Executive Director’s Column

Transitions in the New Year

Fran Ricker, RN, MSN

Colorado Nurses Association’s participation in discussions to initiate a pilot to form a multistate association in collaboration with the American Nurses Association have resulted in some association changes to support the new direction. At the end of December, I was named Multistate Division Leader for the Mountain States grouping by ANA CEO Marla Weston. I look forward to working with the leadership from seven states to develop a plan to support stronger associations and to offer better service to members. At this time, I also continue in my role as Executive Director. A four to five month planning phase is beginning to propose launch of a two year pilot – multistate association. The planning phase should be completed by the end of May. The states participating in this project are California, New Mexico, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Colorado, and Utah.

As a result of this opportunity, there are some changes in our advocacy program to report. In December, CNA finalized agreement with Nolbert Chavez with Capitol Success Group to represent CNA as the association lobbyist. Mr. Chavez has over eighteen years experience in lobbying the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, and the Judicial Branch. He is a former state legislator and has been a prior legislative member of the Health Committee at the state legislature. Rest assured that “nursing” legislative issues are in very capable hands. Sara Jarrett, the Legislative Chair for our GAPP committee and Brenda Von Star, Legislative Chair for our health care reform group (CNAHCRA) are working in collaboration with the Executive Director/Policy Director to formulate an effective transition plan for our advocacy work. There are more emerging opportunities for volunteers from our legislative committees to represent nursing with policy workgroups.

In January, Kenneth Julien, Program Director for Nursing, announced at the Board of Nursing that she is leaving her position at the end of February to move to Florida due to a job opportunity for her husband. The association and nursing community thank her for regulatory support for nursing during her time in the Program Director position.

Ms. Julien’s imminent departure leaves the nursing community with some interest in potential applicants to best serve in this important regulatory position for nursing. The association would respectfully suggest that there should be open opportunity for eligible candidates to apply for a regulatory position for nursing. The association would respectfully suggest that there should be open opportunity for eligible candidates to apply for a regulatory position for nursing.

NURSES HAVE A SINGULAR PERSPECTIVE on patient care and community health. With our training and experience, we can inform and improve healthcare decisions in ways that complement those of other professionals but are uniquely our own.

As a nurse, there are many ways you can be a leader—in your job, in your community, and in government. Some of the most important decisions shaping health care take place in the boardrooms of hospitals, health systems, and nonprofit organizations. Boards of directors and trustees set the goals, direction, and policies for their organizations. They are responsible for the organization’s financial health and guide its senior level decisions. The leadership they exert is critical to the heart of their organizations and their missions.

Too few nurses on boards

Nurses are chronically underrepresented on boards. In many cases, they’re not perceived as playing a substantial leadership role in health care. A 2010 survey of more than 1,000 hospitals by the American Hospital Association found that nurses made up only 6% of board members, while physicians held 20% of board seats. A 2010 Gallup poll funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) asked 1,500 thought leaders from corporations, insurance companies, health services, government, industry, and higher education which professions and groups will have the greatest influence in healthcare reform over the next 5 to 10 years; nurses ranked lowest. But signs suggest the status quo is about to change. In the survey, thought leaders overwhelmingly said nurses should have more influence in healthcare planning, policy, and management.

IOM leadership recommendations

The 2011 landmark report from Institute of Medicine (IOM), The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, recommended nurses be represented on boards, in executive management teams, and in other key leadership positions as public, private, and governmental healthcare decision makers at every level. The report committee included Michael Bleich, the Maxine Clark and Bob Fox Dean and Professor at the Goldfarb School of Nursing.

Taking the First Steps to Serving on a Board

by Susan Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN

Too few nurses on boards

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Happy New Year! As you read this, I hope that our snowpack has improved to average in all of the river basins and that our farmers, ranchers and snow sports enthusiasts are having a better winter than 2012. However, as I watch the sun rise this morning, it looks like we will have a beautiful cold blue sky day today. I believe it is a privilege to live in Colorado despite all of our sadness and struggles last year. I hope you all had a peaceful and healthy holiday season and that you are enjoying a sense of renewal as we start the New Year.

This is the first president’s column written since our board of directors was elected at the October 2012 House of Delegates. Please welcome Terry Buxton (director at large), Kathy Carpenter (Region II director), Colleen Whalen Casper (vice-president), Nora Flucke (Region III director re-elected) and Paula Stearns (treasurer). One of our elected directors had to resign for personal reasons and I will announce the appointment of the new director in my next column. The board of directors and our new board of governance of the association with our new board as well as Fran Ricker, Executive Director and Kasey Grobe, Associate Executive Director.

We had a successful and historic house of delegates on Saturday, October 13, 2012. Thanks to the diligence of the leadership of our district nursing associations (DNAs) and the board of directors, we were able to assemble a quorum to vote on making substantial changes to the way the association makes governance decisions.

The House of Delegates voted to follow the example of the American Nurses Association and transform itself from an elected delegate model to a membership model. The 2013 strategic plan, two of three membership proposals and most of the proposed bylaws changes were adopted. The largest change being the convention day and the convention was quite positive. I wish to thank Fran Ricker, Kasey Grobe and Keith Segundo, Director of Membership/Marketing/Communications for their work to prepare for this convention. I also want to thank all of the volunteers who gave of their time, talent and treasure to prepare for the continuing educational day, legislative reception/fundraiser, and House of Delegates. There are too many of them to mention in this paper, let alone this column.

Planning for the 2013 membership assembly has been started and by the time you are reading this column, the date will have been set and communicated to members via electronic mail. Please make sure we have your current and correct e-mail address in the office as we anticipate using e-mail more and more to communicate with our membership. The membership task forces that were empowered at the House of Delegates have had an excellent response and their members were appointed at the December board of directors meeting. The three task forces are working on the following issues: membership engagement and functionality of the association and district and regional design; effective communication with members and membership interaction with the association and ANA; and leadership development at all levels. Each task force will be asked to set priorities for the association and to consider the financial impact of their recommendations. The task force will be submitting reports to the board of directors by the end of May 2013 and their recommendations will be considered at the annual board meeting.

