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Sunset of the Colorado Nurse Practice Act

by Fran Ricker, RN, MSN, CGRN

Colorado Nurses Association was one of many organizations that participated in submitting recommendations for Sunset of the Nurse Practice Act. That process included meetings held with the Sunset Analyst Ellen Graham, and the formal recommendations by the association developed by the Sunset Task Force of the Colorado Nurses Association. Recommendations by CNA were submitted on June 10, 2008.

The actual Sunset report from the Office of Policy, Research, and Regulatory Reform will be published on or before October 15th. The Final Report will be posted to their website at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/opr/index.htm>. Anyone interested will be able to access the report. Once the report is published, the bill drafting process will begin and will continue into November, possibly December. The bill has to reflect the recommendations in the report, so there is less stakeholder involvement in the process at this stage.

Once the legislative session opens in January 2009, stakeholders have opportunity to be more involved. At the publication of this edition, nurses will be able to read the report which will inform the legislative agenda.

Colorado Nurses Association Recommendations

Any member nurse of the association who would like a copy of Colorado Nurses Association's recommendations can receive one by contacting dtrujillo@nurses-co.org. We will not detail the specifics in this edition, as the more pertinent information in December will be the actual report that ensues from the Office of Policy, Research, and Regulatory Reform. That will be the document that drives the legislation.

I would like to share information on the perspective of the association as it relates to the recommendations. The Sunset Task Force of the

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Executive Director's Column

by Fran Ricker, RN, MSN, CGRN

2008—A Pivotal Year for Colorado Nurses Association

2008 has proven to be a hallmark year for nursing and health care legislation. As the voice for advocacy of professional nursing issues in Colorado, CNA has participated fully in all bills related to nursing in Colorado. In addition, CNA was also able to focus on other health care related legislation.

The key legislative accomplishment for CNA this year was the passage of the THREE bills on Advanced Practice Nursing. These bills were all sponsored by Colorado Nurses Association and represent the first time that our association has introduced this many bills in one session. The passage of HB 1060, 1061, and 1094 represented extensive effort committed by many members and nonmembers of our association.

The Governor's Task Force on Nurse Workforce and Patient Care which CNA participated in resulted in two pieces of legislation for nursing. CNA participated extensively in SB 188—which focuses on researching nursing involvement in decision making in issues of concern. This truly is a project which has the needs of direct care staff nurses at heart and that could impact the retention of nurses in the workplace.

It is fair to note that CNA and the Colorado Hospital Association co-authored the original draft proposal submitted to the Task Force for approval, and which later resulted in the legislation. CNA continues to support this important research project in Colorado with broad stakeholder support in a leadership and participating role.

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HAVE WE MADE PROGRESS? The Clinical Placement Pilot Project Update

Written by: Deborah Center, RN, MSN, CNS—
 Project Director
 Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence

Nursing workforce issues continue to be a priority for many organizations, nurses and nurse educators across Colorado. While many factors have been identified as impacting the nursing shortage, the pipeline of new nurses has been the focus for this project. With no surprise to anyone, the Nursing Supply Demand Study recognized the two major bottlenecks to the pipeline as the limited number of clinical placements and the faculty shortage.

As you may recall, the original article highlighting the Clinical Placement Technology Project for Colorado was written over a year ago in August 2007. At that time we had no data or evidence to validate the capacity for students. We had just completed one year of the grant and had implemented the "real-time" use of StudentMax™, a state-wide web-based interactive database, created in Oregon and adapted for use in Colorado to help schools and clinical agencies track and coordinate clinical placements for nursing students. The initial partnership at that time consisted of 10 clinical agencies and 28 schools of nursing from Denver Metro area and Grand Junction. The collaboration was enthused and hopeful the system would allow us an opportunity to increase the capacity for nursing student clinical placements in an effort to reduce the nursing shortage in our state.

Since that time the project has successfully expanded to a total of 41 clinical agencies that provide 109 clinical sites for student placements and 35 schools of nursing representing the first

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Message from the

Colorado Nurses Association President...

Eve Hoygaard, MS, RN-C, WHNP-BC

As 2008 draws to a close, it seems appropriate to take a moment to look back upon the events of the past 12 months. Our membership is increasing. From the successful legislative efforts for Advanced Practice Nurses to the involvement in the Pilot Project (SB188), it has been a busy year for the Colorado Nurses Association. We had our first Video Premier, members joined in the fun at a Rockies game (even with some rain!), we initiated and nurtured our new Legislative Latte monthly gatherings. We worked with the Colorado Student Nurses Association, participated in the 2008 DNC events, welcomed students attending our Government Affairs & Public Policy Committee meetings, worked with Health Care for All Colorado, established our Sunset Review Task Force which included working with other nursing organizations in the community and offered continuing education events (both by CNA and with our DNA's). Our DNA's have been busy too! Two DNA's established blogs that focus on students and new graduates. Several of our DNA's have established scholarship funds and awarded them to nursing students. We have members who are active at the ANA national level with Carol O'Meara being selected for membership on the ANA By-Laws Committee and Sara Jarrett serving as chair of the ANA-PAC. Fran Ricker was asked to participate in the November 2008 ANA Constituent Assembly as a panel member on a NDNQI presentation. Vicki Carroll was the keynote speaker on Violence toward Nurses at the International Conference on Workplace Violence in Health Care in Amsterdam, Netherlands. It has been a year of changes and growth. The list goes on... these are but a few examples.

