



The Mississippi RN



The Mississippi Nurses Association is the voice of registered nurses in Mississippi and provides leadership to improve the health of all people.

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Quarterly circulation approximately 49,000 to all RNs, LPNs, and Student Nurses in Mississippi.

Spring 2010

Breaking News! Award Recipients Represent Mississippi's Best in Health Care

EDITOR'S NOTE: The 2010 Nightingale Awards Gala was held Monday, March 1 at the Jackson Marriott in downtown Jackson. Full coverage of the fifth annual awards gala will be published in detail in the summer issue of *The Mississippi RN*. Due to our publication deadlines, this article is an announcement of the recipients only.

One night each year is set aside for the state of Mississippi to express its appreciation for the uncompromising, tireless contributions and achievements of registered nurses in improving the health of its citizens. For the past five years, the Mississippi Nurses Association and the Mississippi Nurses Foundation have sponsored The Nightingale Awards Gala honoring the women, men and organizations that have excelled in providing quality health care. The awards have become the gold standard in acknowledgement of professional nursing work done well.

Nominations for the 16 awards were reviewed by a distinguished panel of out-of-state judges who all have an experienced background in nursing or in the health care industry. A nurse's recognition by peers and colleagues that comes with a nomination is considered a significant accomplishment and acknowledgement of success.

Recipients of the 2010 Nightingale Awards include:

Nurse Mentor of the Year

Romeatrius Nicole Moss, RN, MSN, APHN-BC, DNP(c)—Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi



Romeatrius Moss

School of Nursing of the Year



University of Southern Mississippi School of Nursing, Hattiesburg



Christina Higgins

Nurse in a Non-Traditional Setting

Christina Higgins, MSN, RN—University of Mississippi Medical Center—Office of Nursing Excellence, Jackson

Nursing Faculty Member of the Year

LaDonna Northington, DNS, RN—University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing, Jackson



LaDonna Northington

Nurse Researcher of the Year

Stephanie Inmon, RN, COS-C, HCS-D—North Mississippi Medical Center Home Health Agency, Pontotoc



Stephanie Inmon



Bobbie Ware

Nursing Administrator of the Year

Bobbie Ware, RN, MHSA—Baptist Health Systems, Jackson

Nursing Educator of the Year

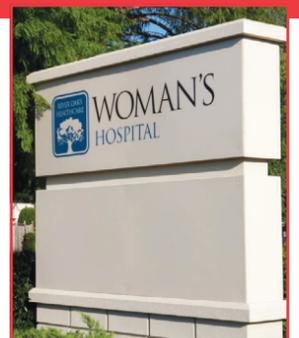
Dorothy Aultman-Abrams, MSN, RN—University of Mississippi Medical Center—Education Department, Jackson



Dorothy Aultman-Abrams

Hospital of the Year (Less than 100 Beds)

Woman's Hospital, Flowood



Nurse Rookie of the Year

Katina Denice Bell, RN—Greenwood Leflore Hospital

Katina Bell

current resident or

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Executive Director's Column

by Ricki Garrett, Ph.D.

A new year has begun, and everyone seems excited that 2009, with its economic worries, acts of terrorism, and political bipartisanship, has ended. Hopefully, 2010 will see the economy on the rise, the battle over healthcare reform addressed, and a new focus on nurses and the nursing profession. On a personal note, I began the year with a son still in Iraq and another son reaching his goal of becoming a Hollywood director. You don't get any more diverse than that!



Ricki Garrett

We did begin the year with a very successful Statewide Nursing Summit on January 26. ANA CEO, Dr. Marla Weston, opened the day talking about the role of ANA, her goals for the organization, and the important role nurses can play in the political process. Dr. Judith Briles spoke during lunch about dealing with workplace issues, and Rose Gonzalez, the Governmental

Affairs Director for ANA, discussed ANA's work on Capitol Hill. This was a perfect opportunity to learn more about ANA and to talk directly to its leadership. Legislators joined us for lunch and had an opportunity to talk to nurses and students about statewide nursing issues. Another highlight of the Summit was a reception for nurse practitioners at the Fairview Inn to discuss national advanced practice issues with Dr. Weston and Ms. Gonzalez.

Our Nurse Practitioner Conference, originally scheduled as a cruise, will be at the beautiful newly renovated Roosevelt Hotel in the historic French Quarter of New Orleans, April 16 and 17. Make plans to attend for some excellent continuing education, great networking, and fun!

