Louisiana Nurses Foundation Receives Second Woodard Scholarship Donation!

As previously reported, Mr. E. Scott Woodard donated $100,000.00 to the Louisiana Nurses Foundation in 2009 to establish the Mollie C. and Larene B. Woodard Nursing Scholarship Fund. The purpose of this Fund was to provide financial support to undergraduate nursing students during the clinical component of their nursing education. Following notification of the donation, a Woodard Scholarship Selection Committee was appointed by the LNF Board of Directors in Spring 2009, chaired by Dr. Cynthia Prestholdt (LSNA Education Council Chair). The Selection Committee developed the application and review process and over 100 student applications were received. Utilizing the accepted review process, a final roster of 15 applicants was chosen to receive the initial funds. In accordance with terms established for the Scholarship Fund, each student will receive $2,500.00 each semester during their clinical component as long as they continue to maintain the terms of scholarship eligibility.

LNF has been informed of Mr. Woodard's decision to provide another $100,000.00 donation for Louisiana nursing student scholarships! Information about the application process will be published in the June edition of the Pelican News, for funds to be awarded beginning in Fall, 2010. We again salute Mr. Woodard for his generous continued support on behalf of the future professional nurses of Louisiana!

Florence Nightingale

With all of the upcoming “Nurse Week” activities and “Nightingale Events” soon to be celebrated by nurses all over the country, it is appropriate that we remember the remarkable woman who “planted the seeds that blossomed into the current understanding of nursing as both science and art.” (Joyce J. Fitzpatrick) She was born on May 12, 1820—190 years ago and her teachings and practices are relevant today!

LSNA Board Meeting Dates

March 27, 2010
June 12, 2010
September 11, 2010

Meetings are open to all. Please notify the LSNA office if you plan to attend as space is limited.

SAVE THE DATES!!

Important dates to remember!!

- 2010 Nursing Summit, Thursday, March 25, 2010
- 2010 Nurse Day & Link to the Legislature, Monday, April 26, 2010
- 2010 Cruise, Thursday, November 4-Monday, November 8, 2010

Keep a watch in the next Pelican and the LSNA website for information on these upcoming events.

Malpractice Suits—Something to Think About!

Ten years ago, 20% of malpractice suits were lawsuits against nurses. Today, that number has grown to over 35%. Nurses know more, do more, and have less time to do it. (Pritzker/Rhohonen & Associates, P.A.)
Dear Colleagues,

On February 20, 2010 the nurses of Louisiana will come together to celebrate with fellow nurses who have been nominated for their exemplary service to the nursing profession at the 10th Annual Nightingale Gala. This Awards Gala is so fittingly named for the founder of modern nursing, Florence Nightingale.

Florence Nightingale was a formidable community and social advocate, an environmentalist, a devoted nurse leader, and an effective communicator. In her honor, the Louisiana Nurses Foundation established the Nightingale Gala and honor nurses who follow in Nightingale’s footsteps and who have made significant contributions in the areas of clinical practice, education, leadership and research.

The year 2010 marks the centennial anniversary of Nightingale’s death and has also been designated as the International Year of the Nurse. The founding members of the International Year of the Nurse include Sigma Theta Tau International, the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health, and the Florence Nightingale Museum in London. The 2010 International Year of the Nurse was established as a celebration to recognize the contributions of approximately 2010 International Year of the Nurse was established as a celebration to recognize the contributions of approximately

I would like to encourage each of you to find some way to participate in this initiative, 2010 International Year of the Nurse, so as to make an impact in health issues. You can find more information about the 2010 International Year of the Nurse at http://www.2010ynurse.net.

The website provides a variety of information about the 2000 International Year of the Nurse such as stories about how nurses are achieving the United Nation’s goals, a media toolkit, resources and suggestions for events that you can implement in your district. For example, Sigma Theta Tau International, the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health, and the Florence Nightingale Museum has scheduled a Commemorative Global Service at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC on Sunday, April 25th in recognition of nurses across the world (http://www.2010ynurse.net/Event_Calendar.aspx). In addition, The Nightingale Declaration Campaign was established by the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health to support the 2010 International Year of the Nurse and the United Nation’s resolution for a Healthy World. You can find the Nightingale Declaration for Our Healthy World at http://www.nightingaledclaration.net/nigh/.

In closing, thank you if you are a member and if you are not a member, please consider joining so you can become an active participant in the future of the nursing profession.

Denise Danna

LSNA President’s Message

Long Term Care Insurance—Think About It! For Information Call 1-800-710-1786

Message to the individual who sent LSNA a Christmas card signed: “A Member.” “Thanks and Merry Christmas!”

LSNA President’s Message

Louisiana State Nurses Association

Louisiana State Nurses Association

Board of Directors
DENISE DANNA
President-Elect
JACQUELINE HILL
Vice President
DIANE WEBB
Secretary
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Executive Director
Dr. Joe Ann Clark
LSNA Staff
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Louisiana RN License Plates

SHOW PRIDE IN YOUR PROFESSION and SUPPORT THE LOUISIANA NURSES FOUNDATION.

Due Dates for Pelican News

April 19
July 19
October 18

All monies collected from the plates will go to the Louisiana Nurses Foundation to support nursing interests and continuing education.

Louisiana RN License Plates

March, April, May 2010

Pelican News • Page 2

LSNA President’s Message

Denise Danna

Dear Colleagues,

On February 20, 2010 the nurses of Louisiana will come together to celebrate with fellow nurses who have been nominated for their exemplary service to the nursing profession at the 10th Annual Nightingale Gala. This Awards Gala is so fittingly named for the founder of modern nursing, Florence Nightingale.