But we also want to look forward to 2009! Our early efforts with planning for special programs for New Graduates should be up and running early in the new year. The Legislative Latte programs may be expanded to additional sites. Annual CNA /DNA events held during the Legislative Session such as the 100 Nurses for 100 Legislators in January and the annual Legislative Dinner are planned activities. Membership and Marketing

Committee members are developing additional events designed to provide opportunities for nurses to gather/network in an enjoyable setting. We are initiating a new Affiliate Membership program that will provide opportunities for networking and support between organizations. Membership (retention as well as recruitment) is important for any membership driven organization. The Sunset of the Nurse Practice Act will require significant investment of time and other resources. Our efforts regarding the Sunset process have been in place during 2008. We want to see a Nurse Practice Act that will support the practice of nurses in Colorado for the years to come. Watch the Colorado Nurses Association website for current postings regarding the status of this important legislation. We may be asking you to write, email, or call your legislators regarding support for your practice.

I encourage you to:

- Be visible—tell people you are a nurse and be sure your workplace ID tag identifies you as a nurse.
- Be informed—know what is happening at not only the local level but at the national level regarding your practice.
- Be a mentor—newly graduated nurses need a mentor to support and guide them. You could do this!
- Be involved—membership in your professional organizations and participating in the activities they offer is rewarding and valuable.

If you are not a member of the Colorado Nurses Association, please take time to consider what the Colorado Nurses Association does for all Colorado nurses. Consider that nurses represent more members of the health care team than any other area of practice. Numbers speak. With your support/membership, we will be in a position to do more for all nurses in Colorado. Start the New Year out as a member of the organization that represents and works for the profession of nursing. We welcome new and returning members with convenient payment options and different levels of membership. We are inclusive and welcome graduates of all professional nursing programs and in all areas of practice. Try us... you'll like us!



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Colorado Nurses Association met bimonthly for eight months and included appointed members with diverse professional backgrounds.

The Task Force also solicited input from nurses that were not part of the task force to broaden their perspective. Some of the nurses which attended were nursing faculty, school nurses, advanced practice nurses, individual nurses, and several professional nursing organizations.

A strong philosophical perspective emerged in the ongoing discussions that identified a key organizational role for the association is the advocacy for a **professional nursing** model. The recommendations attempted to identify the optimal educational preparation of registered nurses and faculty, the importance of credentialing and competent practice, and the expectation for ongoing professional development for the registered nurse is an essential aspect of providing for the increasingly complex needs for nursing care of patients and populations.

A second underlying tenet supported by the association is the independence of nursing practice, under the authority of the Board of Nursing. Nursing practice is distinct from medical practice and should be regulated as an independent discipline.

Medical delegation is understood as a component of nursing and health care delivery. Scopes of practice overlap throughout health care. The importance of recognizing the value of each discipline in providing care, without limitation of practice but within limits of one's education is essential to development of an effective care model to meet future health care needs.

Colorado Nurses Association also strongly supported the role of the Advanced Practice Nurse as a critical provider of services in Colorado. Two of our associations' member districts are comprised of Advanced Practice Nurses—District 30—The Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses and District 31—The Colorado Society of Clinical Specialists in Psychiatric Nursing.

We share the philosophical framework in the hopes it may guide others to evaluate some of the recommendations that take place in the final report. It is important to also remember the final legislation has to regulate our practice for a long period of time into the future and should be descriptive, flexible, and address high quality safe practice.

Colorado Nurses Association made recommendations on the following general topics: Collaborative Agreement—Prescriptive Authority, Advanced Practice Registry—educational and certification requirements, minimum education of nursing faculty, Board of Nursing approval of nursing programs, educational preparation of registered nurses, accreditation of nursing programs, nursing delegation, discipline and review process, and on continuing education/competency evaluation for registered nurses.

Each nurse in Colorado has personal views on each of the topics. For Sunset—the recommendations should reflect what is in the best interests of the profession collectively and in protection of the public. Some of our recommendations were founded in trying to address complex issues for the profession such as the faculty nursing shortage. Thus, recommendations were made to ensure there were adequate numbers of nurses being prepared at the baccalaureate level. We also tried to identify what types of care and needs for care nurses would need to be prepared for in the future. In all recommendations, Colorado Nurses Association takes pride in setting consistent high standards for professional registered nurses in multiple roles.

We look forward to continued dialogue with individual nurses and with professional nursing organizations on the Sunset Legislation for 2009. Groups interested in hearing more about issues relating to Sunset can contact Colorado Nurses Association for a speaker from the Task Force to address your group. This will be a historic year for nursing. We encourage ALL nurses to be involved in defining their future. ♦

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statewide collaborative effort focused on nursing student clinical placements. The database now includes clinical settings from all across Colorado from Acute Care, Long-term Care, Long-term Acute Care, Hospice, Ambulatory Care, Public Health Departments, the Work Education and Life-long Learning (WELLS) Center (simulation), The Department of Corrections and to a Wellness-Prevention Organization. The database now provides us a “snap-shot” of the clinical placement

supply-demand needs and will be evidence for future solution-building.

As the Project Director for this grant it certainly would be my preference to be writing an article on how we had solved the crisis related to clinical placements as a result of implementing this database, but that is not the case. As hard as it may be to swallow, no database can magically find new clinical placement opportunities. This project has not provided the “quick fix” or “magic bullet” we had hoped for. Instead, the work of the last two years has provided us with much information and

has created a collaboration represented by both practice and education dedicated to finding the long-term solution.

So instead, I am writing to tell you the story of what we have discovered and share with you the progress we have made as a state to address our pipeline. And as you will see, it does “take a village” to make this progress and the nurse educators, clinical agencies, staff nurses and preceptors all over Colorado are to be commended for their work supporting nursing students.

The story begins once upon a time, back in 2003-2004 when our nursing shortage for Colorado was estimated at twice the national average. The projections for 2020 were even more frightening. We had an average annual number of approximately 900 nursing graduates from all pre-licensure programs (LPN, ADN, and BSN) and it was not nearly enough. As a result, there was a call-to-action requesting all the schools of nursing double their enrollments in an effort to help us maintain the level of shortage and keep it from getting worse.