Our legislative session has begun in earnest with MNA supporting the filing of a number of bills for nursing. The Silver Alert bill will provide for a system similar to the Amber Alert only targeted toward senior citizens who become lost. Thanks to the efforts of Virginia Cora and others, this bill has passed. MNA also worked with AORN both on the state and national level to try to get a bill passed requiring a circulator nurse in every operating room, including those in ambulatory surgery facilities. We believed that this bill would support staff nurses and also enhance patient safety. However, because of concerns by some hospital CEOs, the bill has been tabled for this year, and we will re-consider it for next year's session. We appreciate the assistance of the Mississippi Hospital Association in helping us work through the concerns on this bill. MNA is also lobbying to get the reverter clause removed from the nurse practitioner bill and is joining our nursing partners in asking for additional funding for our statewide simulation lab project and in support of two bills for the Board of Nursing. The first is to limit midwifery to only those who are certified nurse midwives and the other is to allow the BON to do background checks on those applying for licensure. As you can see, it will be a busy legislative year for MNA and both our lobbyist, Betty Dickson, and I will be at the capitol to make sure that our legislation has the best possible chance of passing.

As we begin 2010, let's make nursing the forefront of the health care movement in this country, assuring that both nurses and the public benefit from our efforts. Please join MNA in supporting your profession and your patients.



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Award Recipients continued from page 1

**Hospital of the Year
(100 Beds or More)**



Baptist Memorial Hospital, DeSoto, Southaven



Ashley Ramage

**Community Service
Nurse of the Year**

Ashley Ramage, RN-BC—
University of Mississippi
Medical Center—Blair E.
Batson Children’s Hospital,
Jackson

Nurse of the Year

Lisa Byrd, Ph.D., FNP-BC—
Bolton Family Clinic; Lisa
Byrd Health Care; Provider
Health Services, Madison



Lisa Byrd

**Clinical Practice
Nurse of the Year**

**Pamela Helms, RN,
MN, FNP**—University of
Mississippi Medical Center,
School of Nursing, Jackson



Pamela Helms

**Advanced Practice
Nurse of the Year**

**Bettye Logan, RN, MSN,
CFNP**—Green Tree Family
Medical Clinic, Prentiss



Bettye Logan



Laura Brower



*Hazel Brown
Hall*



*Sister Mary
Trinita
Eddington*

Inductees into the Mississippi Nurses Association Hall of Fame for 2009 include, **Laura Brower, RN, MSN**—formerly of North Mississippi Medical Center; **Hazel Brown Hall, RN, BSN**—Baptist Memorial Hospital—Union County and **Sister Mary Trinita Eddington, MSN, RN, APRN, BC, OP**—St. Dominic Hospital

For more information about the 2010 Nightingale Awards Gala or the Mississippi Nurses Association or Foundation, contact Betty Ruth Hawkins at (601) 898-0670 or write to brhawkins@msnurses.org.

A Report from the President...

by Gayle Harrell, NP-C, CWCN

The past few weeks have been full of several health care issues. With the transfer of health care coverage from Blue Cross Blue Shield to United Health for the CHIPs program, the absence of nurse practitioner inclusion was discovered. Meetings with United Health Care have begun to correct this and other concerns of insurance reimbursement. Ricki Garret, executive director, and Betty Dickson, lobbyist will continue to be active in resolving present and future issues.



Gayle Harrell

I was very excited about the attendance at the Summit. There were over 1,000 nurses and nursing students present for updates on legislation. We were pleased to have Marla Weston, ANA CEO, Rose Gonzalez, Director of ANA Government Affairs, and Dr. Judith Briles, Work Place Development Expert as our guest speakers. Weston and Gonzalez presented informative updates and explanations of what ANA is doing in Washington to promote and advance nursing. While there will always be differing opinions on some parts of the health care reform, in the upcoming health care problems nursing must be at the forefront to continue to be the leaders in making health care decisions. ANA is our voice at the federal level.

Hopefully, with their representation nursing will be able to move forward as leaders of a positive part of the health care reform. Dr. Briles gave us ten important points in how to interact with people and situations that we find in our workplace every day. Her presentation was both entertaining and informative. We also heard from the Ashley Ramage, Developing Nurse Leader. She gave an update on her free clinic project and inspiring encouragement to the student nurses.

On that last note, I would like to encourage you to consider applying to the Developing Nurse Leader program for next October. Now is the time to be involved in being a part of the changes that will be taking place in the next few years. MNA offers opportunities for involvement, direction, guidance, mentorships and education to become present and future nurse leaders. Please contact Tonya Moore at UMMC in Jackson, Tearsanee Carlisle on the Council of Nursing Practice, Ricki Garret or me for information.

I know that many of us are very concerned about the tragedy in Haiti. Many Mississippians, including our Vice President, Carl Mangum, will be traveling there to assist with the relief work. We encourage sending financial support to reliable organizations. I know we remember that so many supported us after Katrina. Reaching out to help others is part of what we as nurses do. If you are one of those that personally are involved in the Haitian relief effort, please contact us with stories that you can share. We need to share our nursing stories with each other and others. If you would like to volunteer (only federally approved persons or groups will be allowed to participate in this effort due to the conditions in Haiti) contact ANA or visit their Website for information.