President’s Message continued on page 4

2013 Nightingale Luminary Awards

The annual 2013 Nightingale Luminary Awards, sponsored by the Colorado Nurses Foundation, will be held at the Westin Westminster, Westminster, Colorado. While continuing the tradition of recognizing excellence in professional nursing, the awards are now designed to recognize nurses whose actions and outcomes exemplify the spirit of a citizen of the profession through leadership, advocacy, or innovation. Forty-eight outstanding nurses from across the state, nominated in one of two practice categories: nurses in clinical practice and nurse administrators, educators, researchers, or those in non-traditional roles, will be recognized for their contributions. The forty-eight Luminaries, selected by either the Area Higher Education Centers (AHBC) or the Regional Nightingale Committees and forwarded to the State Selection Committee, will be eligible for one of the six prestigious, traditional Nightingale Awards. Additional information about the 2013 event can be found on the CNF website (www.cnfound.org) or by contacting Katrina Smith at 303-694-4728.

DNA #30: The scissors are a gift donated by the Colorado Nurses Foundation (CNF) to a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving health care and nursing practice in Colorado. The CNF began on October 3, 1887 as the Nursing Institute of Colorado. Although the name has changed, the mission of the organization has remained essentially the same. The CNF encourages nurses, other health care providers, and consumers to join together for quality health care. The CNF is dedicated to nursing excellence through the promotion of educational and scientific advancement and community-based projects.
License Lookup
To review your license or the license of any professional regulated by DPO, please go to: https://www.colorado.gov/dora/licensing/Lookup/LicensedLookUp.aspx. Here you can look to make sure your license is active or if you have any discipline on your license. You should definitely check the website about 3 days after renewal to make sure your renewal process is complete and that the system shows your license as active. This is the replacement site for ALISON. If you are an applicant, you can go to the same website and see the status of your application including a list of any missing materials that may be delaying the processing of the application.

You can also look up nurses on NURSYS.com. This is a national databank of nurse licenses and discipline which is available to the public. This allows states and employers to verify active licensure of nurses who are practicing in a compact state on a privilege.

Announcement of Interim Healthcare Section Director
Ronnie Hines has been named as the interim Section Director of the Healthcare Section. Ms. Hines has been with the Division for 5 years and is currently the Program Director of the Mental Health Boards. She is a graduate of DU Law School and has extensive experience in legislation, rulemaking and various other skills required of the Section Director.

Announcement of Retirement
Ann Marie Sonntag retired as of December 1, 2012. She had been with the Board of Nursing for 18 years and most recently served in the role of Compliance Specialist overseeing probation, stipulations and other post discipline requirements. She will truly be missed by the State Board of Nursing.

Prescriptive Authority Audits
The Prescriptive Authority audits as required by statute will occur in 2013. The licensees will be notified by letter including a list of any missing materials that may be delaying the processing of the application. The Prescriptive Authority audits as required for peer review entities. The education rules are to be reviewed at least every five years. This is a review for updates in practices methods, grammar and spelling matters and overall correctness of the rule.

State Board of Nursing is Seeking Appointment of New Members
The Board will be seeking 2 new members in July 2013. Peggy Budai and Deborah Archuleta will complete their terms on June 30, 2012. Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins, public member, resigned December 31, 2012. She has truly been an asset for the State Board of Nursing during her six year tenure. She served as the Chair of Inquiry Panel B. She will be missed greatly. Based on these vacancies, the Board will be considering the proposed rules for Professional Peer Review and the Education rule. Per statute, professional peer review is available to advanced practice nurses as it has and continues to be for physicians. The rules and policies adopted by the State Board of Nursing will be for peer review processes, requirements and immunity for peer review entities. The education rules are to be reviewed at least every five years. This is a review for updates in practices methods, grammar and spelling matters and overall correctness of the rule.

State Board of Nursing Full Board Meetings 2013
The State Board of Nursing Full Board meetings will occur on the 4th Tuesday of January, April, July and October. Historically the meetings have been the last Wednesday in each of those months. In order to keep the Panel meetings on the 4th Wednesday of each month, the Board elected to have the Full Board meetings on the 4th Tuesday. Fortunately, the meetings no longer take 3 days and are now completed in 2 full days. The Full Board meetings are open to the public. Feel free to come to the meeting and participate in rulemaking and to hear about policies and other board business.

In January, the Board will be considering the proposed rules for Professional Peer Review and the Education rule. Per statute, professional peer review is available to advanced practice nurses as it has and continues to be for physicians. The rules and policies adopted by the State Board of Nursing will be for peer review processes, requirements and immunity for peer review entities. The education rules are to be reviewed at least every five years. This is a review for updates in practices methods, grammar and spelling matters and overall correctness of the rule.

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Quad-regulator Meeting
The DPO Program Directors are planning a Colorado quad-regulator meeting in the spring. NPATCH will be involved to assist in facilitating the program which will include the Dental, Nursing, Medical and Pharmacy Boards. More information will be disseminated once plans are discussed and confirmed.

APRN Compact
The national APRN Compact Model Rules and Policies are in creation. Unfortunately, they will not be ready for proposal to legislation this year, but should be ready for action in Legislative Session 2014. Vicki Erickson, Board President and Chair of the NCsSN APRN Subcommittee is working hard to make sure Colorado is well represented in this process and maintain independent practice.

If you have any questions about these topics or any issue related to the State Board of Nursing, please contact Kennetha Julien, Program Director at kennetha.julien@state.co.us or 303-894-2819.

The Face of Healthcare is Changing.
By 2020, 20% of the population will be older adults. Nurses need to be prepared for the unique health challenges of the aging population. Now is the time to take action.

When you’re ready to make a greater impact
When you’re ready to advance your career
You are ready for American Public University
American Public University is ready to help you move your career forward. We offer a respected RN to BSN program, undergraduate and graduate degrees in Public Health, and more — completely online. And people are taking notice. We’ve been nationally recognized by the Sloan Consortium for effective practices in online education, and 99% of employers surveyed would hire one of our graduates again.*

When you’re ready, visit StudyatAPU.com/ALD
The NCSBN Board of Directors (BOD) Voted to Raise the Passing Standard for the NCLEX-RN Examination at Its Meeting on Dec. 17, 2012

CHICAGO—The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. (NCSBN) voted on Dec. 17, 2012, to raise the passing standard for the NCLEX-RN Examination (the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses). The passing standard will be revised from the current -0.16 logits to -0.00 logits beginning April 1, 2013, with the implementation of the 2013 NCLEX-RN Test Plan. The new passing standard will remain in effect through March 31, 2016.

The decision was based on available information, the NCSBN BOD determined that safe and effective entry-level RN practice requires a greater level of knowledge, skills, and abilities than was required in 2009 when NCSBN implemented the current standard. The passing standard was increased in response to changes in U.S. health care delivery and nursing practice that have resulted in the greater acuity of clients seen by entry-level RNs.