Florence Nightingale was a formidable community and social advocate, an environmentalist, a devoted nurse leader, and an effective communicator. In her honor, the Louisiana Nurses Foundation established the Nightingale Gala and honor nurses who follow in Nightingale’s footsteps and who have made significant contributions in the areas of clinical practice, education, leadership and research.

The year 2010 marks the centennial anniversary of Nightingale’s death and has also been designated as the International Year of the Nurse. The founding members of the International Year of the Nurse include Sigma Theta Tau International, the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health, and the Florence Nightingale Museum in London. The 2010 International Year of the Nurse was established as a celebration to recognize the contributions of approximately 15 million nurses across the globe in improving the wellbeing of individuals, communities and countries and to advance the United Nations eight millennium development goals, which builds on the legacy of Florence Nightingale’s work. The eight goals focus on such issues as health, poverty and hunger, education, gender equality, child mortality and the environment. The 2010 International Year of the Nurse is a grassroots initiative for all nurses to join and support the implementation of these goals locally, nationally and internationally.

I would like to encourage each of you to find some way to participate in this initiative, 2010 International Year of the Nurse, so as to make an impact in health issues. You can find more information about the 2010 International Year of the Nurse at http://www.2010ynurse.net.

The website provides a variety of information about the 2000 International Year of the Nurse such as stories about how nurses are achieving the United Nation’s goals, a media toolkit, resources and suggestions for events that you can implement in your district. For example, Sigma Theta Tau International, the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health, and the Florence Nightingale Museum has scheduled a Commemorative Global Service at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC on Sunday, April 25th in recognition of nurses across the world (http://www.2010ynurse.net/Event_Calendar.aspx). In addition, The Nightingale Declaration Campaign was established by the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health to support the 2010 International Year of the Nurse and the United Nation’s resolution for a Healthy World. You can find the Nightingale Declaration for Our Healthy World at http://www.nightingaledclaration.net/nigh/.

In closing, thank you if you are a member and if you are not a member, please consider joining so you can become an active participant in the future of the nursing profession.
Message from the Executive Director

by Joe Clark, LSNA Executive Director

The LSNA Fall cruise, in November, had a good turn out. It allowed us the opportunity to have fun and also receive 5 CEs for attending the program. The weather was a little bad (we had 10-12 foot seas), but we still had a great time. There were 140 nurses and family members in our party—many who had gone before. Such good food!!! Hope you can join us next year. We will be on the new, much bigger ship—the Triumph. The date for sailing is November 4, 2010. Register early!

This Spring will be very busy. By the time you read this, the Nightingale Gala will be in the past. Carol has all the nominations for the Awards in the mail to the out of state judges and we are busy getting ready for the big night. We look forward to that special evening (February 20, 2010)—Nurses’ time to honor their own! This will be the 9th Nightingale Event. LSNA is proud to provide this forum, in which our colleagues are honored.

Then on March 25, 2010 the second Nursing Summit will be held. The Summit is cosponsored by the Louisiana Organization of Nurse Executives (LONE), the Louisiana Council of Administrators of Nursing Education (LaCANE), the Louisiana Alliance of Nursing Organizations (LANO), the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN), and the Louisiana State Nurses Organization (LSNA). Last year, in an effort to provide a program which would bring nurses from all areas of nursing together to promote a better understanding of what we all do, representatives from the above organizations came together to plan that first Summit. It was well attended and received, and the evaluations were very positive. The major complaint was that the room was too small!

The same group is in the process of planning the second Summit which is titled “Nursing’s Future in Louisiana: 2010 Summit of Nursing Educators, Nursing Employers and Nursing Regulators.” Peter Buerhaus will again serve as the keynote speaker. Focus groups will discuss: “Issues and Trends Related to Nursing Education;” “Workforce Recruitment & Retention Issues;” “Faculty Recruitment & Retention Issues;” and “Practice & Education: Cooperative Efforts to Educate Future Nurses.” Dr. Buerhaus will close the meeting by summarizing the findings of the focus groups.

The 2010 Nurse Day and Link to the Legislature will be held on April 26, 2010. The LSNA Program Committee is planning a program which is designed to review the legislative process and to examine any proposed legislation which could impact health care and/or nursing. The 2010 legislative session convenes on March 29, 2010 and closes no later than 6:00 p.m. on June 21, 2010. The deadline to file bills is March 16, 2010. With that in mind, by Nurse Day on April 26, we should have a good knowledge of the legislation we need to monitor. Also, The LSNA Health Policy Committee Chair and LSNA Lobbyist are meeting with representatives of some of the specialty organizations to explore proposed legislation. More about that later!

In this message, I wanted to share with you some of the things that LSNA’s staff, Board of Directors, Committee/Council members and other volunteers are working to provide the nurses of Louisiana.

Joe Clark

Meet Your Board Members

Diane Graham Webb, MSN, RN, CNE

I have been active in LSNA for over 25 years and previously served as Northwest Director on the Board of Directors for ten years. More recently, I have served as Chair of the LSNA Audit Committee for two terms, member of the Health Policy Committee, and member of the Program Committee. I have been actively involved in the Shreveport District Nurses’ Association, serving on the Board of Directors and as first Vice-President. Through my active involvement with this Association, I have a thorough understanding of the responsibilities of the role of Vice-President and have the time, energy and expertise to devote to such an undertaking.