Georgia Ann Benard Hall Award for Excellence

Oct. 1 Deadline

Criteria for Georgia Ann Benard Hall Award for Excellence set

Georgia Ann Benard Hall represented excellence in all aspects of her life. Born to a family of 27 children, she grew up in abject poverty—but never compromised her integrity and her own search for excellence at any point along the way. She married, raised three children and always worked hard to assure they had whatever they needed. She took great pride in the fact that she never accessed the public welfare system to meet her children's needs—but worked for everything she received. She was a wonderful wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend.

Georgia was focused, good-humored, honest, hard-working, and faithful to her God. She never once complained over her lot in life—rather, she celebrated the fact that she was alive, married to a fine man, employed and loved by all who knew her. Her heart was golden.

Dr. Peggy O. Hewlett has established the *Georgia Ann Benard Hall Award for Excellence* through the Mississippi Nurses Foundation in honor and memory of this dear friend. Family, friends and colleagues have generously contributed to this fund which will award a \$500 scholarship every year to a Mississippi nursing student.

"Georgia Hall was my close personal friend for over 18 years and she died too young at the age of 50. She has my undying love and respect for a life well-lived—a true role model for all young men and women who have made achievements they can attribute to someone in their lives who represents excellence in spite of life's circumstances."

- Dr. Peggy O. Hewlett

Criteria:

- Currently enrolled and in good academic standing in a Mississippi public university BSN program at the junior or senior level;
- African American student;
- Member of the Mississippi Students Nurses Association;
- Application and essay submitted by the deadline date—**October 1, 2010**.

Essay Requirements:

- Addresses the topic: "My Role Model of Excellence";
- Demonstrates how one person impacted your life and decision to become a nurse;
- Previously unpublished essay;
- Limited to three pages—typed and double-spaced on letter-sized paper;
- Signature authorizing permission to publish the essay.

Complete Application Must Include:

- Student information form;
- Essay;
- Letter from school verifying the student is enrolled and in good academic standing.

Please visit www.msnursesfoundation.org or www.msnurses.org to download and complete the student information form.

MNF Calls for Entries for Foundation Scholarships

The Mississippi Nurses Foundation has opened a call for entries for the annual \$1,000 Nurses Foundation Scholarships. Four \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to qualified nursing students. Submissions must be postmarked by Oct. 1.

Criteria:

1. Admitted to a basic professional registered nursing program in Mississippi;
2. Member of the Mississippi Association of Student Nurses;
3. Possess strong academic performance;
4. Demonstrate leadership ability;
5. Write a 500-1000 word essay that begins with the following sentence: *The nursing profession will be better in the next decade, because my goals and ambitions include...*

A complete application must include:

- student information form (contact the Nurses Foundation);
- essay;
- official transcript (no copies);
- three (3) letters of support from faculty providing specific examples of:
 - a) leadership potential
 - b) involvement in professional activities
 - c) academic performance.

DEADLINE for submission: October 1, All parts of the application must be postmarked or received in the Mississippi Nurses Foundation office by this deadline.

Please visit www.msnursesfoundation.org or www.msnurses.org to download and complete the student information form.

Please submit to:

Mississippi Nurses Foundation
Scholarship Committee
31 Woodgreen Place
Madison, MS 39110

Deadline for MNF Stipends to Masters or Doctoral Mississippi Nursing Programs is June 14

The Mississippi Nurses Foundation will award a number of \$6,000 stipends to qualified registered nurses enrolled in accredited Associate, Baccalaureate, Masters or Doctoral Nursing Programs in Mississippi. Recipients will be expected to sign a contract with the Mississippi Nurses Foundation to work as a full time Nurse in Mississippi within the first two years following completion of the program. Deadline for applications is June 14. Awards will be made by July 16.

Associate and Baccalaureate students will be expected to be enrolled fulltime. Masters and Doctoral students may be enrolled fulltime or part time.

Criteria

- Hold current, unencumbered Mississippi RN license.
- Have a nursing license plate on personal vehicle at the time of application, and maintain during receipt of funding.
- Be a full time or part time student (3 year limit) in an accredited Nursing Masters or Doctoral Program in Mississippi.
- Submit a letter from the Dean of the school verifying enrollment with anticipated date of completion prior to receipt of award.
- Hold a GPA of 3.0 or higher in undergraduate nursing curriculum, and maintained throughout the term of the funding.
- Provide official transcript from last completed college semester.
- Sign contract with the Mississippi Nurses Foundation to work in Mississippi within the first two years following completion of the program. If contract is broken, funds must be repaid, plus interest.

- Submit three letters of reference.
- Write a 1500-2500 word essay relating the value of nursing leadership to one of the following:
 - Healthcare reform
 - Healthcare ethics in a technological society
 - Health policy (any topic)

Application Process

Application and attachments must be received in the Foundation office by **June 14, 2010**:

- Student Information form (list nurses license plate number).
- Submit copy of current MS nursing license.
- Official transcript showing last completed semester.
- Three letters of reference.
- 1500-2500 word essay.