NCSBN identified multiple sources of information to guide its evaluation and discussion regarding the change in passing standard. As part of this process, NCSBN convened an expert panel of nine nurses to perform a criterion-referenced standard setting procedure. The panel’s findings supported the creation of a higher passing standard. NCSBN also considered the results of national surveys of nursing professionals including nursing educators, directors of nursing in acute care settings and ambulatory settings, and nurses working in specialty care.

In accordance with a motion adopted by the 1989 NCSBN Delegate Assembly, the NCSBN Board of Directors evaluates the passing standard every three years to protect the public by ensuring minimal competence for entry-level RNs. NCSBN coordinates the passing standard analysis with the three-year cycle of test plan evaluation. This three-year cycle was developed to keep the test plan and passing standard current. A PDF of the 2013 NCLEX-RN Test Plan is available free of charge from the NCSBN website at https://www.ncsbn.org/2013-NCLEX-RN-Test-Plan.pdf.

Missouri health care service and research through collaborative leadership to promote evidence-based regulatory excellence for patient safety and public protection.

Media inquiries may be directed to the contact listed above. Technical inquiries about the NCLEX examination may be directed to the NCLEX hotline for line 1-800-243-0900 or nclexinfo@ncsbn.org.

The statements and opinions expressed are the individual position of the individual member state or territorial boards of nursing.

*A logit is defined as a unit of measurement to report relative differences between candidate ability estimates and item difficulties.

President’s Message continued from page 2

2013 membership assembly. If you would like to be on a task force, please send an e-mail to me at dsmarc@msn.com and I will forward that information to the appropriate person.

Membership associations are not all work and no play, at least not the Colorado Nurses Association (CNA). The CNA Board of Directors voted to Raise the Passing Standard for the NCLEX-RN Examination on Mar. 16, 2013, during the annual meeting of the board. The board's decision was based on available information, the CNA Board of Directors determined that safe and effective entry-level RN practice requires a greater level of knowledge, skills, and abilities than was required in 2009 when CNA implemented the current standard. The passing standard was increased in response to changes in U.S. health care delivery and nursing practice that have resulted in the greater acuity of clients seen by entry-level RNs.

The passing standard was raised from -0.16 logits to -0.00 logits beginning April 1, 2013, with the implementation of the 2013 NCLEX-RN Test Plan. The new passing standard will remain in effect through March 31, 2016. The CNA will review the new passing standard at the 2016 assembly.

I walked in the parade last year and will be there again this year decked out in a t-shirt proudly proclaiming that I am a nurse and that I am a leader. I was overwhelmed with the support provided to nurses from the citizens of Colorado who attended the parade in 2012. The memory of the cheering crowds telling us that “Nurse rock” and “You are the best” and “We love you” has helped me get through some tough times over the last year. I cannot imagine not participating in the parade highly anymore. All nurses, nursing students and their families are invited to walk (or run) with us and show them and yourself and our profession off. We have already had some interest, and I expect that we will double our attendance from last year. My husband and daughter both walked with us last year and are looking forward to doing it again this year.

Executive Director’s Column continued from page 1

the position, including appropriately qualified nursing applicants. With the current climate of concern regarding scope of practice issues that are pertinent to APNs and to registered nurses, a candidate with a nursing background may have advantages in evaluating and understanding some of the complex regulatory issues that affect nursing.

The association has received continued calls and inquiries from nurses and nursing contacts regarding the mandatory immunization policies on influenza in Colorado facilities. While the association and the American Nurses Association support that nurses should obtain the vaccine in the best interests of protecting the public – this concern regarding scope of practice policies tied to termination or disciplinary actions against nurses. There is also concern regarding labeling of nurses as non-compliant in a public forum. The association and the ANA have asked that any communication with patients are part of the “plan.”

Pursuant to the Colorado Nurses Association’s mission statement, I would advise nurses to engage in dialogue about their concerns with facilities and external stakeholders with respectful communication. I do note it is about more than the vaccine itself – it is about having some right to make personal health care decisions as a nurse. Nurses support that as a right for their patients – the right to self determination in one’s health care choices. There is increasing sensitivity to “mandates” which can be perceived as taking away a personal choice and right. Nurses must be treated as a professional – involved in the issues, consulted, and included in the best approach to address the problem overall. I truly believe – with valid information on patients of influenza immunization nurses, will overall support the importance of protecting oneself and the public and will make the right choice.

On the legislative and regulatory front – I would inform the nursing community that some of the greatest threats to the profession at state and national levels lie in the 21st Century. The most obvious for APNs relate to issues regarding independent practice authority, scope of practice issues, and reimbursement for professional services, and exceed statutory requirements. Please be aware that it is state based legislation and regulation that affect your nursing practice in Colorado. It is a time for nurses to be more aware of professional issues that affect nursing at the state level. Heads up…
ALL Registered Nurses join the proud members of the Colorado Nurses Association
March with us in Denver’s 51st Annual St Patrick’s Day Parade.

GET ON THE BUS!!!

BECAUSE...
We are strong!
We are leaders!
We are patient advocates!!!
Nurses are the most trusted profession in the country

LET’S SHOW COLORADO WHO WE ARE!

St. Patrick’s Day Parade Saturday March 16th, 2013 at 10:00 am
Location: Park Avenue and 35th St. at Blake St. (Coors Field Parking Lot)
March along with us. Family members are welcome but are the responsibility of the attendee.

Donor Alliance is the federally-recognized, nonprofit organ procurement organization and an American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB) accredited tissue bank serving Colorado and most of Wyoming. As a recognized leader in facilitating the donation and recovery of transplantable organs and tissues, Donor Alliance’s mission is to save lives through organ and tissue donation and transplantation. To achieve this mission, Donor Alliance employs an effective family approach and recovery programs in more than 100 hospitals. Donor Alliance also inspires the public through education while continuing to work.

Donor Alliance Recovery Center opened June 7, 2011

April is National Donate Life Month!
Thank you for helping save the lives of nearly 400 Coloradans through organ donation and transplantation just last year!

Donor Alliance is the federally-designated, nonprofit organ procurement organization and an American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB) accredited tissue bank serving Colorado and most of Wyoming. As a recognized leader in facilitating the donation and recovery of transplantable organs and tissues, Donor Alliance’s mission is to save lives through organ and tissue donation and transplantation. To achieve this mission, Donor Alliance employs an effective family approach and recovery programs in more than 100 hospitals. Donor Alliance also inspires the public to register as organ and tissue donors through community partnerships, public outreach, and education campaigns.