In response, nursing programs began to be creative and offer many new options for nursing students. Accelerated and choice programs blossomed. Week-end, evening, and on-site programs in clinical setting became some of the options. Programs began multiple start times for their enrollments and began to shift to year-round programs. New proprietary programs began to open their doors, providing eight new schools since 2004.

At the same time, clinical practice was being challenged to meet new standards and guidelines for patient safety, privacy and quality in an environment where the patients/clients/residents were more acute, more complex and only approved to be in the facility for a limited time. Regulations were becoming more stringent creating a need to ensure the students could be responsive to these demands while in the clinical agency. Orienting students and obtaining all the necessary requirements (background checks, immunizations,

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etc.) added to the burden for both the schools and the agencies.

Even with all this, we adapted. As of 2007, the graduation rates now reveal we are graduating approximately 2,400 pre-licensure students each year, more than doubling our numbers in four years. The wait-lists for our nursing programs continue to be full with many prospective nurses interested in joining the profession. These numbers represent an amazing success and are cause for celebration. However, the numbers also help explain why clinical placements have become even more difficult for schools to secure. For the 900 graduates in 2003, based on the clinical hour requirements by the Colorado Board of Nursing, we needed the community to supply a total of approximately 350,000 hours to train these new nurses. Now, in order to support and sustain the clinical placements to graduate our current numbers we now require over 1,000,000 clinical hours a year.

Students are now in clinical settings seven-days a week and are scheduled on different shifts to meet these demands. In many acute care agencies, a staff nurse scheduled for 12 hour day shift could potentially be assigned as a resource for a student during the day shift and then work with a different student from a different school beginning at 3pm for the second shift. Clinical Agencies do not want to reduce the number of their student placements but are striving to ensure the balance needed to prevent staff fatigue.

Consequently, sustaining this number of clinical placements has become a focus of our efforts. We have recognized the need to seek new "out-of-the-box" clinical opportunities with the same level of rigor previously used to address this verses continuing to stress the already extended agencies if we expect to expand. Our focus of recruitment will be on the many settings where people now receive healthcare and nurses are part of the existing workforce, beyond acute care. With support from Central Colorado AHEC, we have collaborated to develop a set of tools to support

clinical agencies in this effort. To date we have supported 7 new clinical agencies as they have begun to shift their internal culture to accept and provide quality education-focused clinical experiences for nursing students. Templates have been developed to expedite the transition and represent the "best practices and standards" of our partners for contracts, student policies, orientation manuals and preceptor guides. It is our goal to provide a successful and quality experience in these settings from the beginning to create a win-win opportunity for the agency, schools, and students in the future.

Before going forward, we need to take a moment to pause and reflect on the individuals that have worked hard to double the number of graduates we now have. Let me begin with the students. Nursing students are our pipeline and our future. Many have been patiently on wait-lists for many years before ever being given an opportunity to begin. We need to recognize the commitment they make to the profession from early in their nursing program. The students of today are more and more diverse and represent several generations. Many are working and are juggling various different responsibilities such as parenting, caring for elder parents, etc, while trying to find time for their studies and the demands of the clinical hours. They learn quickly to adapt to the realities of our profession by completing their clinical on weekends, evenings, nights and for some, even holidays because that may be the only time they could complete their hours. The more we welcome them to the profession, the longer they may want to stay.

To the nursing students, *thank you* for your dedication and enthusiasm for learning and becoming a nurse. You have selected a noble profession that will allow you to make a difference. You challenge and teach us with your questions and perspective. Recognize the work of nursing is tough and requires you to be a competent and confident decision-maker when you are finished with school, so use your clinical experiences wisely. And, if along the way you are faced with a nurse that doesn't display the same

level of enthusiasm in return, remember that all nurses come to work each day with the intent to do a good job and provide the best patient care they can. Recognize the workload and commitment of the nurse to support your learning and meet the needs of their patients. Take time to acknowledge them and your faculty for their contribution to your education and you might just be able to ease their stress for the day!

A vital link to the success and quality of the clinical experience are the staff nurses and preceptors that provide support and resources for nursing students in the clinical setting. No longer is it "someone else's" responsibility to work with the students, the responsibility falls to all nurses to protect and support our profession. It is not just another "other duty as assigned" in our job description, but rather a part of our professional commitment to nursing. To the staff nurses and preceptors, *thank you* for paying it forward and being present for the students. Remember they are watching and learning from your every move. Even when you think they are not paying attention, they

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see your attitude and communication and expect you to be their role model. They emulate your reactions and skills. They strive to be independent and confident just like you. Their questions are intended to improve their understanding of a situation and not question you. Use every interaction with a student as an opportunity to show them the true art and science of nursing and how nurses impact the lives of their patients every day.

The many dedicated and committed Nurse Educators, Faculty, and Clinical Instructors are the advocates for the students and are often the watch dogs for our profession. They have not taken these roles for the money since the salaries are often less than their clinical colleagues, but rather for their passion and dedication to nursing education and the future of the profession. Their role, just like all in nursing is constantly evolving. They are learning and shifting from the teachers of the past that merely provided information to their students to the role of facilitators and educators of today that challenge critical and independent thinking and can adapt to the various learning and developmental levels of their students. Many of them are doing this while returning to school to obtain a higher degree themselves as a requirement for the schools accreditation and while working clinical jobs to maintain their skills. Their schedules are as fragmented as some of the clinical placements are where weekends and evenings have become the norm. To the Nursing Educators, Faculty and Clinical Instructors, *thank you* for sharing your expertise, patience and passion with our future nurses. You empower the students to strive for excellence and to use evidence and their assessment to make critical decisions. You practice with them skills to ensure safety and yet strive for quality. You take your responsibility seriously because you know the students in your classes are more than just individuals taking a class, but rather are the nurses of tomorrow.