Award Process

- The Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship Committee will conduct a blind review and award the Stipends by **July 16, 2010**.
- Letter of enrollment verification from Dean with date of completion must be provided prior to receipt of Award.
- Recipient will begin receiving \$500 per month in August 2010 for 12 months for full time students or \$250 per month for 24 months for part time students.
- Recipient must provide official transcript at the end of each completed semester throughout the term of The Stipend.

Please visit www.msnursesfoundation.org or www.msnurses.org to download and complete the student information form.

MNA Historical SIG Meets April 12

The next meeting of the MNA Historical SIG, 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 12 at the Mississippi Center for Nursing, 31 Woodgreen Place, Madison.

The topic of the meeting: Claiming Nursing's Ethnic Heritage

Presentations will include Remembering Eliza Pillars by the Eliza Pillars Nurses Association, and African American Nurses in the Deep South in the 19th Century—a display of art quilts and dolls recently presented at the American Association for the History of Nursing meeting in Minneapolis, by Linda Sabin.

There is no charge to attend the program; however, a light supper will be available for \$5 for members and guests. Students who RSVP by the deadline and indicate that they are nursing students, will be able to eat at no cost.

Please RSVP to Myrna Lea at mlea@msnurses.org by noon on Friday, April 9.

MNA Hosts a High Five Hand Washing Meeting

The Mississippi Nurses Foundation hosted a High Five Hand Washing meeting on January 29, 2010 at the Mississippi Center for Nursing in Madison, MS. The meeting provided an orientation for school nurses implementing the program in their schools. The meeting was conducted by school nurse, Michelle Ellison, RN, BSN, NCSN. The program is funded by Health Management Association-Mississippi Division. If you would like more information about the Hand Washing Program and how to implement it, please call the Mississippi Nurses Foundation at (601) 898-0850.



Pictured from left to right: Darlene Moore, RN-I T Montgomery Elementary, Mound Bayou, MS, Rebecca Clarke, RN, Jefferson Middle School, Columbia, MS, Michelle Ellison, RN, BSN, NCSN, Mississippi Nurses Foundation Board of Trustees, Madison Station Elementary, Madison, MS, Rosalyn Howard, Executive Director, Mississippi Nurses Foundation, Jennifer Brents, RN, Houlka Attendance Center, Houlka, MS.

Back row: Left to right: Becky Beasley, RN, BSN, New Augusta, MS, Lynette Kilpatrick, RN, Neshoba Central Elementary, Philadelphia, MS, Flora J. Thomas, Retired Teacher.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE



**MNA 2010 NURSE PRACTITIONER
SPRING CONVENTION**

APRIL 16 & 17

The Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans

Upcoming Event

The MNA 2010 Annual Convention, Oct. 19-22, Biloxi, Miss.

Contributions to the MNA-PAC Support Statewide Candidates

Mississippi will hold its 2011 statewide elections for Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Commissioners of Agriculture and Insurance, Public Service and Transportation commissions. Mississippi nurses have played an important role in the election of candidates to these offices. Funds to support statewide campaigns are raised through contributions to the Mississippi Nurses Association Political Action Committee.

MNA-PAC is a voluntary unincorporated, non-profit, registered non-partisan organization of nurses which functions in conformity with the policies, goals and platforms of the MNA. The MNA-PAC is registered with and subject to the requirements of the Mississippi State Election Laws.

The purpose of the MNA-PAC is to promote the improvement of the health care of the people by raising funds to support (state-wide) candidates without regard to party affiliation who support the legislative agenda of MNA.

Any individual, business or entity is eligible to contribute to MNA-PAC and the Board of Trustees is authorized to solicit and accept contributions from any person from whom contributions may be lawfully solicited in accordance with the law.

All contributions to MNA-PAC are maintained as a separate segregated fund (SSF) in one or more designated campaign depositories, and all expenditures by MNA-PAC in support of any candidate or political committee shall be made from the fund and no other source.

The governing body of MNA-PAC shall be the Board of Trustees, composed of nine members of MNA. Four Trustees shall be appointed by the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Nurses Association and five of the Trustees shall be appointed by the MNA-PAC Board of Trustees.

Contribute to the MNA-Pac by contacting Deborah Norman at dnorman@msnurses.org or call the MNA offices at (601) 898-067.

MNA-PAC Member Ann Barnes talks to Summit attendees about the importance of contributing to the fund in order to support candidates in the 2011 statewide elections.



Save the Date for MNA

March

5 p.m., Monday, March 1–Nightingale Awards Gala Rehearsal, Downtown Marriott, Jackson

6–7 p.m., Monday, March 1–Nightingale Awards Pre-Gala Reception, Downtown Marriott, Jackson

7 p.m., Monday, March 1–Nightingale Awards Dinner and Presentation, Downtown Marriott, Jackson

Thursday, March 4–District President's E-mail Blast

1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 10–Provider Unit Meeting, Mississippi Center for Nursing, Madison

12p.m. Friday, March 12–MNF Board of Trustees Meeting

1–4 p.m., Monday, March 8–Clinical Hemodialysis Technician Examination

2:30 p.m., Friday, March 12–Health Affairs Committee, Mississippi Center for Nursing, Madison