One of the major responsibilities of the Vice President is to Chair the Program Committee and assure adherence to the American Nurses’ Credentialing Center’s criteria for a Provider Unit. As Director for Non-Traditional Studies in Nursing at Northwestern State University, I have been administratively responsible for the College of Nursing’s ANCC approved Provider Unit since 1988. During Fall of 2008 and Spring of 2009, I actively worked with other members of the Program Committee, Maxine Johnson, Carol Cairo and Joe Ann Clark to write the ANCC Provider Unit Self Study for continued accreditation. My expertise and experience definitely qualify me to fulfill this important role of the office of Vice-President.

I am committed to the mission, goals, and values of LSNA and consider it an honor to serve as this organization’s Vice President.
Dr. Demetrius Porche
Dean and Professor at Louisiana State University Health Science Center School of Nursing in New Orleans, was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. The American Academy of Nursing’s approximately 1,500 Fellows are nursing leaders in education, management, practice and research. They include: association executives; university presidents, chancellors and deans; state and federal political appointees; hospital chief executives and vice presidents for nursing; nurse consultants; and researchers and entrepreneurs.

Invitation to Fellowship is more than recognition of one’s accomplishments within the nursing profession. AAN Fellows also have a responsibility to contribute their time and energies to the Academy, and to engage with other health care leaders outside the Academy in transforming America’s health care system.

Dr. Porche was also inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP), which was established to recognize nurse practitioners who have made outstanding contributions to health care practice, research, education or policy and to facilitate leadership in the nurse practitioner discipline. FAANP members are visionaries committed to the global advancement of high quality healthcare delivered by nurse practitioners through the development of imaginative and creative future nurse practitioner leaders.

Dr. Denise Danna, Associate Dean for Professional Services, Community Activities, and Advanced Nursing Practice Education at Louisiana State University Health Science Center, School of Nursing, New Orleans has announced the publication of her book “Nursing in the Storm: Voices from Hurricane Katrina.” For 32 years, Dr. Danna worked at Memorial Medical Center, New Orleans and held several leadership positions. For 15 years, she was the Chief Nursing Officer and held that position at the time Hurricane Katrina struck. She is an active member of the American Nurses Association, American Organization of Nurse Executives, National League for Nursing and Sigma Theta Tau International. She is a fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives. She has recently authored a book chapter on management and leadership issues and published several articles on disaster preparedness. Dr. Danna is currently the President of the Louisiana State Nurses Association.

April Madere, RN, BSN, had an article published in the AWHONN Journal “Nursing for Women’s Health.” The title of her article was “Weathering the Storm”. A brief description surrounding Katrina. She is an employee of Woman’s Hospital in Baton Rouge. (Vol. 13, Issue 6, December 2009/January 2010)

Congratulations to each of you!
Please check the web site for Agenda and invited speakers.

Program Description and Target Audience:
The national and state healthcare systems are in the middle of transition to improve the quality of healthcare available to the populace. The American Nurses Association and the Louisiana State Nurse Association must be positioned to impact legislative outcomes that promote the provision of nursing and showcase quality healthcare for Louisiana citizens. This program is open to all registered nurses and students: other interested healthcare professionals are invited to attend.

Program Objectives:
Upon completion of the program, the participant will be able to:
- Identify at least three legislative bills for the 2010 Louisiana session that will impact either nursing or healthcare in Louisiana.
- Discuss nursing’s role in healthcare reform in Louisiana.
- Describe the impact of national healthcare reform onLouisiana.

Nursing Accreditation:
- 5.0 Contact Hours will be awarded by the Louisiana State Nurses Association for attending the entire program.
- Louisiana State Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Centers’ Commission on Accreditation.
- You must be on time, attend the entire program, and complete the evaluation form to receive the contact hours.

Program Information:

Head Information:
Lod Cook Conference Center (LSU Campus)
3848 West Lakeshore Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
(225) 383-2665 Toll Free: (866) 619-2665
www.cookconferencecenter.org

Mention LSNA for special room rates
(Reservations must be made by March 30, 2010 to guarantee rates.)
Suites $148 and Rooms $115—single or double
Above rates are subject to APPLICABLE TAXES

Contact:
LOUISIANA STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION
5713 Superior Drive, Suite A-6
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816
Phone: (225) 201-0971
Fax: (225) 201-0971
ocarleo@lsna.org
Web: www.lsna.org

Exhibitor Information:
Contact Carol Cairo at cccairo@lsna.org

To become an exhibitor at the "Link to the Legislature/Nurse Day" 2010 Program:
Monday, April 28, 2010
Lod Cook Conference Center (LSU Campus) Baton Rouge
Recruiters! Students will be attending this program!

Booth Rental Agreement
- Event will be held at the Lod Cook Conference Center & Hotel (LSU University)
- If space permits exhibitors will be in the MAIN lobby area. LSNA will assign tables by date and payment of exhibitor registration.
- Exhibits will be open on Monday, April 7, 2008. Exhibitor booths will be open from 7:00am until approximately 4:00pm. There will be ample time for participants to browse throughout this event.
- Cost is $400.00. This includes one tabletop with cloth and apron, two chairs. Please let us know in advance if electricity will be needed. You will need to supply your own extension cords.
- LSNA must be notified of your desire to reneat a booth by Monday, March 31, 2008. Canceling after March 31 there will be a $50 cancellation fee to cover hotel fees.
- Please check the web site for program details and hotel information. (www.lsna.org)
- Attendance in prior years has been approximately 250 to 300 nurses.