And last but not least, is the recognition of the Clinical Agencies, Nurse Educators and Clinical Scholars from the organizations that support, advocate for and welcome nursing students. Thank

you for opening your doors and establishing a culture in your organization that supports and accepts education and students. The growth in the number of graduates would not have been possible without your commitment and willingness to accept and schedule more and more students. While you recognize students of today are your employees of tomorrow and are a vital part of your recruitment and succession planning, you go beyond your own needs to provide a significant contribution to our state with your community service and support of nursing education.

All these individuals and organizations have come together to reduce the nursing shortage. The partners for this project have begun to move the discussion to solutions verses just the quick fix to get us through today. We are developing standards and guidelines for best practice and communication and now have some tools in place to help simplify our work. Yet, we are not done. And with the risk of showing my age and conjuring an image of us all coming together to hold hands, it is really like the old Carpenter's song, "We've only just begun..." and now have a body of evidence to help us move in the right direction.

If you ever go home at night (or in the morning after a long shift) and wonder, "*what did I really do today? Did I make a difference? Did my work impact another human life today?*" I ask that you pause and reflect on what I have written here and recognize that if you have ever participated in working with a student, you have. I believe we have made tremendous progress in our state and we continue to do it one nursing student and one clinical placement at a time. I am proud to be a nurse in this state with such dedicated individuals working so hard to improve the care for all Coloradans. Let me close with the words shared with me at the end of a long course by one of my student's to demonstrate what a difference supporting student placements and our pipeline does make. "*I will be forever grateful for your guidance. You showed me how to "be" a nurse. You challenged me to think for myself and be a compassionate and caring to my patients, their families and my peers. You made a difference in my future and will go with me to touch the life of every patient I care for in the future.*"

A special acknowledgment of thanks to all the Clinical and Education Partners dedicated to the work of this project. Their in-kind contributions of time and resources has been key to the success of the collaboration.

Funding:

The two-year grant for the "Pilot Project" ended August 2008 and was funded by a Partner's Investing in Nursing (PIN) Grant. This grant is a collaborative effort between the Robert-Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation which required local matching

funds that were provided by the Colorado Health Foundation. The Central Colorado AHEC provided the initial technology licensing fees. Continued bridge funding is currently being provided by the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence and will be extended by a recent grant award by the Marquez Foundation.

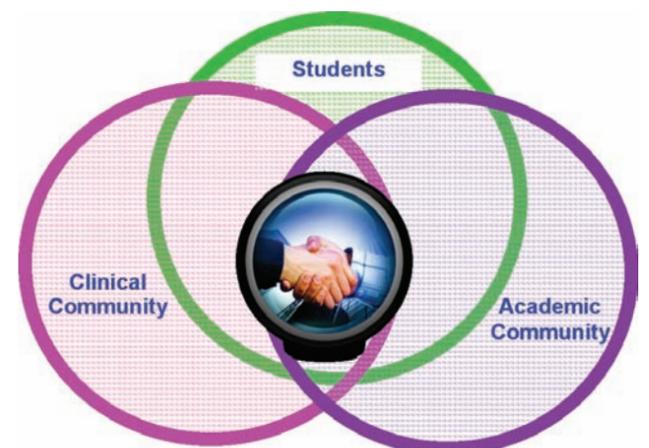
For More Information:

As we continue this work we are interested in recruiting additional "clinical sites" to the project and can provide resources to agencies with limited or no experience with students. Additionally, we are working on obtaining additional clinical sites for graduate nursing student practicum's to help support their placements. If you are an Advanced Practice Nurse that is willing to work with graduate students, please let us know. **If you are interested in joining this project or are just seeking more information, please contact Deb Center, Project Director at the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence 303-715-0343 or Deb@ColoradoNursingCenter.org.**

The web-based system is StudentMax™, designed and purchased from the Oregon Center for Nursing. For more information related to the platform, go to: <http://www.studentmax.org>. ♦



Clinical Placement Technology System Pilot Project



The above Model was designed by the Community Partners Sub-Committee to represent the Placement Project Partnership

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CNA also participated in planning meetings with stakeholders on SB 194—to implement collection of nursing sensitive measures to the Hospital Report Card System. New measures to be collected in Colorado will inform on the nursing workforce, on patient outcomes, and the nursing environment. In addition to patient outcome measures, Colorado will now collect data on nursing satisfaction, certification, and education. This data can also be used for further research.

For the first time, CNA partnered to produce a film with filmmakers (and nurses) Vicki Erickson and Sue Hagedorn on APNs in Colorado. The “Caring for Colorado” video continues to help educate on the four APN roles. Other states are now exploring options to produce their own video as a result of our effort.

Four APNs and one registered nurse nominated by CNA are now serving on the Scopes of Care Advisory Committee—part of Governor Ritter’s Building Blocks initiative. The committee will look at the evidence basis to support Advanced Practice Nursing Role and access issues. We offer support to the following nurses serving on the committee: Karen Tomky, Shirley McKenzie, Helen Lester, Barbara Hughes, and Douglas Warnecke. CNA also advocated for the inclusion of CNSs on the committee, which regrettably did not take place.

The Sunset Task Force met extensively this year to offer recommendations on Sunset of the Nurse Practice Act. Their recommendations are consistent with support for a strong professional nursing model and for high standards for preparation and credentialing of all nurses. They did not shirk or avoid hard issues for our profession, instead advocated for the optimal recommendations for a model to deliver quality care for the future.

Health Care Reform continues to be one of the pillar focuses for the association. CNAHCA, in conjunction with District 16, broke all previous records for educational attendance in hosting its

educational event in January. CNAHCA supported testimony and addressed strategy on health care related legislation, including SB 217, and a resolution which failed on universal health care. CNA participated in multiple stakeholder meetings and events on health care reform.