2:30 p.m., Friday, March 19–Health Affairs Committee, Mississippi Center for Nursing, Madison

1–4 p.m., Monday, March 22–Clinical Hemodialysis Technician Examination

10 a.m., Friday, March 26–MNA Board of Directors, Mississippi Center for Nursing, Madison

Wednesday, March 24–Deadline for *Members Only* copy–Submit Information to brhawkins@msnurses.org

1–4 p.m., Monday, March 29–Clinical Hemodialysis Technician Examination

April

Sunday, April 4–Sine Die Mississippi State Legislature

1–4 p.m., Monday, April 5–Clinical Hemodialysis Technician Examination

Thursday, April 8–District President's E-mail Blast

April 15–17–Nurse Practitioner Spring Convention, The Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans

1–4 p.m., Monday, April 26–Clinical Hemodialysis Technician Examination

10 a.m., Friday, April 30–MNA Board of Directors Mississippi Center for Nursing, Madison

Monday, April 26–Deadline for MSRN copy to publisher

Wednesday, April 28–Deadline for *Members Only* copy–Submit Information to brhawkins@msnurses.org

May

May 6–12–National Nurses Week

Thursday, May 6–District President's E-mail Blast

Saturday, May 8–Mary E. Stinton Memorial Garden Ceremony

Holiday: Office Closed, Monday, May 31–Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 26–Deadline for *Members Only* copy–Submit Information to brhawkins@msnurses.org

June

Thursday, June 3–District President's E-mail Blast

10 a.m., Friday, June 4–MNA Board of Directors Mississippi Center for Nursing, Madison

June 11–Mississippi Nurses Foundation Surviving with Style Fundraiser and Dance, Downtown Marriott, Jackson

Monday, June 14–Deadline for Car Tag Stipend Applications

12 p.m. Friday, June 18–MNF Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, June 23–Deadline for *Members Only* copy–Submit Information to brhawkins@msnurses.org

No One Takes Care of Business, Like a Nurse

Nursing is one of the fastest developing fields in Mississippi. No one could possibly keep up with the business trends, career changes, professional development and critical advancements alone. The Mississippi Nurses Association is in the business of taking care of nursing's business. MNA provides valuable career services, professional development, networking and social events. Our members enjoy many benefits of association. Here are just a few:

Keeping up with the trends and changes. The association sponsors the Annual MNA Convention in October and the Statewide Nursing Summit each January. Both events focus on current professional and legislative issues related to Mississippi nursing, while presenting new and up-coming products, services, issues and developments in nursing. Throughout the year, there are seminars and workshops tailored to meet Nursing's specific needs, all at a discount to MNA members. MNA publishes the bi-monthly newsletter, *MNA Members Only*, and the quarterly newspaper, *The Mississippi RN*. The MNA Web site MsNurses.org posts current articles, news, calendars of events and continuing education opportunities, job banks and conducts Web-based discussion groups that provide information on new and emerging trends that affect you and your career directly.

Meet and network with other nurses.

Membership provides many resources to assist RNs in advancing their careers. Members, not only get information and support, but show an impressive commitment and a genuine interest in their profession. Participation has power. You can build a powerful network of skilled professionals who can serve as personal mentors and problem solvers.

Inside job and internship opportunities.

MNA partners with leading healthcare agencies and employers throughout the state. Members have several ways of capitalizing on these partnerships to learn about job opportunities and new developments in the profession.

National connections. With your MNA membership comes membership in the American Nurses Association. ANA provides you with access to the award winning Web site, NursingWorld.org and its exclusive counterpart, *ANA Members Only*, that gives you access instantly to CINAHL; *ANA Nursing Insider*, an e-mail based newsletter, and the traditional, *The American Nurse*, a prize winning bi-monthly newspaper. Your savings for subscriptions alone is more than \$40. You'll also save up to \$140 on American Nurses Credentialing Center exams. ANCC certification is offered to associate, diploma, bachelors and master's prepared nurses. And, you have the option of taking professional liability insurance through MNA's and ANA's collaboration with Marsh Affinity Group Services.

Hertz Rental Discounts. MNA members can enjoy a choice of some of the most popular offers while taking advantage of year-round member discounts. Bank of America Reward. Bank of America. offers MNA members the no annual fee Mississippi Nurses Association Platinum Plus® Master Card Credit® Card with World Points™ rewards. An application is in your new member packet. Additional applications can be obtained through the MNA office.



Join online at
www.msnurses.org

MNA Will Seat 10 Delegates at the 2010 ANA House

MNA selected ten delegates to participate in the 2010 American Nurses Association House of Delegate, July 16-19 in Washington, D.C. Delegates include:

Debra F. Allen, BSN, MSN

Debbie lives in Greenville and has served as a faculty member of Delta State University since 1995. She graduated from the University of Mississippi with BSN and Delta State University with MSN. She continues to work as hospital nursing supervisor and staff nurse. Debbie has been a member MNA since 1988 and has served both the association and the foundation on various committees and positions such as district president, treasurer and vice-president and a past member of state bylaws and Health Affairs Committee.