For any additional information or questions, please contact
Carol Cairo, RN, Program Coordinator
Phone: (225) 201-0971
Fax: (225) 201-0971
E-mail: cccairo@lsna.org

For your records:
Method of Payment: Total Enclosed

"Link to the Legislature/Nurse Day" 2010 Program
LSNA Member $50
Non Member $90
Full Time Student $25
LANPAC Luncheon (Box Lunch: Pecan Pralines) $25
Total Paid $

**Students registering in groups of 6 or more for the same program receive a rate of $20/student. Call LSNA for details on group registration.

REGISTRATION
Name:
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Phone:
Email:

METHOD OF PAYMENT
— Check Enclosed (payable to LSNA)
— MasterCard
— Visa
— Am. Express
Card #
Exp. Date:
Signature:

Return with payment to:
Louisiana State Nurses Association
5713 Superior Drive, Suite A-6
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
• LSNA will make every attempt to provide reasonable accommodations for physically challenged attendees who require special services. Please call ahead to make arrangements (225) 201-0971

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION:
Company Name:
Address:
Phone Number:
E-mail Address:
Contact Name:

Electricity Yes No

EXHIBITOR FEE Amount:
Monday, April 7, 2008
TOTAL ENCLOED

METHOD OF PAYMENT
— Check Enclosed (payable to LSNA)
— MasterCard
— Visa
— Am. Ex.
Card #
Exp. Date
Signature:

Please Return to:
Louisiana State Nurses Association
5713 Superior Drive, Suite A-6
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Office Use:
Date Received:
Four Extraordinary Nurses Recognized at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center with DAISY Awards

Baton Rouge—Four Nurses at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center have been honored with The DAISY Award For Extraordinary Nurses. The award, presented in collaboration with The American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) is part of the DAISY Foundation’s program to recognize the superhuman efforts nurses perform every day.

Holly Delatte, RN is a nurse supervisor. She was recognized for taking the time to truly listen to a patient with very special needs. She went above and beyond to develop a plan of care centered around the patient’s meals and medication. She worked closely with the patient to ensure that the plan met his needs and took the time to make sure everyone on the care team fully understood the plan. Holly’s actions allowed this patient to earn a better understanding of his illness and develop a better plan for care upon discharge.

Patricia Ramirez, RN went above and beyond to provide care to a young surgery patient who was always alone and needed many operations. As Patricia was helping this patient prepare for her first surgery she took the time to explain what was going to happen and helped calm the patient down. Patricia visited the patient on her time off and even gave the patient a pampering kit, manicure and pedicure. These actions by Patricia gave this patient much comfort during a difficult time.

Kym McCoy, MSN, RN spent a great deal of time caring for a cancer patient and got to know him and his wife and son. Several months passed and the patient was readmitted with a poor prognosis. The patient requested Kym by name and asked that she remain his nurse and administer palliative care. Kym stayed by his side until the end and provided much needed support for this patient’s family.

Jill LeBlanc, LPN was caring for a patient with a touch of Alzheimer’s. The patient’s husband was always at her bedside and kept telling the care team that she would not eat. Jill worked closely with the patient and found that she would only eat very soft foods such as pudding. Jill called on a dietician to adjust the patient’s diet to meet her nutrition needs and then worked with the patient’s husband to help him understand how to feed his wife. These actions helped the patient resume some of her dignity and independence.

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, CA, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

For more information on the DAISY Foundation visit www.DAISYfoundation.org.

Retired Nurses Meet

The Baton Rouge Retired Nurses enjoyed a delightful Christmas luncheon at the Drusilla Restaurant on Wednesday, December 9, 2009.

The retirees were classmates who graduated from local schools of nursing or had been coworkers in local hospitals over the decades since 1943.

Prior to the luncheon, a “who’s here” question and answer format was conducted: where they worked, their field of nursing, their employers, their decade of graduation, who were the oldest and youngest retirees.

The two oldest registered nurse retirees present were Thelma Lobdell Fink and Luna Rose Lejeune Ardoin, who graduated in 1943. The most recent retiree was Lisa Deaton.

In recent years, Joyce Jones coordinated the event. In 2009, Beryl Smith and Clara Earl contacted many of the attendees.

The retired nurses were graduates of OLOL, Northwestern U. BR; SELU, Charity, Hotel Dieu, Mercy New Orleans and 3 out-of-state schools.

If you are a retired registered nurse, you may join them on December 3, 2010.
Letter of Thanks!

As an Orthopaedic Nurse practicing in Louisiana, pain management is a priority in the care of my patients. New technologies are introduced every day to improve patient outcomes and the patients pain management experience. Since 2008, the use of continuous perineural blocks with adjusted flow rates for pain management has been recognized in the literature as an effective modality for pain control. Currently, the Louisiana Nurse Practice Act restricts the Registered Nurse in titrating the dose via this route, as an anesthetic agent is involved. The Baton Rouge Chapter of the National Association of Orthopedic Nurses and Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center would like to thank LSNA for their ongoing support in moving this practice issue forward. LSNA has worked diligently on behalf of Louisiana nurses to collaborate with the Louisiana Association of Nurse Anesthetist (LANA) and Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN), to advance legislation important to nursing practice, which will improve patient care at the bedside.

Charla B. Johnson, RN, MSN, ONC
Program Coordinator Orthopaedic Service, OLOLRMC
Past President, BR Chapter NAON

March, April, May 2010

MEMBERSHIP

A Message From Your Baton Rouge District Nurses Association

Michele Walley
Baton Rouge District President

Nursing Colleagues,

As nurses and role models of the next generations of nurses, I strongly encourage you to get involved in your professional organization (if you have not already done so). I’m sure many of you have some misgivings and some misconceptions about membership. Allow me a moment to provide some insight and information. Perceived barriers to membership that have been brought to my attention so far include the following:

1. Cost. Membership is expensive ($274 per year), but it is easily deducted from a checking account or charged to a credit card for $23.33 per month—you will hardly miss it.