Donor Alliance is a drug free workplace and applicants must pass a pre-employment drug screen.

The Donor Alliance Recovery Center opened June 7, 2011

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Jerry A. Rutherford, JD 11948-2009
J. Stephen Mullen, JD
Lori M. Moore, JD
Kimberly P.W. DeLine, RN JD
Michael A. Watts, JD

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e-mail to tjenen@pioneershospital.org

www.pioneershospital.org

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YMC is a drug free workplace and applicants must pass a pre-employment drug screen.

EEO

February, March, April 2013

Colorado Nurse • Page 5
The Colorado Nurses Foundation (CNF) is pleased to announce that twenty scholarships were awarded to nursing students representing seven different nursing education programs from across Colorado. Since 1999, CNF has awarded over 250 scholarships. Scholarships include not only those funded through the annual Nightingale Event, but scholarships funded through a diverse variety of organizations and individuals. These CNF Scholarship Recipients are outstanding students who show great potential as professional nurses both in the immediate future and for years to come.

In addition to these scholarships, which are awarded each December, CNF is committed to creating and supporting nursing excellence through the promotion of educational and scientific activities as well as community based projects. CNF activities are supported through contributions, fundraising, activities and grants. For additional information or to become a part of the CNF’s Donor Honor Roll, please contact the CNF at www.CNFound.org, email “mail@CNFound.org” or by calling 303-694-4728.

The Colorado Nurses Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable, not-for-profit organization established in 1987 to provide a means for nurses, other health care providers and consumers to work together on nursing and health care issues of mutual interest and concern. The organization’s mission is to advance nursing in Colorado through education, advocacy and recognition for nurses and the nursing profession. CNF’s vision is to assure that advocacy and recognition for nurses and the nursing profession.

Our Scholarship Recipients represent a variety of programs and the degree in process. Planned graduation date is shown following the name of the college/university they attend. Those whose names are followed by “RN” are currently licensed as Registered Nurses in Colorado. Scholarship names reflect organization/individual donors; DNA Scholarships are donated by District Nurses Associations of the Colorado Nurses Associations. Some scholarships require that applicants meet specific criteria in addition to evaluation of the application that each applicant submits.

**Congratulations to:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>University/College</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Scholarship/Program</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Branch-Boyle</td>
<td>University of Colorado–Colorado Springs/Beth-El</td>
<td>BSN 2013</td>
<td>received the 2013 Donor Alliance Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Dishman</td>
<td>Colorado State University–Pueblo, BSN 2013</td>
<td>RN, Regis University</td>
<td>MSN 2015, received a Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Englebert</td>
<td>Regis University, MSN 2015, received the DNA-20 Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawn Fetzko</td>
<td>University of Northern Colorado, DNP 2014</td>
<td>RN</td>
<td>received the Colorado Nurses Association Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Gaughan</td>
<td>University of Colorado–Denver, MSN 2013, received the Children’s Hospital Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather Hageman</td>
<td>University of Colorado–Denver, MSN 2013, received the Lizzie Schaeffer Teichler Memorial Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dana Johnson</td>
<td>Regis University, BSN 2013, received the 2012 Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shannon Koch</td>
<td>Colorado Mesa University, BSN 2014, received the Lola Fehr Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adenike Kotun</td>
<td>Metropolitan State University of Denver, BSN 2013, received a Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Marr</td>
<td>RN, Regis University, BSN 2013, received the Medical Center of the Rockies Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mara Miller</td>
<td>University of Northern Colorado, BSN 2013, received the Rose Medical Center Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
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<td>Abigail Montgomery</td>
<td>RN, Regis University, MSN 2012, received a Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madeline Moore</td>
<td>University of Northern Colorado, BSN 2013, received the Triple B Nightingale Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Armando Reyes</td>
<td>RN, Regis University, MSN 2013, received the Leslie Groy Public Health Nurses Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Roberts</td>
<td>RN, Regis University, MSN 2014, received the DNA-3 Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shana Sanderson</td>
<td>University of Colorado–Colorado Springs/Beth-El, BSN 2013, received the DNA 3 Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veronica Shephard</td>
<td>University of Northern Colorado, BSN 2013, received the Colorado Nurses Association Virginia Paulson Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allison Tinker</td>
<td>Regis University, BSN 2013, received the H.M. Muffly Memorial Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stacey Wall</td>
<td>University of Colorado–Denver, DNP 2015, received the Roy Anderson Memorial Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Zwahlen</td>
<td>Regis University, BSN 2014, received the DNA-16 Scholarship in Honor of Eleanor Bent.</td>
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in St. Louis, Missouri. A nurse who has served numerous boards at the community and national levels, Bleich challenges nurses to consider board service. “As the largest population of health professionals in the country, we must be at the leadership tables.”

Stewardship and governance

If you’re considering board service, know that your role will be one of stewardship—which means you must place the organization’s best interests always above your career advancement, special interests, or personal agendas. Board members don’t represent or advocate for a specific profession or group of employees. Instead, they must act in accordance with the organization’s values and mission and advocate for its constituents and stakeholders, including those it serves, its funders, employees, and the community at large. A board member’s job is to help secure the organization’s present and future.

While stewardship focuses on the greater good, governance is the process by which the greater good is served and realized. Governance includes providing strategic planning and data for decision making. Also, know that the organization wants to achieve and how it will measure success. Boards also make policy, expressing their values and mission as a basis for action. They advocate on behalf of the communities they serve and identify and understand the stakeholders who can be affected by the board’s actions. Governance involves fulfilling the organization’s mission with a mission you can support and to which you’re willing to commit time and energy through active participation.

What nurses bring to board service

As a nurse, your experience gives you an essential viewpoint on the critical issues our healthcare system faces. Nurses are involved in almost every aspect of patient-care delivery, and many also provide care in the community. Their connection between care and community and their understanding of healthcare organizations’ impact on the broader communities is particularly valuable to boards. Nurses have firsthand insight into the views and concerns of patients, families, and communities, as well as expert knowledge of how best to achieve high-quality care. They can contribute to improving safety and quality, and they understand the need for collaboration across health professions and care settings.

What’s more, the personal characteristics of the best nurses are important for boards. These nurses are good at listening to others and asking questions to help them understand problems. The best nurses are important for boards. These nurses are good at listening to others and asking questions to help them understand problems. They understand the need for honesty, patient care and can work as effective team members. They understand the connection between care and community and can articulate patient advocates.