Pam Farris, RN, BSN, OCN

Pam Farris is the Nurse Manager of the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. She is a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Nursing where she received both her Bachelors Degree and Masters degree. Pam has worked as a staff RN at UMC and Baptist Medical Center and was a clinical coordinator for South Mississippi Home Health earlier in her career. At the district level, she has served at the treasurer and President for District 13. At the state level, she has served as Director, Council on Organizational Affairs for four years planning.

Gayle Harrell, NP-C, CWCN

Gayle Harrell, NP-C, CWCN, is a Family Nurse Practitioner and Wound Specialist. She received her BSN and MSN from the University of Mississippi School of Nursing. She is an active MNA member and presently sits on the MNF Board of Trustees.

She was the MNA Treasurer for five years, has been an ANA and MNA delegate, has been a presenter at the convention many times, and has served on many other committees. She has served on the Health Affairs Committee for thirteen years and joins others in working with our lobbyist and legislators to promote and resolve nursing and health care issues at the Capitol.

Phyllis Johnson, MSN, RN, FNP-BC

Phyllis is employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi, where she is the Nurse Practitioner and Administrative Officer for the Anesthesiology Department. She has served in numerous clinical and administrative capacities during her twenty eight year tenure at the VA. Phyllis is a graduate of the Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Mississippi where she received her BSN and MSN degrees. She also obtained a Master of Science degree in Biology with an emphasis in Genetics and Molecular Biology from Jackson State University. She is also a member of the United States Naval Reserves (Commander) and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Cindy Luther, DSN, FNP

Cindy Luther is an Assistant Professor at the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing. She is the Director of the Geriatric NP and Psychiatric Mental Health NP programs at UMMC and serves as the PI for the HRSA grant that supports a state-wide collaborative program for geriatric and psychiatric mental health education, "MECSAPN". She has been a nurse educator for ten years, with experience in RN-BSN and graduate education. Dr. Luther practices as a FNP with Rush Health Systems in Meridian.

Carl Mangum, RN, MSN, Ph.D.(c), CHS, CVFF

Carl Mangum lives in Byram and currently is an assistant professor and an Emergency Preparedness and Response Specialist at the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing. Carl serves as Team Commander for the National Nurse Response Team (NNRT) for the Central United States. The NNRT is part of the National Disaster Medical System (NDS) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS.) Carl has a certification in Homeland Security and is a certified volunteer firefighter. He serves on the Mississippi State Citizen Corps Advisory Council and is a trainer for Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT.)

Tonya Moore, MSN, RN

Tonya is the immediate past President for the Mississippi Nurses Association District 13 and has 14.5 years of experience as a registered nurse. She earned an associate degree in Nursing in 1995 from Alcorn State University, and both a bachelor of science in Nursing in 1996 and a master of science in Nursing in 2005 from the University of Mississippi. She is now in her fourth year of doctoral studies at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Nursing. Tonya is a member of several professional organizations including Mississippi Nurses Association, American Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, and Toastmasters, International.

Donna Scoggin, Ph.D., RN, MSN, BC

Donna Scoggin has been a member of MNA since graduating with a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1984. Since that time, she has served the association in numerous capacities. She worked with MNA's

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MNA Will Seat 10 Delegates continued from page 8

District #8 as board member, nominations chair, secretary, first and second vice president, and president. On the state level, she has been a member of the MNA-PAC, where she served in the capacity of secretary. In addition, she has been an active member of the MNA Council on Health Affairs committee for many years. She has also been a part of the planning process for some of the annual Statewide Nursing Summits.

Linda Sullivan, RN, DSN, PNP-BC, FNP-BC

Linda has been a registered nurse for 41 years. She graduated from Hunter College in New York in 1969; received a master's degree at Mississippi University for Women in 1986 and a doctorate in nursing at the University of Alabama in Birmingham in 1994. She began her career in hospital nursing, followed by public health and finally, as a pediatric nurse practitioner, in primary care for many years. Linda has also served as a university educator and obtained the rank of full professor teaching in the nurse practitioner masters program at Mississippi University for Women for nearly 20 years. Currently, she belongs to ANA, MNA, Sigma Theta Tau, Phi Kappa Phi, NAPNAP, NONPF and several other professional associations.

Linda Todd, RN, BS, MS

Linda Todd is the vice president of Nursing at Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center, Meridian. Her nursing career began as a diploma nurse graduate from Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Memphis, Tenn. She received a bachelor's degree from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Ark., and master's in Community Health from Memphis State University, Memphis. For a number of years, she held the position of Hospital Systems Director of Staff and Patient Education for nine hospitals in Methodist Hospitals of Memphis Health Systems. Linda is currently the Secretary of the MNA Board of Directors.

