA for as little as \$16.34 per month, or support both ANA and TNA for as little as \$23.67 per month and watch how things can change. Numbers do count at the Legislature and like it or not, that is where many regulatory changes are made that affect your practice. **It's easy to identify the problems, now is the time to become part of the solution.** We need to be able to count on you and we need your support. Join TNA and ANA at [www.tnaonline.org](http://www.tnaonline.org). Click on Join TNA or call 615-254-0350.

### Do you work at the VA?

#### Join TNA today for only \$10.70 a pay period.

Check *Payroll Deduction* on the lower right-hand side of the TNA Membership application. A TNA staff member will send you the form you need to take to the VA Payroll Department to setup your payroll deduction dues plan. It's that simple. You will never miss \$10.70 from your paycheck and you will have gained so much in return. If you have any questions, call 615-254-0350.

#### TNA also has Payroll Deduction Dues plans set up at the:

Regional Medical Center – Memphis @ \$11.59 per pay period

# American Nurses Association/Tennessee Nurses Association Membership—It's Your Privilege!



## Tennessee Nurses Association Membership Application

545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405 • Nashville, TN 37228-1296 • Phone: 615-254-0350 • Fax: 615-254-0303

Please type or print clearly. Please mail your completed application with payment to TNA, 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Street or PO Box Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Last Four Digits of Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Work Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Pager \_\_\_\_\_

Employed at \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Certification(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation from basic nursing program (Month/Year) \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ RN License # \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**Membership Categories** (please choose one category) \*New Membership Dues Rates Effective January 1, 2011

**ANA/TNA Full Membership Dues**  
Employed full or part-time **\$23.67 per month** or \$278.00 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the American Nurses Association, Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

**ANA/TNA Reduced Membership Dues**  
**Newly-licensed graduates**, not employed, RNs who are full-time students, or age 62+ and not earning more than Social Security allows. **\$12.09 per month** or \$139 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the American Nurses Association, Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

**ANA/TNA Special Membership Dues**  
62+ and not employed, or totally disabled. **\$6.29 per month** or \$69.50 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the American Nurses Association, Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

**TNA Individual Membership Dues**  
Any licensed registered nurse living and/or working in Tennessee. **\$16.34 per month** or \$190.00 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

*American Nurses Association Direct Membership is also available. For more information, visit [www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org).*

**Communications Consent**  
I understand that by providing my mailing address, email address, telephone number and/or fax numbers, I consent to receive communications sent by or on behalf of the Tennessee Nurses Association (and its subsidiaries and affiliates, including its Foundation, Districts and Political Action Committee) via regular mail, email, telephone, and/or fax.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**To Be Completed by TNA Staff** State: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Status: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. New <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Reinstated Summer	Membership Type: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Full (100%) <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Reduced (50%) <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Special (25%) <input type="checkbox"/> 4. TNA Individual	Bill Method: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. A <input type="checkbox"/> 2. EFT <input type="checkbox"/> 3. CCM <input type="checkbox"/> 4. PD
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Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Discounted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dues Payment Options (please choose one)

**\*SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW**

**Automatic Monthly Payment Options**  
This is to authorize monthly electronic payments to American Nurses Association, Inc. (ANA). By signing on the line, I authorize TNA/ANA to withdraw 1/12 of my annual dues and any additional service fees from my account.  
\*SEE AT RIGHT

**\* Automatic Monthly Payment Authorization Signature**

**CHECKING ACCOUNT:** Please enclose a check for the first month's payment, which will be drafted on or after the 15th day of each month using the account designated by the enclosed check.

**CREDIT/DEBIT CARD:** Please complete the credit card information at right and this credit card will be debited on or after the 1st of each month (VISA and MasterCard Only).

**\*SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW**

**Automatic Annual Credit/Debit Card Payment**  
This is to authorize annual credit card payments to American Nurses Association, Inc. (ANA). By signing below I authorize TNA/ANA to charge the credit card listed below for the annual dues on the 1st day of the month when the annual renewal is due.  
\*SEE AT RIGHT

**\* Automatic Annual Payment Authorization Signature**

**Charge to My Credit/Debit Card**

VISA (Available for Annual or Monthly Draft Payments)  
 MasterCard (Available for Annual or Monthly Draft Payments)

Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_ Verification Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Payment**  
Make check payable to TNA or fill out credit card information below.

\* By signing the Automatic Monthly Payment Authorization or the Automatic Annual Credit Card Payment Authorization, you are authorizing ANA to change the amount by giving the undersigned thirty (30) days advance written notice. Undersigned may cancel this authorization upon receipt by ANA of written notification of termination twenty (20) days prior to deduction date designated above. Membership will continue unless this notification is received. ANA will charge a \$5.00 fee for any returned drafts or chargebacks.

**Authorization to Bill My Employer**

Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street or PO Box \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
(Many employers pay professional dues. TNA's educational programs alone justify it. Ask your employer.)

**Payroll Deduction**  
This payment plan is available only where there is an agreement between your employer and the association to make such deduction.

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES**  
 VA - Nashville, Memphis, Mountain Home, Murfreesboro  
 Regional Medical Center - Memphis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature for Payroll Deduction