CNA through CNAHCA continues to refine its health care reform position and has a goal of setting actionable items to enable CNA to serve as a key participant in planning health care reform. Governor Ritter’s Building Blocks program was announced in 2008. Additional information on targeted health care reform will be coming with Building Blocks II this fall.

CNA continues to support strong requirements for credentialing of continuing education programs through its Approval Board Program. In addition, CNA hosted an educational venue to inform key stakeholders in Colorado on the new ANCC Competency credentialing program. CNA continues to be “at the table” on all competency, continuing education, and credentialing issues for nursing.

More and more, CNA’s perspective and opinions on issues for nursing are being solicited. Other issues we have participated in informing on this year include: Colorado statutes for physician signatures, inactive license status, Board of Nursing updates and rule changes, insurance requirements for APNs, disability wait lists, malpractice insurance legislation, disciplinary review process for RNs and APNs.....and many more.

In addition to our advocacy, the association is taking a critical look at its strategic direction and plan. Membership growth, communication strategies, and opportunities for strengthening our financial position are being evaluated. We are also trying to better identify members needs and interests. Special interest districts and affiliate membership are new strategies being implemented to bring in new members. ♦

Colorado State Board of Nursing



Updates from the July 30, 2008 Full Board Meeting

The State Board of Nursing is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Deborah Archuleta, RN and Mr. Curtis Powells, RN to the Board effective July 1, 2008. Ms. Archuleta replaces Ms. Sharon Pappas, RN, PhD, as the representative for nursing administration, and Mr. Powells replaces Ms. Vickie Broerman, RN, as the staff nursing representative. Also effective July 1, 2008, Governor Ritter reappointed Candace Berardinelli, PhD, RN, and Toni Gibbons, LPN to another three (3) year term. Mr. Dennis Kaw, JD, resigned from the Board and the Board is actively searching for another public member to replace him.

Program Director Mark Merrill and Carolynn Jefferson-Jenkins, PhD, attended the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Annual Delegate Assembly which took place in Nashville, Tennessee during the week of August 4th through the 8th. Director Merrill and Dr. Jefferson-Jenkins had the opportunity to participate in various business meetings and presentations covering a broad range of topics relating to nursing regulation with other state Board of Nursing representatives. Director Merrill and Dr. Jefferson-Jenkins also attended the 30th Anniversary Gala for NCSBN.

The Division of Registrations and the State Board of Nursing are currently in the process of implementing HB 08-1383, which creates an inactive licensure status for Colorado licensed Registered Nurses and Practical Nurses. The implementation will be completed by January 1, 2009. Those licensees seeking to place their licenses in an "inactive status" will be able to do so effective January 1, 2009. Preliminary information regarding inactive status will be available on the Board of Nursing web site: <http://www.dora.state.co.us/nursing> by mid-September.

At the last quarterly Full Board meeting held on July 30, 2008, the Board adopted proposed changes to the *Chapter I—Rules and Regulations for the Licensure of Practical and Professional Nurses* creating a limit to the number of times applicants may sit for the NCLEX licensure examination in the state of Colorado. The Board also clarified the process for demonstrating English proficiency when the applicant was trained in a non-English speaking education institution.

The Board also adopted new rules, *Chapter VII—Initial Decisions and Related Matters* which sets forth the procedures relating to the filings of exceptions and review of initial decisions that

are issued by the Office of Administrative Courts following a formal disciplinary hearing.

The Board also adopted *Chapter XVI—Duty to Report Felonies*, which establishes the requirements for licensees to report felony convictions to the Board.

All of the rules will become effective October 1, 2008 and will be posted on the Board's web site: <http://www.dora.state.co.us/nursing>

The Board also approved changes to Board Policies: 10-03 Continuing Competency Requirements for Practical and Professional Nurses, 10-05 English Competency Requirements, 10-07 (Formerly 60-01) Clarification of the four (4) month statutory certification exemption and the term "denied" as used in section 12-38.1-117(1)(d), C.R.S. pertaining to Certified Nurse Aides, 20-22 Delegation of authority to the Program Director or designee to process and resolve violations involving practice on expired licenses or expired certificates for nurses, nurse aides, and psychiatric technicians, and Policy 40-02 Delegated Authority. These policy revisions are currently posted on the Board of Nursing web site: <http://www.dora.state.co.us/nursing>

Ms. Kathy Apple, MS, RN, Chief Executive Officer and Ms. Kristin Hellquist, MS, Director of Policy and Governmental Relations for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) attended the July 30, 2008 Full Board meeting and presented to the Board and public attendees a brief history of the NCSBN and information pertaining to current legislative trends in nursing at the state and national level.

Due to a change in statute, the Board was required to initiate a Request for Proposal (RFP), solicit bids and award a contract to the selected vendor for the Nursing Peer Health Assistance/Nurse Alternative to Discipline Program. Peer Assistance Services, Inc (PAS) was awarded this contract, which went into effect on July 1, 2008. The Chief Executive Officer of PAS, Ms. Elizabeth Pace, MSM, RN, CEAP, gave a short presentation at the July 30, 2008 Full Board meeting regarding the transition of services from Colorado Nurse Health Program (CNHP) the Board's former provider, to PAS, and Ms. Pace also introduced her staff members to the Board and public attendees.

The next regularly scheduled Full Board meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 22, 2008. Rulemaking Hearings originally scheduled for the July 30, 2008 Full Board meeting for Chapter XIV and Chapter XV Rules regarding Advanced Practice nursing have been rescheduled and re-noticed for the October 22, 2008 Full Board meeting. ♦

Invitation to Professional Nursing Organizations: Colorado Nurses Association Affiliate Membership

by Fran Ricker, RN, MSN—Executive Director

Is there an effective way to bring professional nursing organizations together to identify areas of mutual concern, to respond collectively when congruent on an issue or recommendation, and to leverage the resources available for political advocacy? The services of a lobbyist are paramount in effectively navigating state legislative issues. Many nursing organizations do not have access to a lobbyist. For those that do, are there ways to maximize our resources when support for a critical issue is needed?