What board service brings to nurses

Board service can be rewarding both personally and professionally. For example, board service offers opportunities to help shape public policy and to apply your education and experience to improve the availability of healthcare. It allows you to connect with other professionals who share your passion for improving healthcare. It also provides opportunities to build leadership skills and to contribute to the larger community. Board service can also offer the chance to contribute to important policy decisions and to engage in meaningful work that makes a difference in the lives of patients and their families.

Becoming “board ready”

Of course, not every nurse is ready to serve on a board. Before considering board service, reflect on whether you’ve gained leadership skills through increasing levels of responsibility at work or in educational preparation. Also, know that nurse leaders should attain broader operational knowledge and experience so they can understand how the many parts of an organization function together. While this knowledge can come from work-related experience, you also can acquire it by serving in increasingly responsible roles within a clinical work or organization.

In Nurse Leaders in the Boardroom: The Skills You Need to Be Successful on a Board, an educational presentation developed by the Champion to Champion Nursing in America and the RWJF, nurse leaders who’ve served on boards provide additional insights on preparing for board service. These insights are summarized in the five action steps below.

Create a personal strategic plan

Think about and articulate what you want to achieve, and develop specific action steps to achieve it. What do you need to learn? To whom do you need to talk? What’s your timeline? Creating your strategic plan will give you direction on the path to board service. Find out what boards look for in prospective members. What can you contribute? What are your special skills?

Be passionate

What issues are you most passionate about and have some knowledge or skill of? Find a community organization with a mission you can support and to which you’re willing to commit time and energy through active participation.

Start locally

The best way to grow leadership and board skills is to start in your community and look for opportunities to serve. Think first about a local nonprofit or community organization; join and volunteer to serve on a committee or project. Gaining at least a basic understanding of financial management is to improve safety and quality, and they understand the need for collaboration across health professions and care settings.

Seek ongoing education

Invest in yourself through continuing education to gain a new perspective and make you really proud to be a nurse. It makes you realize how perfectly prepared you are to change the world.”

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Making a difference one life at a time.
If you’re considering serving on a board or need help to decide if this is the right path for you, check out the programs, publications, and web resources listed below.

**Training programs and certifications**
- **Best on Board** provides “education, testing, and certification services for healthcare trustees and executive leaders.” [www.bestonboard.org/website/home.html](http://www.bestonboard.org/website/home.html)
- **BoardSource** offers resources on nonprofit governance and is “dedicated to building the effectiveness of nonprofit boards.” [www.boardsource.org](http://www.boardsource.org)
- **Non-Profit Board Governance for Health Care Leaders**, an online education program of Sigma Theta Tau, is “designed to prepare health care leaders to be knowledgeable, contributing leaders on national and international nonprofit boards.” [www.nursingknowledge.org/Portal/main.aspx?PageID=36&SKU=99655](http://www.nursingknowledge.org/Portal/main.aspx?PageID=36&SKU=99655)

**Books**
- **The Growth and Development of Nurse Leaders**, by Angela Barron McBride, PhD, RN, FAAN. Springer; 2010.

**Web resources**
- **Center to Champion Nursing in America** developed the PowerPoint resource “Nurse Leaders in the Boardroom: The Skills You Need to Be Successful on a Board.” [www.championnursing.org/nurse-leaders-resource](http://www.championnursing.org/nurse-leaders-resource)
- **Center for Creative Leadership** offers “an exclusive focus on leadership education and research and unparalleled expertise in solving the leadership challenges of individuals and organizations everywhere.” It provides numerous board training programs. [www.ccl.org/leadership/index.aspx](http://www.ccl.org/leadership/index.aspx)
- **Center for Health Care Governance** “provides state-of-the-art education, research, publications, services, tools, and other governance resources to help you achieve and maintain consistency and excellence throughout your governance program.” [www.americangovernance.com](http://www.americangovernance.com)
- **The Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action** is “a collaborative effort to implement solutions to the challenges facing the nursing profession, and to build upon nurse-based approaches to improving quality and transforming the way Americans receive health care.” [www.thefutureofnursing.org](http://www.thefutureofnursing.org)
- **Governance Institute** “provides trusted, independent information and resources to board members, healthcare executives, and physician leaders in support of their efforts to lead and govern their organizations.” [www.governanceinstitute.com](http://www.governanceinstitute.com)
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** aims to “improve the health and health care of all Americans...to help our society transform itself for the better.” [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org)

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@ Regis.... We give credit where credit is due!
Many Colorado nurses are undoubtedly familiar with the leadership role of the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence (CNE) and its annual Nursing Leadership Academy. This program, now in its sixth year, moves forward in addressing recommendations for the future of nursing as outlined in the landmark Institute of Medicine Report. Nurse Outreach for Arizona’s Aged and Rural (NOAH) – a coalition of community-based organizations supported by the Colorado Trust, that is focused on finding ways to develop and support nurse leaders throughout the state, recently launched their 2013 Call to Action.

The call to action is being spearheaded by four nurse leaders who have engaged themselves within their community and determine how this group of professionals can move to the next level of seeking appointment to state and local boards and commissions. This includes membership on community and state level boards and commissions where nurses can exert influence on what they do in their everyday professional roles.

The timing for this is excellent as, once again, the recent Gallup Poll shows that eighty five percent of those interviewed rated nurses’ ethics and honesty as high or very high. Clearly nurses come with built in credibility that makes others not only willing to respect the opinions of nurses but to perhaps act on them as well. Through NOAH we want to recognize those nurses who have already served on boards and commissions of influence – and identify and work with others who are interested in carrying their knowledge and credibility to a higher level than they have perhaps desired.

A couple of months ago, I conducted a survey of public health nurses (PHN’s) in Colorado to try and find out how many PHN’s were currently serving on state level boards and commissions. The survey, which has engaged themselves within their community and beyond in ways that were not directly related to their jobs or place of employment. As a long time public health nurse myself, and having worked with PHN’s all over the state for many years, I was already aware of how many of these nurses are involved in their communities and the influence of their presence in their communities; it often just “comes with the territory” when one’s professional role encompasses serving the public in many ways. The results of the survey indicated that a significant number of these nurses had taken it upon themselves to move beyond the responsibilities of their actual workplace role. They have found opportunities that affords them much greater visibility and influence. Even though many of these nurses do not work in community health centers, these nurses engage in personal outreach in their communities and at the county, regional and state levels as well.