Alternates

Michelle Burns, MSN, RNC

Michelle Burns graduated from Hinds Community College in 1995. She received her BSN at UMC School of Nursing in 1997 and her Master's Degree in Nursing Education in May, 2008 at UMC School of Nursing. She is currently taking courses toward a PhD in nursing. Michelle is an active member of MNA and serves as 2nd vice president of District 13. She is actively involved in Sigma Theta Tau and serves as scholarship chair for the Oncology Nursing Society. The majority of her experience has been in oncology and hematology and she is a nationally certified oncology nurse. Since November 2008, she has been the nursing workforce specialist at UHHS where she focuses on nurse retention and staff nurse advocacy. Michelle has a passion for teaching and working with students and new nurses.

Karen George, RN, MSN

Karen is the nurse manager of the Oncology/GI/GU/Stroke at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo. She has worked for the medical center since 1986 in numerous capacities. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of North Alabama in Florence, Ala., and earned a master's in nursing at Delta State University. She serves on

the Mississippi Hospital Association's Organization of Nurse Executives (MHA-ONE) as the Northeast Council President and received the 2009 MHA-ONE Council Award. She has been a member of the MNA House of Delegates in 2008 and 2009 and received the Nightingale Nursing Administrator of the Year Award in 2008.

Juanita Graham, MSN, RN

Juanita is the Health Services Chief Nurse for the Mississippi State Department of Health. She serves in a nurse consultant role to the seven offices of Health Services. Juanita participates in a variety of activities including grant writing, continuing education for nurses, logic modeling, and research. She holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Nursing Science and is currently a full time doctoral student at the University of Mississippi. She teaches and develops online courses for several nursing and healthcare administration programs including health policy, healthcare finance, healthcare law & ethics, and public & community health nursing. She is also adjunct faculty at the University of Mississippi, School of Nursing. She reviews abstracts for Sigma Theta Tau, the Mississippi Nurses Association, and the American Public Health Association. She reviews manuscripts for numerous journals including the American Journal of Public Health.



**National Nurses
Week
May 6-12**

ANA Takes Steps Closer to MNA at Statewide Nursing Summit

American Nurses Association CEO Marla J. Weston, Ph.D., RN, and Rose Gonzalez, MPS, RN, director of ANA's Government Affairs along with work place professional development expert Judith Briles, DBA, MBA took center stage at the 2010 Statewide Nursing Summit, Jan. 26 at the Mississippi Trade Mart in Jackson.

The Nursing Summit, which began in 1993, is supported by the Mississippi Nurses Association and the Nursing Organization Liaison Committee, is held annually to discuss emerging issues and a legislative agenda that places RNs in a pivotal role as players in health care in Mississippi. Your participation in the political process is vital.

This year, more than 1,100 nurses and nursing students gather in Jackson to engage in the political process both locally and nationally and to visit with more than 40 vendors and exhibitors. "The Summit is a particularly unique opportunity for industry reps to reach a large number of nursing students as well as practicing nurses," said MNA Events and Continuing education Coordinator Angela Weathersby.

"This year's Summit was an exceptional experience with the participation of Marla Weston and Rose Gonzalez from the American Nurses Association," said MNA Executive Director Ricki Garrett, Ph.D. "Judith Briles thoroughly delighted attendees with her perspective on contributing and participating in a health working environment. Nursing is at the forefront of the national healthcare debate, and whether you agree or not with the legislation, ANA is making sure that nurses' voices are heard and are in a position to shape opportunities that will benefit the future of nursing."

Marla J. Weston, Ph.D., RN, a nurse leader with nearly 30 years of diverse management experience in health care operations, the chief executive officer of the American Nurses Association and the American Nurses Foundation, opened the day's event with a presentation about the role ANA plays with its state association.

Prior to joining ANA, Dr. Weston served at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, in the Veterans Healthcare Administration first as program director in its Office of Nursing Services, and then as deputy chief officer in the department's Workforce Management and Consulting Office.

Earlier in her career, she served for four years as the executive director of the Arizona Nurses Association. During her tenure, membership increased 24 percent, while revenues rose 109 percent.

The noon speaker Judith Briles, DBA, MBA, a recognized authority in work place professional development, talked with attendees about their responsibility in contributing to the health of their work environment. Recognized as an expert on work place issues within the female-dominated workplace with an emphasis in healthcare, Briles is featured in Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals in Nursing and Healthcare and holds both Master's and Doctorate degrees in Business Administration. She is an award-winning author of 26 books and an international keynote speaker who delivers her programs with content and humor. Prior to her full-

time dedication to speaking and writing, Judith was a stockbroker and financial planner for 17 years. Since the 90s, her speaking and writing has led her to be a sought after speaker for associations, conventions, and retreats.