2. Unaware/unsure of what LSNA/ANA stands for. The LSNA/ANA acts as an advocate for the profession of nursing in many areas, including the following:
   • lobbying for issues important to nursing (including safe staffing, nursing workforce development, overtime pay, access to care, scope of practice issues)
   • protecting your Nurse Practice Act
   • maintaining the Code of Ethics for Nurses (first developed by the ANA in 1926)
   • collecting data through the National Database for Nursing Quality Indicators (NINQ) that links nurse staffing to quality nursing care
   • addressing workplace safety issues such as back injuries, latex allergies, safe needles, and workplace violence
   • speaking for nursing and improving the image of nursing through the national and international media

3. Lack of personal benefits. Aside from the reasons listed above, LSNA offers a multitude of other benefits:
   • local meetings that frequently offer free continuing education credit (at least 4 per year)
   • free publications: The American Nurse; The American Nurse Today; OJIN—Online Journal of Issues in Nursing, The Pelican News, ANA SmartBrief (daily summary of all news pertinent to nursing in the US)
   • discounts on professional liability insurance
   • discounts on popular brand-name products (Crocs, Dell Computers, and many more) and travel
   • discounts on publications through nursesbooks.org
   • save up to $140 on certifications through ANCC
   • online continuing education either free or discounted
   • conferences

4. Lack of time to get involved. This is a good one, but ask yourself how many times have you said that you’d like to “get more involved with my professional organization?” There’s no time like the present. How many times have you seen issues in nursing that you wish would be addressed? As those of us who are really involved can tell you, there is never a dull moment and never a wasted minute contributing to the advancement of your profession.

I hope this has given you some food for thought. I’ll be seeing you around, and I always carry membership applications and a local calendar of events. These can be downloaded from the state and local websites, respectively (www.lsna.org, and www.batrougedistrictnursesassociation.org). It is time to get the nursing community in Baton Rouge re-energized and to involve the next generations of our nurses to be active professionals who want a seat at the table when issues that affect them and their practice are decided. Currently there are over 44,000 nurses in the state of Louisiana, yet only 1100 of them are members of LSNA. With only that small number, your professional organization has managed to make some dramatic progress in promoting the profession of nursing in our state. Imagine the collective voice of 44,000!

If you would like further information, would like to know how you can get involved, or have ideas for our district, you can reach me at President@batrougedistrictnursesassociation.org. I hope to see you at our next meeting!

We Would like to Welcome Our Newest Members of the LSNA:

4TH Quarter 2009

October

Betty Aguillard
Jennifer Hudgens
November

Staci Anderson
Sydney LeBlanc
Nicole Babin
Sheila Matheny
Karen Cobb
Kimberly McCoy
DeLisa Dunn
Nicolete Rodney
Angela Garrett
Ramsey Schmitz
Brandalyn Guillory
Elidia Scroggs
Hans Harmison
Anna Spence
Linda Ivory
Patrice Johnson
Patricia Jackson

November

December

Debra Barker
Kathleen Redler
Desiree Castello
Jason Rogers
Ashantra Coston
Lauren Sanchez
Edith Courtney
Emily Santa Ana
Heather Daniels
Elizabeth Weiler
Cathy Guay
Gretchen Wyle
Clara Langlois
Lisa Baker
Jeannee Major
Thomas Butler
Tamika Maracalin
Janice Kishner
Robin Meyers

Thank you!!
The H1N1 vaccine is now available to anyone that wants it, regardless of whether an individual fits the previously announced high-risk categories. Delays in vaccine production and distribution have made the vaccine available in limited quantities since October 2009 solely to specific target groups at highest risk for complications from the H1N1 flu, in accordance with guidelines issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Currently, there is ample supply within the state to vaccinate anyone interested. To date, more than 300,000 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine have been administered in Louisiana.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals in collaboration with the Department of Education began the 2009 H1N1 Influenza School Vaccination campaign in mid-November. Thus far, an estimated 79,000 H1N1 flu shots have been administered to school-aged children via this campaign. The H1N1 Influenza School Vaccination Campaign will continue throughout March 2010.

Vaccinations have been provided through multiple avenues. Military installations, hospitals, private providers, local pharmacies, schools, colleges and universities, health centers, and public health units, all have been providers of the H1N1 vaccine. In addition, several community events have also been conducted across the state to offer the vaccine.

According to the CDC, flu activity is expected to continue for months, caused by either H1N1 or regular seasonal flu viruses, although levels of activity are expected to vary during the season. The future is uncertain in terms of influenza activity, and it is noted that it’s important not to be complacent about the ongoing risk. This time of lowered activity presents an opportunity to vaccinate anyone interested. To date, more than 300,000 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine have been administered in Louisiana.

Our Lady of the Lake earns national recognition for nursing excellence

Baton Rouge, LA—It’s one of the highest levels of recognition a hospital can achieve. Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center has achieved Magnet designation for excellence in nursing services by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program®. Only five percent of hospitals achieve Magnet status. Magnet status means that patients can expect a higher level of quality care when being treated at a Magnet facility.

“Magnet recognition is a tremendous achievement for Our Lady of the Lake,” said Deborah Ford, Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Patient Care Services. “Achieving Magnet status recognizes the excellent work our nurses and our entire workforce do each day and reflects our commitment to serve as a team, providing the highest quality care possible for the people of our community.”