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Craig Hospital Receives 2012 Magnet Prize®

Craig Hospital is a 93-bed, private, not-for-profit, full-service acute care and rehabilitation hospital that provides a comprehensive system of inpatient and outpatient medical care, rehabilitation, neurosurgical and medical care, and long-term follow-up services. Half of Craig’s patients come from outside of Colorado, and in 2010 the hospital treated patients from 48 states and several foreign countries. At any given time, the staff at Craig treats approximately 50-55 inpatients with spinal cord injuries, 25-30 with traumatic brain injuries, and 50-60 outpatients. Craig provides housing for out-of-state families and outpatients, including the first 20 days free for families of new inpatients.

Craig Hospital is designated by the National Institute on Disability Rehabilitation and Research (NIDRR) as a Model Systems Core Center for Spinal Cord and Traumatic Brain Injury. Craig is also the NIDRR National Statistical TBI database for the other model system centers (2006-2011). The center provides remarkable attention to cultural care that is both professional, active, and upbeat.

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About ANCC

The mission of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), is to promote excellence in nursing and health care globally through credentialing programs. ANCC’s role is to help nurses take pride in their work, recognize individual nurses in specialty practice areas, and put nurses in leadership positions that afford them substantial input on patient safety issues. ANCC is the first and only healthcare certification organization in the United States to have successfully achieved ISO 9001:2008 certification. www.nursecredentialing.org.
The PHNAC 2012 Awards Ceremony was conducted at the “Public Health in the Rockies” annual conference held in Pueblo, CO September, 2012

LifeTime Achievement Award– Colorado Public Health Association Award

This award honors an individual who has retired from full-time employment in public health, in recognition of their outstanding contributions and leadership in the field of public health.

The recipient of this award is...

Jacqueline Brown
Provers County Public Health & Environment (until August 31)

Jacqueline Brown is a Public Health Nurse and has been a terrific leader, mentor, supporter and defender of public health and the local public health system. As she moves on to a new position outside of local public health, now is the right time to honor her energy, passion and service to public health and the communities in southeastern Colorado.

There are many stories and indications of Jackie’s impactful leadership from her years in public health. In just the past five years, Jackie has brought comprehensive environmental health services into Prowers public health agency, created a shared approach to public health service delivery with Kiowa County, and represented rural public health in a multitude of state system building efforts.

Prior to the public health act that elevated the role and responsibility of county nursing services, Jackie worked to build Prowers County Nursing Service into a comprehensive local public health agency—providing broader public health services to community members. Since the Act, Jackie has continued to support system change in the Colorado public health system and to share her experience and leadership with other local public health directors.

Jackie has served on the Executive Committee of the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials for many years and consistently brings rural representation and pragmatic, yet visionary, views to the association. She has served in various visionary and system building committees including the committee that wrote the Colorado Public Health Act of 2008, the Public Health Improvement Steering Committee, the Lillian Wald Award Committee, and has put her whole heart into helping these children and their families. Norma created a new pilot project in Adams County to strengthen supports available for babies discharged from the NICU. She participates in multiple community collaborations. Norma mentored and supported a younger nurse when she took on the role of HCP Program Coordinator. When that nurse left, she was considering retirement but instead agreed to step into the Program Coordinator role and has done an amazing job strengthening the program and the relationships TCHD HCP has within our communities.

New Public Health Nurse of the Year

This is awarded to a public health nurse with less than five years practice serving in a public health capacity who has demonstrated the ability to establish community partnerships that resulted in improved utilization of public health programs and/or services.

The recipient of this award is...

Amy Wineland
Summit County Public Health

Amy Wineland has been a Summit County Public Health (SCPH) Nurse for twelve years. She is an RN, with a MS, a ND and a CFPN. For the first 2 years Amy worked for SCPH, she provided well child exams, service coordination for children with special needs, and immunizations. Amy also participated in communicable disease prevention, investigation and treatment. Amy received the PHNAC New Public Health Nurse of the Year Award in 2002 for her good work. During these early years Amy began working in the Nurse Family Program (NFP) as a nurse home visitor and...
began the process to become the Supervisor of the Intermountain Nurse Home Visitor Program. During the time that Amy has been the supervisor, the program has expanded twice from its 4 county base (Summit, Lake, Clear Creek, Gilpin) to its current 6 county configuration which includes Fairplay (Park County) and Chaffee.

As the supervisor of the Intermountain NFP, Amy has been very successful in providing guidance and support to her staff as they interface with some of the most difficult clients. She has used the principles of motivational interviewing, coaching and reflective practice while modeling therapeutic relationships, change theory, self-efficacy, and client centered, strength based and solution focused approaches.

Amy has been so good at her relationship building with her staff that they nominated Amy for the 2011 President’s Award for Nurse Family Partnership Supervisor of the year. Amy was selected to receive this award from a pool of nine finalists from across the country. Pretty darn good!

In 2011, Amy applied for and was promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Summit County Public Health. In her application Amy says that she has a “passion for providing education and building collaborative relationships with families, team members and communities.” In this first year Amy has done an outstanding job moving in this direction. In addition Amy has supported both public health staff and NFP staff as they all transitioned to her leadership. Amy has moved forward with the 10 winnable battles and participated in the community health assessment. Amy really showed her risk taking capabilities where she took the role as the Incident Commander for our county-wide functional exercise that had a public health focus. This really showed Amy’s interest in the total public health package. Amy deserves the 2012 PHNAC Award for Excellence for her wonderful accomplishments over the years and her determination to take public health into the future.

President’s Recognition Award

The President’s Recognition Award is awarded to an individual or individuals whose unique contribution(s) or achievement(s) significantly impact the Public Health Nurses Association of Colorado. This Award has been given as a special recognition by the President of PHNAC.

The recipients of this award are...

Dawn James
Kitt Carson Health and Human Services

Lauren Mitchell
Tri-County Health Department

Dawn James and Lauren Mitchell pursued their vision for public health nursing through a Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership (RIHEL) project and made that plan a reality. Through their creativity, leadership, and persistence the Public Health Nurse Practice Council (PHNPC) was born. In 2009, the Practice Council became an active branch of the Public Health Nursing Association of Colorado. This council has established a mission of providing a unified statewide representation of public health nursing practice within Colorado and to endorse recognition of public health nursing as a specialty profession. Lauren Mitchell and Dawn James represent the “cream of the crop” when it comes to the nursing profession. Both possess advanced degrees and have used their education extremely well in serving their communities. Public health in Colorado has reaped enormous benefits because of the efforts of these two public health nurses.
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This CNA committee meets monthly at the Colorado Nurses Association office, focusing on ways to improve access to health care for all Coloradans. The committee monitors advocacy groups, health care reform committees, pending legislation, and rulemaking committees that are involved in access to care. As a nursing driven committee, our aim is to support community needs and concerns.