Communication between and among nursing is also a critical concern relating to developing a mechanism to bring nursing organizations together. Sunset of the Nurse Practice Act in 2009 will define the role and practice of nursing for the next ten to fifteen years. This is exactly the type of issue nursing needs to "come together" to discuss and address. It is for this type of issue which our methods for communicating between organizations needs to be effective, timely, and rapidly disseminated.

Several states have managed to establish effective nursing "Congresses" or "Organizational Affiliate Programs" to strengthen their nursing advocacy efforts. Pennsylvania has an effective "Congress" that was established through the State Nursing Association's effort. Frameworks to do this at a state level in some states are now being used to set up "Regional" nursing meetings between states.

Legislators may be confused by the many different specialty organizations in nursing. In states that have a mechanism to convene nursing groups, policymakers are able to go to one source to seek nursing endorsement or to solicit concerns on issues.

I fear that at the present time, legislative advocacy for many nursing organizations has been at the rudimentary level of just managing to stay informed on issues. To effectively advocate for nursing our involvement has to be more participatory and active. We also need to proactively effect change for nursing, not just respond to "threats" as a profession.

Staff nurses face many critical issues in their workplace. How can each of our nursing organizations bring understanding and focus on the issues faced in direct care? What are the common themes on this issue between different practice associations?

Health care reform is also an issue that is "begging" for the perspective of nursing. There is much that nurses know that informs such a critical issue. Are there ways to "pool" from our diverse nursing backgrounds and knowledge to create a better system for the future? Is there common ground between nursing groups that could help guide a starting point for action by NURSING?

Colorado Nurses Association is establishing an Affiliate Membership Option for professional nursing organizations that would be interested participating in the establishment of an effective collective nursing advocacy entity in Colorado. Colorado Nurses Association will create an affiliate member category with the goal of convening upcoming group meetings. The Board of Directors of the Colorado Nurses Association will develop guidelines for the structure and operations for this membership category.

The annual fee for the Affiliate Membership will be \$150 per year. Please see the application form in this edition. This will entitle the organizational affiliate to have one member on the Colorado Nurses Association Affiliate Member Assembly. It is anticipated that there would be periodic meetings of the Affiliate Members to identify mutual concerns, to collectively support where there is mutual agreement, and to strategize between professional organizations on nursing

Invitation to Professional Nursing continued from page 8

priority issues. Affiliate members will also benefit by receiving notifications on urgent legislative issues. Affiliate members have to:

1. Meet criteria established by the Colorado Nurses Association Board of Directors and shall include but not be limited to:
 - a. Maintain a mission and purpose harmonious with the purpose and functions of the Colorado Nurses Association.
 - b. Have bylaws that do not conflict with Colorado Nurses Association bylaws.
 - c. Be comprised of registered nurses and have a governing body composed of registered nurses.
 - d. Pay the nominal annual fee.

If your organization would like an application mailed for Affiliate Membership, please contact Deb Trujillo at dtrujillo@nurses-co.org. For more specific information on benefits or direction of this program, please contact Fran Ricker at Tel 303-757-5049. ♦

APN VIDEO: Caring for Colorado

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____
(Optional)

Are You A CNA Member Yes: _____ No: _____

Price per APN Video \$17.00

Total Number of Videos: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____
Cash or Check

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER!

Please make checks payable to Colorado Nurses Association (CNA)

Please send to:
Debbie Trujillo
1221 S. Clarkson St. #205
Denver, CO 80222



Affiliate Member Application

Name of Organization _____

Name of Contact Person and Role _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone _____

Annual Membership Fee is **\$150 per year**. Please submit payment by check or submit the following information for payment processing:

_____ Check Enclosed
_____ Visa or MasterCard

Name on Credit Account _____

Signature _____

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ Card Security Code _____

General Information Please provide information on your organization's core purpose or mission and on membership criteria. Are all members of the organization registered nurses? _____ Membership status is subject to Colorado Nurses Association Board of Director's criteria and approval.

For further information on this organizational membership category, please contact Fran Ricker, Executive Director at 303-757-5049 or email franricker@nurses-co.org.

Nominations for the 2009 Nightingale Awards

The Colorado Nurses Foundation (CNF), sponsor of the Nightingale Event, and the Nightingale Statewide Selection Committee encourage your nominations of candidates for the **24th Annual Nightingale Awards**. The prestigious awards will be presented **Saturday, May 9, 2009** at a banquet dinner in Denver. The Nightingale Awards event was founded in 1985 to honor nurses who best exemplify the philosophy and practice of Florence Nightingale, a 19th century nursing pioneer.

Registered nurses throughout Colorado are nominated by solicitation from the Colorado Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) and the Colorado Springs and Western Slope committees. Fifteen finalists will be selected by the six regions and forwarded to the Statewide Selection Committee, who determines the recipients.

- Nominees must be a registered nurse (RN) currently practicing in Colorado or retired from practice in Colorado.
- Nominee may have been previously nominated and/or a finalist but may not be a previous recipient.
- Nominations must be postmarked by **Friday, January 9, 2009**.

All nominees will be honored at one of six regional events around the state.

The Colorado Nurses Foundation will dedicate funds raised from the event for scholarships and educational activities for nurses throughout the state of Colorado. **Kim Christiansen** of Channel 9NEWS in Denver will return as master of ceremonies for the May 9, 2009 program. **David Kearns** of Denver will serve as Chair of the 2009 Nightingale event.

Nomination forms are available at the local Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) or at www.coloradonursesfoundation.org. ♦

ANA Hosts Event at Democratic National Convention

SILVER SPRING, MD—The American Nurses Association (ANA), in association with The Creative Coalition, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA), American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), American Health Care Association (AHCA), National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL), and AARP, hosted a special town hall meeting during the Democratic National Convention to discuss vital health care issues.