The Magnet Recognition Program recognizes healthcare organizations that demonstrate excellence in nursing practice and adherence to national standards for the organization and delivery of nursing services. Applicants undergo a rigorous evaluation that includes extensive interviews and review of nursing services.

ANCC is the largest and most prominent nursing credentialing organization in the United States. Our Lady of the Lake’s Magnet status is valid for four years.

Our Lady of the Lake is one of the largest private medical centers in Louisiana, with over 700 licensed beds and an 11-parish service area. In a given year Our Lady of the Lake treats over 35,000 patients in the hospital and serves over 350,000 persons through outpatient locations with the assistance of more than 1,000 physicians and 4,000 team members. Our Lady of the Lake is smoke-free. For more information about OLOL, visit www.ololrmc.com.

Upcoming CNE Programs

March 2, 2010, Lacombe, Louisiana. “The Value of Humor in Life and Work,” SELAHEC/SLUSON 3.25 contact hours. Contact Marie Billings at mbillings@selu.edu or call 985-549-5090 for more information.

March 12, 2010, Bogalusa, Louisiana. “Medications: How Many Are Too Many?” SELAHEC/SLUSON 3.25 contact hours. Contact Marie Billings at mbillings@selu.edu or call 985-549-5090 for more information.

March 25, 2010, Covington, Louisiana. “Personality Pathways: A Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Workshop,” SELAHEC/SLUSON 5.25 contact hours. Contact Marie Billings at mbillings@selu.edu or call 985-549-5090 for more information.

April 30, 2010, Bogalusa, Louisiana. “Psychiatric Nursing Trends in the Emergency Department,” SELAHEC/SLUSON 3.25 contact hours. Contact Marie Billings at mbillings@selu.edu or call 985-549-5090 for more information.

May 4, 2010, Hammond, Louisiana. “Care of the Patient During Menopause,” SELAHEC/SLUSON 3.25 contact hours. Contact Marie Billings at mbillings@selu.edu or call 985-549-5090 for more information.

May 13, 2010, Hammond, Louisiana. “Patient Placement, Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms, OH MY!” SELAHEC/SLUSON 3.25 contact hours. Contact Marie Billings at mbillings@selu.edu or call 985-549-5090 for more information.
Introducing the Pathway to Excellence® Program

The American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Pathway to Excellence® credential is granted to healthcare organizations that create work environments where nurses can flourish. The designation supports the professional satisfaction of nurses and identifies best places to work.

To earn Pathway to Excellence status, an organization must integrate specific Pathway to Excellence standards into its operating policies, procedures, and management practices. These standards are foundational to an ideal nursing practice environment with a positive impact on nurse job satisfaction and retention. Pathway to Excellence designation confirms to the community that the healthcare organization is committed to nurses, recognizes what is important to nursing practice, and values nurses' contributions in the workplace. Nurses know their efforts are supported. They invite other nurses to join them in this desirable and nurturing environment.

ANCC grants Pathway to Excellence designation for three years. Any healthcare organization, regardless of its size, setting, or location, may apply for this mark of excellence.

Program History

In 2003, the Texas Nurses Association (TNA) established its first Nurse-Friendly™ hospital program to improve the workplace and positively impact nurse retention. With the help of a five-year funding grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the program sought to enhance both the quality of patient care and professional satisfaction of nurses working in rural and small hospitals in Texas. TNA designated its first Nurse-Friendly facility in 2005.

The program attracted many inquiries from other states about possible expansion. Texas Nurse-Friendly sought to transfer their program to a robust, collegial organization that could build on this success, while assuring the program's integrity as it expanded nationwide. ANCC was able to facilitate the expansion of the Texas Nurse-Friendly program into a national program and expand the high quality and superb reputation of the TNA Nurse-Friendly hospital program into ANCC's existing portfolio of credentialing activities. ANCC acquired the program in 2007.

In re-launching the Nurse-Friendly hospital designation to a national audience, ANCC renamed the program Pathway to Excellence®

Healthy Work Environments Make a Difference

The impact of healthy work environments on nurse satisfaction and retention is evident in the literature. In addition, many studies have identified a strong impact of a positive work environment on patient safety, patient satisfaction and quality care.

Research has shown the nurse practice environment greatly influences many factors that affect both the nurse and patient. One key priority in healthcare is the safe delivery of nursing care. The Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) report indicated that between 44,000 to 98,000 deaths occur annually due to medical errors. Nurses are among the healthcare professionals who practice in a complex environment and can impact patient safety through their clinical practice.

At the core of the Pathway to Excellence program is a nursing practice environment that supports shared governance, interdisciplinary collaboration, leadership, quality, safety, professional development and work-life balance. Tested in Magnet environments, similar characteristics have translated into better patient outcomes, nurse satisfaction and quality care.

The ability for nurses to problem solve, collaborate with other disciplines and handle conflict is critical to quality patient care. In a study by Sin, Laschinger & Finegan (2008), positive work environments enhance nurses’ conflict management skills, thus influencing the unit effectiveness.

Work-life balance and recognition for one’s contributions in the workplace are important factors in the prevention of burnout. In a study that tested the Nursing Worklife Model, which measured the relationship between the nurse work environment and patient safety outcomes, it was demonstrated that the quality of the nurses’ work environment mediated with burnout and engagement, influenced patient safety outcomes. Another study of the Nursing Worklife Model, indicated that a professional practice environment had an impact on predicting nurse burnout.