Our central priorities at CNAHCA are to monitor new information and facts about health care reform that are occurring and to be engaged in the process of transforming the current system to a system that is affordable and available to all in Colorado. The Colorado Nurses Convention “Steps to Change” (Oct. 12-13) in Colorado Springs, featured “The Healthcare Movie” which depicted evolution of the health systems in Canada and the United States and highlighted Canada’s struggle to reform their health care system. Also, Myung Kim, Communication and Outreach Manager for Colorado Health Benefits Exchange (COHBE) described the work already done to set up the COHBE, which will become a new health insurance marketplace scheduled to open in October 2013. This will provide a new and improved way for individuals, families and small employers to shop and compare health plans and includes financial assistance to Coloradans with moderate incomes to make insurance more affordable. Members of CNAHCA have been actively following this process and will continue in order to voice nursing’s concerns.

In November, after studying the proposed Colorado’s Essential Health Benefits (EHB) Benchmark plan for individual and small group health plans in and out of COHBE, committee members wrote a letter to COHBE, DORA (Department of Regulator Agencies) and the Governor’s office with recommendations. The letter outlined our concerns with the influx of new primary care patients and the need for there to be an adequate network of providers allowing all licensed providers to practice to the full extent of their education and license. In addition, Coloradans need a wide choice of providers in order to maintain the success of the Colorado Health Benefits Exchange. Our letter was received and posted on DORA and COHBE websites. This will be an ongoing issue that CNAHCA will follow and posted on DORA and COHBE websites. This will be an ongoing issue that CNAHCA will follow and will continue in order to voice nursing’s concerns.

Currently, most of the discussions on expanding access to health care are focused on increasing insurance coverage through Health Insurance Exchange and eligibility for Medicaid and Medicare. After the Supreme Court ruling in July 2012, now a major question in Colorado is will the state expand Colorado’s Medicaid to 133% or 100% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)? This expansion of Medicaid includes the Federal Government paying 100% of the cost for all additional enrollees between 100% -133% of FPL though 2017 when the Federal support will drop to 90%. CNAHCA has researched all aspects of this question and has written a document in support of expanding Medicaid. This document will be prepared for use by CNAHCA in the coming months to support increased access to health care for Coloradans.

We encourage all nurses to be involved in advocating for themselves as nurses and nursing in Colorado. As a member of the Colorado Nurses Association you can be a part of the statewide nursing voice on these and many other emerging health care reform proposals in Colorado. Meetings for CNAHCA are monthly on the third Thursday of the month. For more information please contact CNA office, Judith Burke (co-chair) or Brenda VonStar (co-chair) phone 303-548-4600 or email vonstarth@qadas.com.

DNA 6 concluded 2012 with its annual Holiday gathering and celebration hosted by member Sherrod Beall in Durango. Our event welcomed several current and new members as well as new graduates and students from the region. An intergenerational exchange of ideas and accomplishments highlighted the event and included many facets and specialties contributing to the health in our diverse communities. Several members shared their experiences while attending Mrs. Obama’s visit prior to the election which was held at the Fort Lewis College in Durango. One of our members was actually invited to meet the first lady in a private audience during the event and shared this powerful experience with the group! We continue to grow our membership and associates and are actively planning for our first regional nursing leadership summit June 15th, 2013 which will include Karen Kowalski RN, PhD the executive director of the Center for Nursing Excellence of Colorado as our key note speaker. We anticipate broad attendance to include a variety of nurses from throughout our area in a variety of care settings.

This year we will continue to reach out to the region as we develop our newsletter and are in discussion about creation of our own web site! We

Submitted by Brenda VonStar RN, FNP-C

DNA 6 (San Luis Valley)

The San Luis Valley Nurses Conference 2012 was held on September 27th and was a huge success with 67 participants. Key note speakers were Karen Kowalski from the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence and Amy Barton from UC Denver. The conference was supported by DNA 6 in collaboration with Sigma Theta Tau, and the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center.

Helen Lester, Amanda Jojola, and Shawn Elliott attended the CNA convention in October and brought forth 2 action item proposals: 1) Membership Participation and 2) the Nurses Pledge. The Membership Participation proposal passed; the CNA delegates decided not to support the Nurses Pledge at this time and suggested that the Student Nurses Association may be a better venue to present the pledge. Two students from ASU that were attending the SNA Convention the next week presented the Pledge proposal in Pueblo, and it passed with rave reviews. Students from ASU attending the national SNA Convention in Charlotte, N.C. on April 3-7, 2013 will present it there for review. DNA 6 will provide financial assistance to the students to attend the convention.

Charlotte Ledonne was presented the DNA 6 Nurse of the Year award at the convention also.

SLV Nightingale nominations are currently being accepted.

Nursing Scholarships in the amount of $1,000 each were given to Adams State University and Trinidad State Junior College to give to students this academic year. Karen Ruybal was the ASU recipient of a $500 scholarship for the fall semester. Elections were held and Charlotte Ledonne is now President of DNA 6, other officers are unchanged with the exception of having no official secretary.
welcome any contributions to this effort in the form of time, talent or resources. Many other plans are underway as we continue to reach out to bring greater awareness of the role of nursing in our communities and our region. For further information, or to receive our newsletter or updates, please contact us by email at terryschu2003@yahoo.com or by phone at 970-769-0286.

Submitted by Vicki Carroll, Secretary

Our Fall meeting was held October 17, 2012 at the home of Janie Arndt, President. Members brought wonderful desserts to share. Mary Ciambelli, CNA President was introduced to the group. We were all very appreciative of the time and effort she put into making our meeting at her home possible. It was an enlightening discussion. The need for the creation of task forces and the involvement of the public in these changes and all retain some semblance of hands on care for themselves, their families and their patients. This, of course, is expected, inevitable, but we need to be able to deal with these changes and all retain some semblance of our history of care practices. Many say that due to their age, their ideas, knowledge and concerns are ignored. Often times, acknowledgement is obvious.