The event entitled "From Hollywood to the Hill: Speak Out on Health Care—If I Had One Minute with the Next President" brought together

professionals from the fields of health care, policy, media, and entertainment to share ideas and views on health system reform.

Over 40 different national and international media outlets covered the event which was attended by several members of the U.S. House and Senate as well as state and local elected officials from across the country. Nurses who also serve as delegates were in attendance. The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and the Colorado Nurses Association attended and provided volunteer support. ♦



Colorado Nurses Association at Hard Rock DNC Event: L to R, Marion Thornton, President Eve Hoygaard, Mary Kerschner, Dale Colfack, Fran Ricker, and Tay Kopanos.



Volunteers and Attendees Hard Rock Event: L to R, Mary Kerschner, Mary Pat DeWald, Tay Kopanos, Fran Ricker, Diane Dean, and President Eve Hoygaard.

UCD to Offer Health Certificate on Domestic Violence

Though nearly every major medical and nursing association in the country urges or mandates training and the development of agency protocols related to intimate partner violence for its members, no medical or nursing school in the nation provides a comprehensive education program on the topic. To address this issue, the Center on Domestic Violence at the University of Colorado Denver plans to launch a **Certificate in Interpersonal Violence and Health Care** in the spring of 2009. The goal of the certificate is to train doctors, nurses, and other health providers as health advocates for victims of domestic violence. These individuals will serve as a catalyst for new protocols, guidelines, and best-practices at hospitals, clinics and private doctor's offices across Colorado to improve domestic violence services. Conveniently structured for distance learners, the majority of course work is administered through brief intensive periods of study in Denver. Interpersonal violence is one of our nation's greatest public health problems resulting in approximately 100,000 days of

hospitalization, 28,700 emergency room visits and 39,900 visits to a physician annually. Information about the certificate is available online at www.domesticviolence.ucdenver.edu.

To launch this exciting new academic program, the Center on Domestic Violence is hosting a three day conference December 7-9 in Denver titled the **Colorado Regional Conference on the Health Care Response to Domestic Violence**. Its purpose is to draw attention to, and prepare healthcare providers for the critical role they can play in assisting victims of domestic violence. The conference is sponsored by a grant from Kaiser Permanente. Health care workers and victim service providers from across Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Kansas and Nebraska are expected to attend. The keynote speaker will be Jackie Campbell, a nationally-acclaimed expert on the healthcare response to interpersonal violence. Information about the conference is available online at www.ucdenver.edu/domesticviolence/conference or call the Center at 303-315-2489. ♦

Teresa J. Sakraida Named a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholar

New national program seeks to advance careers of talented junior nursing faculty

AURORA, Colo. (Sept. 10, 2008)—Teresa J. Sakraida, RN, PhD, MS, MEd, an assistant professor in the University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing, was one of 15 junior faculty nationwide to receive an inaugural Robert Wood Johnson Foundation *Nurse Faculty Scholar* award. The three-year, \$350,000 grant began on September 1.



Teresa Sakraida

The award will support her research to test whether patients with type 2 diabetes and stage 3 chronic kidney disease who self-manage their conditions by following a tailored behavioral education and counseling intervention have improved health outcomes, quality of life, and glycemic control compared with similar patients who do not follow this behavioral education and counseling intervention.

The award will also support Sakraida's participation in a training program that will help prepare her for academic leadership and translating evidence into policy and practice initiatives.

"I hope to use this generous support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to enhance my skills as an academic leader and nurse scientist by studying the effectiveness of a self-management intervention in chronic illness," said Sakraida.

Her faculty mentors for this research are Paula Meek, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and senior scholar, University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing, and Tomas Berl, MD, professor of medicine and head, Division of Renal Diseases and Hypertension, Department of Medicine, UC Denver School of Medicine.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for an intensive launch of Dr. Sakraida's program of research," said Patricia Moritz, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean and professor of the UC Denver College of Nursing. "Her long-term interest in assisting those with chronic conditions to use innovative strategies to manage care is timely as the population ages and the numbers of those with chronic illnesses rises. This award represents the work Dr. Sakraida has put into the development of this strategy."

Dr. Sakraida was the recipient of the 2007 Chancellor's Teaching Recognition award. She received a Sigma Theta Tau International Small Grant and the Western Institute of Nursing Best Poster in 2006. While at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing, she received the

Provost's Diversity fellow recognition and the Nursing's Excellence in Planning and Technology in the University Network Environment award.

The goal of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholars program is to develop the next generation of national leaders in academic nursing through career development awards for outstanding junior nursing faculty. The program aims to strengthen the academic productivity and overall excellence of nursing schools by providing mentorship, leadership training, salary and research support to young faculty.

Despite a rise in applicants, U.S. nursing schools turn away thousands of prospective students from baccalaureate and master's programs because of an acute shortage of faculty and clinical preceptors, training sites, space and funding constraints. Since the stature of nursing schools and the promotion of nursing faculty are dependent on the quality of the nursing faculty's scholarly and/or research pursuits, the Nurse Faculty Scholars program seeks to strengthen the link between institutional reputation and faculty success by providing career development and other opportunities to junior faculty.

With a large number of faculty nurses set to retire soon, the Nurse Faculty Scholars program also aims to encourage junior nurse faculty to continue on in their roles as educators.

The program is administered by the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. Jacquelyn C. Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Anna D. Wolf, chair and professor in the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, direct the program. For more information, please go to: www.nursefaculty.com.

About University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing

Located at the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colo., the University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing offers some of the highest ranked programs in the country—from bachelor's through doctoral degrees and post-graduate certificate programs. The college offers several specialties through its master's program and the only Ph.D. program in clinical research in Colorado. It also is the birthplace of nurse practitioner education and the caring movement, and was one of the first schools in the country to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice program. This year, U.S. News & World Report ranked the UC Denver College of Nursing nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist programs among the top

ten in the country. For more information, visit the UC Denver Newsroom.