Each Pathway to Excellence practice standard supports the use of the essential components of a healthy work environment. The evidence indicates that organizations that embrace the elements of a positive nursing practice environment have a great impact on nurse satisfaction and retention, a key component of a Pathway to Excellence designation.

Results have also demonstrated an influence on patient safety and quality care as well. It is evident that a healthy work environment does indeed matter for both nurses and patients.

The Vision for the Pathway to Excellence Program

A vision is a statement about the desired future. When thinking about the future, Pathway to Excellence healthcare organizations will be known for creating work environments where nurses can flourish. They will be places identified as nursing practice settings where a collaborative atmosphere prevails with a positive impact on nurse job satisfaction and retention. They will be seen as best places to work because a balanced lifestyle is encouraged, where nurses feel their contributions are valued as patient care partners in health care to the community.

Pathway to Excellence Standards

Based on evidence and expert nurse input, the Pathway to Excellence Practice Standards represent qualities that both nurses and researchers agree are critical to high quality nursing practice, professional development, and job satisfaction. ANCC encourages the use of these standards in all nursing practice environments. The Pathway to Excellence practice standards are:

1. Nurses Control the Practice of Nursing
2. The Work Environment is Safe and Healthy
3. Systems are in Place to Address Patient Care and Practice Concerns
4. Orientation Prepares New Nurses
5. The Chief Nursing Officer is Qualified and Participates in all Levels
6. Professional Development is Provided and Utilized
7. Competitive Wages/Salaries are in Place
8. Nurses are Recognized for Achievements
9. A Balanced Lifestyle is Encouraged
10. Collaborative Interdisciplinary Relationships are Valued and Supported
11. Nurse Managers are Competent and Accountable
12. A Quality Program and Evidence-Based Practices are Utilized

What Makes this Program Unique?

ANCC’s Pathway to Excellence Program® recognizes the foundational elements of an ideal nursing practice environment whereas, the Magnet Recognition Program® recognizes excellence in nursing and patient care. Pathway to Excellence standards focus on the workplace, a balanced lifestyle for nurses, and policies and procedures that support nurses on the job. Written documentation and a confidential, online nurse survey confirm the standards are met.

Is Your Organization Ready?

Use the Pathway to Excellence self-assessment tool at www.nursecredentialing.org to determine if your organization is ready to begin the application process.

E-mail the Pathway to Excellence Program Office at pathwayinfo@ana.org if you have questions.

Learn More

Watch for upcoming articles with more information about the Pathway to Excellence program. Topics include:

• The Many Benefits of Pathway to Excellence Designation
• Getting Started: Organizational Assessment and Gap Analysis
• The 12 Practice Standards and Elements of Performance
• How to Apply for Pathway to Excellence Designation
• The Pathway to Excellence Designation Evaluation Process
• Case Study: A Pathway to Excellence Facility

About the American Nurses Credentialing Center

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), provides individuals and organizations throughout the nursing profession with the resources they need to achieve practice excellence. ANCC’s internationally renowned credentialing programs certify nurses in specialty practice areas; recognize healthcare organizations for promoting safe, positive work environments through the Magnet Recognition Program® and the Pathway to Excellence® Program; and accredit providers of continuing nursing education. In addition, ANCC’s Institute for Credentialing Innovation provides leading-edge information and education services and products to support its core credentialing programs.

ANA Announces New Online Feature for Members

“PubMed Citations for You”

The American Nurses Association today announced that it has launched a valuable new members only online feature. “PubMed Citations for You,” is an automatic literature search that will display to ANA members current articles of interest to nurses.

PubMed is a U.S. National Library of Medicine http://www.nlm.nih.gov/ database that includes over 19 million citations from MEDLINE and other life science journals for biomedical articles back to 1948. ANA’s “PubMed Citations for You” feature will automatically display new bibliographic records added to the PubMed database via RSS feed, so ANA members will have easy access to the latest citations in eleven different areas: Ethics, Standards, Education, Informatics, Environmental Health, Quality, Safety, Autonomy, Workplace, Occupational Health, and Professional Practice. Full citations and abstracts, when available, are displayed for each record.

To access ANA’s “PubMed Citations for You” feature, visit http://www.nursingworld.org/Members/ExclusivelyForYou/PubMed-Citations.aspx.
District News

The BRDNA will continue to work toward a goal of existing as a source of networking, shared knowledge, and information for nurses in our community. It has been exciting to be a part of an organization that has at its core a group of dedicated and hardworking nurses. As our membership grows, it is the desire of the BRDNA, that more nurses become actively involved in making nursing a strong and steadfast voice in our community. Our district should serve as a role model of professionalism to new nurse graduates and to those who choose to live and work in our area. If you are not a member of the BRDNA, I encourage you to become a part of our organization. If you are a member, but are not active I invite you to join us and to become involved. After all, our district exists for you.

I leave your district in the capable hands of Michele Walley as your incoming President. I have no doubt that her energy, commitment, and innovative ideas will be an asset to the association. Working alongside Michele will be Cynthia York, President-Elect, Clara Earl, Vice-President, Tonia Vessel, Corresponding Secretary, Cynthia Logan, Recording Secretary, Karen Moody, Treasurer, Kim Dyer, Public Relations, Sandy Macmurdor, Health Care Policy, and recently elected board members Staci Anderson and Benita Nwokolo. In addition, the newly elected Nomination Committee consists of Anita Hamberry, Chairman, Kymberly Vincent McCoy, and Cynthia Prestholdt. I would like to say a special thank you to each of these members for their willingness to serve.