DNA 20 (West Metro Area)

Submitted by Norma Tubman, RN, MScN, NC-BE

DNA 20 ended 2012 with a Holiday Potluck at the home of member Norma Tubman. Paula Stearns, DNA 20 member, and CNA Treasurer, talked about the status of CNA’s Task Forces on Board Structure, District Design and Communications. Thank you to Paula, lead coordinator for the Task Force, Cathy Crisler, Allison Windes and Janet Ballantyne, DNA 20 members, who have volunteered to serve on the task force committees. At the potluck, donations of orange juice, new baby bottles and large size diapers were collected for the Action Center. Paula serves on the Action Center Board and identifies items needed by the center. Kiska May challenged us with Trivia questions during the “fun” part of the Potluck.

Three Legislative Connection Dinner tickets were donated by DNA 20 to Front Range Community College nursing students. The district has been very lucky over the years in getting nursing students to attend this dinner to meet with legislators and to hear about the successes of CNA lobbyists in getting bills passed that support nurses and nurse practitioners, as well as hear about the February dinner to assist DNA 16 with registration, decorations and greeting legislators.

In January, guest speaker Tanya Coons, PhD, Executive Director, Western Colorado Math and Science Center and an adjunct member of Colorado Mesa University faculty, presented on “The Occupational and Environmental Impacts of Uranium Mining in the Western U.S.” This was a timely topic as plans to open a Uranium Mill in Western Colorado increase. This has been under much scrutiny to assure it has no environmental impact especially on air and water. For members who have visited Uranan or other old Uranium mining areas of Western Colorado, the environmental impact of uranium mining is still obvious.

DNA 20, through collaboration with the Colorado Nurses Foundation, awarded a $1,000 scholarship to Dana Johnson, a senior in the CHOICE Program at Regis University School of Nursing, Denver. Dana, who lives in Conifer and is a certified Emergency Medical Technician, works as an EMT, Patient Care Technician in Presbyterian/ St. Lukes’ Emergency Department in Denver. Her long term goal is to be a flight nurse so she hopes to get a position in both an emergency department and an intensive care unit after graduation.

For information on DNA meetings and activities, contact President Allison Winds at acou72@excite.com.

Submitted by Norma Tubman, RN, MScN, NC-BE

DNA 23

DNA 23 will meet next on the second Tuesday in March. Details of time and place will be sent early in March. All Nurses in the area are invited to attend. We would love to hear your suggestion topics for discussion, as well as who and where help is needed. The District continues to strive to obtain increased attendance, to improve communication and meet the needs of members. I do wish to thank Darlene Gaskin, Jeanne Kearns, Susan Goldstein and Doctor Jackie Bratt-Armstrong for continued attendance and support. It was good to hear from some new members as well. We do thank all for their help. We do have problems, like most groups, in getting together. Recently I’ve spoken to many “older” active Nurses who all express the opinion that Nurses including NP’s, CNA’s, CRNA’s and CNM’s are more aware. Food for thought as many of my classmates who are older, except for those nurses! DNA 9 made out a check to the Legal Defense Fund to send back to CNA. Thanks for coming Mary!
The "In Memory" Column includes information received about nurses who lived in Colorado and/or worked in Colorado. If you have information about the death of a nurse (RN or LPN) that you know of, please send basic information to Eve Hoygaard (hoygaard@msn.com). We endeavor to verify all information included in this column. If an error is noted, please advise us and a correction will be published.

This issue includes three nurses who served in the military during WWII. One was a flight nurse and another was an operating room nurse. The flight nurse was on a flight on V-E Day.

We remember and honor the following departed nurses:
- Bertram, Karen, RN, (73), died October 31, 2012.
- Bracknell, Honora "Nora" Genevieve, RN, (86), died in Aurora, CO November 21, 2012.
- Coursey, Janis Blackburn, RN, (72), died in November 2012. She was educated in St. Louis MO and worked as an RN in California and Colorado.
- Hawes, Elsie May Opsahl, RN, (86), a resident of Westminster, CO died November 30, 2012.
- LaBrash, Elizabeth Anne Mayer, RN, (90), died September 23, 2012.
- Lewis, Barbara, RN, (77), of Westminster, CO died December 17, 2012. She completed the Geriatric Nurse Practitioner Certificate program at the University of Colorado Denver in the 1970’s; she had retired from Villas at Sunny Acres in 2011.
- Mann, Sharon J., RN, (60), died October 7, 2012. She graduated from Contra-Costa College (California) and later completed her BSN at Metropolitan State College Denver. She was a NICU nurse at Swedish Medical Center, Englewood, CO for 28 years.
- Miller, Beverly J., RN, (78), died on December 20, 2012. She completed her nursing education in Alaska. In the 1960’s she moved to Colorado where she worked in several Denver area hospitals. She retired from AT&T after working there for 20 years as an occupational health nurse.
- Penn, Ruth V. Spiedel, RN, (97), died in Aurora, CO on December 28, 2012. She was a graduate of Iowa Lutheran Hospital. As a WWII Flight Nurse, Lt. Spiedel, in June 1944, on her 80th air evacuation flight, was on one of the first planes (a C-47) that landed in Germany to pick up soldiers from a first aid station and accompanied them back to England. She served for 39 months.
- Ryan, Edith Johanna "Jo" Snow, RN, (78), died in Denver on October 20, 2012. A 1958 graduate of St. Luke’s Hospital Denver School of Nursing, she then completed her BS in Nursing from the University of Denver. In 1984, she completed the ANP program at Metropolitan State College Denver.

Simmons, Anna Belle, RN, (96), died on December 16, 2012. A graduate of St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing in Savannah GA, she proudly served in the US Army Nurse Corps from 1942-45.

Slivka, Thelma Jean Pahl, RN, (89), died on December 3, 2012. She was a 1946 graduate of West Suburban Hospital, Oak Park IL. She moved to Denver in 1955. As a nurse at Swedish Medical Center, Englewood, CO, she helped open the first ICU at Swedish. She retired in 1974.


Wiggs-Jacques, Elizabeth, RN, died in Denver in November, 2012. A graduate of St. Joseph Hospital Denver School of Nursing and the University of Denver, she enjoyed being a maternal-child health nurse educator.

Wright, Eleanor Anderson, RN (90) died on December 19, 2012. A graduate of St. Luke’s Hospital Denver School of Nursing in 1943, she served as a 2nd LT in the US Army as an operating room nurse.

Submitted by Eve Hoygaard, MS, RN, WHNP - Region I Director, Colorado Nurses Association

### In Memory

#### Greeley County Health Services

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for the 2013 Summer: June 8-August 17.

for the 2013 Summer: June 8-August 17.

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