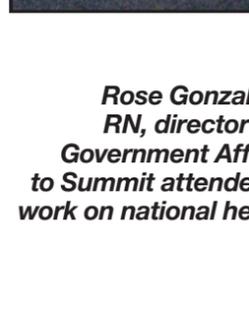
Rose Gonzalez serves as the Director of Government Affairs for the American Nurses Association and oversees the department which lobbies both the Executive Branch and Congress on issues important to nursing, including nursing workforce development programs, staff nurse issues and issues of concern to Advanced Practice Nurses. She closed out the day with a review of the work ANA has accomplished on the measures affecting health care reform. She coordinates the work of the ANA-PAC which provides funding for candidates running for political office on the federal level and N-STAT which is ANA's grassroots program as well as its State Government Affairs program which serves as a resource and provides strategy to ANA's state nurse associations on state legislation. Before coming to ANA, she served as acting executive secretary of New York State Boards for Optometry and Veterinary Medicine.

The 2009 Nursing Summit is a joint effort of the Mississippi Nurses Association and the Nursing Organizations Liaison Committee. Members include:

- American College of Nurse Midwives
- Association of Operating Room Nurses
- Association of Women's Health Obstetrics & Neonatal Nurses
- Eliza Pillars Registered Nurses of Mississippi
- Emergency Nurses Association
- Mississippi Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Magnolia Chapter—AACN
- Mississippi Association of Diabetes Educators
- Mississippi Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- Mississippi Association of Occupational Health Nurses
- Mississippi Association of Practical Nurse Educators
- Mississippi Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
- Mississippi Association of Student Nurses
- Mississippi Board of Nursing
- Mississippi Chapter for Nurses in AIDS Care
- Mississippi Council of Deans and Directors of Schools of Nursing
- Mississippi Hospital Association
- Organization of Nurse Executives
- Mississippi Hospital Association Society for Health Care Educators
- Mississippi Licensed Practical Nurses Association
- Mississippi Office of Nursing Workforce
- Mississippi Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
- Mississippi Society of Peri Anesthesia Nurses
- Oncology Nursing Society
- Mississippi Public Health Association—Nursing Section
- Mississippi School Nurses Association
- Gulf Coast Black Nurses Association



American Nurses Association CEO Marla J. Weston, Ph.D., RN speaks to more than 1,100 nurses and nursing students at the 2010 Statewide Nursing Summit held Jan. 26 at the Mississippi Trade Mart in Jackson.



Rose Gonzalez, MPS, RN, director of ANA's Government Affairs talks to Summit attendees about work on national health care reform.



The noon speaker Judith Briles, DBA, MBA, a recognized authority in work place professional development, talked with attendees about their responsibility in contributing to the health of their work environment.



Chairman of the House Public Health and Human Services D. Stephen Holland (D) District 16 – Lee spoke to attendees at the 2010 Statewide Nursing Summit held Jan. 26 at the Mississippi Trade Mart in Jackson.



Members of the Mississippi State Legislature joined more than 1,100 nurses and nursing students at the 2010 Statewide Nursing Summit held Jan. 26 at the Mississippi Trade Mart in Jackson for lunch presented by VIP Catering, Bravo Restaurant, Sonny's Bar-b-cue, all of Jackson, and Anthony Z's of Madison.



Holmes Community College Nursing Students from left Amy Barlow, Timothea James and Kreslyn Hinton, right visit with one of more than 40 exhibitors at the 2010 Statewide Nursing Summit Expo.



Developing Nurse Leader Ashley Ramage, RN-BC of the University of Mississippi Medical Center – Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson speaks about the importance and benefits of becoming engaged early in working with the Mississippi Nurses Association.



Itawamba Community College Nursing Students Robert Perret, Kathy Minga and Jessica Miley participate in the 2010 Statewide Nursing Summit

Summit Exhibitors, Sponsors Add to Exceptional Event

The exhibitors and sponsors of the annual Statewide Nursing Summit add a dimension of added value to the annual events that brings more than 1,000 nurses and nursing students together for a day-long event focusing on legislative, state and national issues affecting the nursing profession in Mississippi.

We appreciate their support. Thank you.

2010 Statewide Nursing Summit Sponsors

Delta Regional Medical Center–
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2010 Nursing Summit Exhibitors

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Baptist Health Systems
College Savings Mississippi
Delta Regional Medical Center
Delta State University
Eliza Pillars Registered Nurses of
Mississippi
Executive Master of Public Health at the
University of Southern MS

Forrest General Hospital
G. V. Sonny Montgomery VA
Medical Center
Gideons International
Golden Living
Hurst Review Services
Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing,
Samford University
Laney Lou's
Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins
Methodist Rehab Center

Mississippi Educational Consortium for
Specialized Advanced Practice Nursing
Mississippi Nurses Foundation
Mississippi State Department of Health
Mississippi State Department of Health
(It's In Your Hands Campaign)
Mississippi State Department of Health
(OEPR)
Mississippi State Hospital
Mississippi University for Women
Mobility Medical
Mississippi Association of Student
Nurses
North Mississippi Medical Center
Pine Grove Behavioral Health &
Addiction Services
Prime Care Nursing

Providence Hospital
Red Rock Mortgage & Lending/Rock
Star Real Estate
Regency Hospital
River Oaks Healthcare
River Region Health System
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Walden University
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