In closing, it has been my pleasure to serve over the past two years. I have learned much, laughed often, and grown more than you can imagine as a leader in the nursing community. As immediate past President, I will continue to be involved with the board and will assist them in their endeavors as they strive to make the BRDNA your choice, professional nursing organization.

President's Message

As we begin 2010, my term as President of the Baton Rouge District Nurses Association (BRDNA) has come to a close. Our district accomplished many things in 2009 and I am thankful that I was given an opportunity to be a part of so many wonderful activities and learning experiences. Sometimes it can be easy to forget just how smart, funny, resourceful, and caring, nurses are. Working with the BRDNA has exposed me to the most wonderfully diverse group of men and women that one could ever hope to meet. I’d like to thank all who had a part in mentoring me through this process. Your patience and feedback were invaluable as I learned the workings of our district and our relationship to LSNA and ANA. It would have been an extremely difficult role to assume had it not been for those willing to act as a mentor and guide.

LSNA District IV—Lafayette

LSNA District IV—Lafayette Elects New Officers!

From left to right: Christa Billeaud, Board Member; Kathy Ardoin, Secretary; Janis Guilbeau, Treasurer; Jared Aucoin, President; Dawn Huggins, Board Member; Donna Gauthier, Vice-President; Christy Lee, Board Member (not shown are Patricia LaBrosse, Board Member; and Paula Broussard, Past President)

Northshore District Nurses Association

Installation of Officers

Northshore District Nurses Association held its installation of officers on September 16, 2009 at The Camellia Café in Abita Springs. Officers for this year are: President—Marilyn Sullivan, Vice-President—Liz McHugh, Secretary—Allison Maestri, Treasurer—Mary Beth Burkard, Parliamentarian—Barbara Huete, Board of Directors—Jan Augustine

At the installation, President Sullivan identified several goals that she would like NDNA to work on this next year: 1) More communication with NDNA members; 2) More active participation by NDNA members; 3) Increasing NDNA visibility in St. Tammany and Washington Parish communities; 4) Increasing membership numbers.

NDNA Meeting Dates for 2010

Dates were set for 2010 meetings and are scheduled for:

January 19
March 16
May 18
May 22
July 20
September 21
November 16

The 2010 Holiday party is scheduled for December 7. All meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and are held at alternating restaurants. Members usually have Dutch treat dinner. The March 16, 2010 meeting will be held at the Italian Pie in Slidell. If you would like more information, please contact Marilyn Sullivan at 985-290-9292. Visitors are welcome at all meetings.
District News

Tangipahoa District Nurses’ Association (TDNA)

At our January meeting TDNA was honored to have Dr Denise Danna (LSNA President) as our keynote speaker. She led a discussion on the expected changes in healthcare and the effects on our practice.

Throughout 2010 we will collect money for our 2010 Philanthropy which is the Pediatrics Unit at North Oaks Medical Center. We will have a basket for donations at every meeting and present a check for the total at the January 2011 meeting. Money raised will be used to purchase toys and needed items for their playroom.

Our general meetings are open to all registered nurses and nursing students at begin at 6pm. Please email Jackie Hunt (TDNA President) if you would like more information on membership or to receive our latest newsletter.

2010 TDNA Meeting Dates:
- March 9, 2010 at Trey Yuen (Hammond)
- May 11, 2010 (Nurses’ Annual Banquet) at Twelve Oaks at Southeastern Louisiana University (Hammond)
- September 14, 2010 at Murphy’s (Hammond)
- November 9, 2010 at Don’s Seafood (Hammond)

TDNA Officers (2009-2010):
- President: Jackie Lockerby Hunt (jackie@hbcorporate.com)
- Past President: Ann Carruth (acarruth@selu.edu)
- Vice-President: Penny Thomas (penny.thomas@selu.edu)
- Secretary: Lindsay Domiano (Lindsay.Domiano@selu.edu)
- Treasurer: Charlie Dykes (Charles.Dykes@selu.edu)

TDNA Board Members
- Lynn McRae (lmcrase62@yahoo.com)
- Delilia Lodge (dlodge@lsuhsc.edu)
- Mike Whittington (WhittingtonM@northoaks.org)

Okay...we did it! Carnival had to bring in the “big” ship!! The Triumph has come to New Orleans and we are sailing again!! Lots and Lots of balconies!!

Sailing date on Thursday November 4th, 2010 and returning Monday, November 8th, 2010

LSNA is working on the CE program and details will be announced at a later date…but it is time to think about your travel arrangements!

5.0 contact hours will be awarded for attending both days while on this cruise.

Remember, you do not have to be a nurse to go—so bring your family and friends!!!

Space is limited. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. THIS IS A POPULAR TRIP, EARLY RESERVATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED and this is the ONLY way to lock in the excellent price.

Triumph 4-day
- Interior cabin- $361.03 per person 1&2/$711.03 pp 3&4
- Ocean view- $411.03 per person 1&2/$211.03 pp 2&4
- Balcony- $495.41 per person 1&2/$215.41 pp 3&4
- Early Deposit of $200 per person is recommended to secure cabin of choice.

Rates include 4 nights, accommodations, meals and entertainment on board, port charges, and taxes per person based on double occupancy.

Deposits are required at this time to hold rate but are refundable (certain restrictions apply) if your plans change. Please contact Nancy at Travel Central for details on refunds.

Contact Nancy at Travel Central
3221 Causeway Blvd. - Metairie, LA 70002
(504) 834-7000 or (800) 899-8553
fax (504) 834-0159
e-mail: nancy@travelcentralvacations.com