About The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 35 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org. ♦

Colorado Nurses Association District and Committee Reports

GAPP—Government Affairs and Public Policy Committee

Holidays and New Year's... it is a time when we reflect on where we have been and where we'd like to go. The last year has seen the successful passage of FIVE nurse specific bills, formation of several Governors' Health Care Task Force groups, and the introduction of multiple public health policies that the Colorado Nurses Association and GAPP members have had the opportunity to inform and shape.

5 Nurse Specific Bills:

Senate Bill 188: Concerning The Establishment Of A Pilot Program For Colorado Hospitals To Collaborate With Direct-Care Nurses In Order To Model Professional Nursing Practice Involvement In Issues Of Importance To Nursing. CNA had a key leadership role in the passage of this legislation. Currently there is a Governor's Task Force (with a CNA representative) working on the implementation of this pilot that will help create better care environments.

Senate Bill 196: Concerning the Inclusion of Nursing-Sensitive Quality Measures in the Comprehensive Hospital Information System. This legislation identifies nursing sensitive measures for inclusion in the Hospital Report Card reporting system.

House Bill 1060 Concerning The Procedure For Determining Whether An Advanced Practice Nurse Will Be Granted Participating Provider Status for a Health Plan. This new law signals a way for increased patient care access to primary care by providing a mechanism for Advance Practice Nurses to apply for insurance credentialing and empanelment on health care plans.

House Bill 1061 Concerning Signatures by APNs on Specified Documents Within The Scope Of An APN. This new law, that takes effect on January 1st, removes barriers that patients have encountered when needing documentation of care. This new law will remove the barriers to "treating the paperwork" that accompanies patient care that APNs have provided.

House Bill 1094 Concerning Reimbursement For APN Services in Medicaid. Effective July 2008, this new law provides for the full compliment of APNs, regardless of specialty, to credential with the Colorado Medicaid Services and open new channels to health care access.

Governor's Task Force: SCOPES OF CARE: Three CNA member nurses sit on this group to represent the APN and patient communities on rural and underserved population barriers to health care provider access.

As Colorado Nurses look to the New Year and the Sunset of the Nurse Practice Act, members of the GAPP committee are here with you. We have

been actively working to promote Nursing and what RNs bring to the health care system and our patients. We have been sharing your stories, the struggles your patients are facing, and your ideas to improve care delivery. We resolve to continue our commitment in the next year. Please join with us as we move forward in 2009.

- 100 Nurses for 100 Legislators
Annual Legislative Conference and Training
Saturday, January 17th
Tentative Location: Regis University
- LegLatte
Monthly Legislative and Policy Forum
3rd Saturday of each month from 8:30-10:00 AM
Starbucks at Tamarac Mall (Tamarac and Hampden)
- GAPP Committee Meetings
2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 6:00–8:00 PM
(during legislative session)
Colorado Nurses Association office
- Watch the CNA website and make sure that CNA has your current email for up-to-date legislative news.
"Thank you for your efforts in making 2008 a successful year for RNs advocating for health care system improvements. We look forward to 2009 and the results that we can achieve as we continue to work together".
Respectfully submitted,
Tay Kopanos
GAPP Chair

CNAHCA Report

Colorado Nurses for Access to Health Care for All

As we go to press, the CNAHCA committee is preparing a draft *Proposal for Action* to be submitted to the 2008 CNA House of Delegates at our annual convention. Susan Foster from Alamosa is taking the lead in formulating this document which will outline our goals for the year to come. *ANA's Health Care Agenda 2005* remains the cornerstone document for the development of our state agenda. We believe that health care is a basic human right. We affirm our support for a restructured health care system that ensures universal access to a standard package of essential health care services for all residents. To this end,

we will continue to provide testimony at the legislature and public hearings as appropriate.

Like our parent organization we believe that we, as professional nurses, need to actively participate in the development and implementation of health policies that reflect the Institute of Medicine's aim of safe, effective, efficient, patient-oriented and equitable care. This includes a shift in focus toward more adequate primary care including the increasing utilization of advanced practice nurses in the primary care setting. This concept ties directly with the CNA Sunset Task Force where CNA protects and advocates the full scope of nursing practice, including advanced practice nurses, in Colorado. It is important that we educate the professional nurses in our state about

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the critical advocacy function of this organization on their behalf. There is strength in numbers. We encourage you to actively participate in any of these vital functions. These issues have far reaching implications for all of us both personally and professionally.

Another important goal is to facilitate an event to promote direct interaction between nurses and elected officials and we look forward to continuing our involvement in the *100 Nurses for 100 Legislators* Program. Remember that surveys indicate we are one of the most "trusted" health care providers, and decision makers take our opinions seriously.

Finally, we appreciate the magnitude of the challenge we face in attempting to reform something so complex as our current health care delivery system. Our decision to focus on health care reform as a convention topic reflects that appreciation. We wanted to focus on the future and be respectful of the challenges we face as we address untenable escalating costs and increasing fragmentation of services. Currently one half of all personal bankruptcies in our country are due to medical costs. We continue to commit ourselves to the idea that all our citizens are entitled to affordable, quality health care services.

We are offering speakers and educational programs for any district making such a request. The Colorado Progressive Coalition (www.progressivecoalition.org) has produced an 18 minute video based on the stories of four Colorado families struggling with securing health care. This, and other information, can be made available to you for District meetings or other programs. You are welcome to contact me for more information: Carol Farina at Peoplecnxn@comcast.net.

This is a critical period in our country and if you have any interest in these matters we welcome you to any of our meetings at 6:00 PM on the first Tuesday of every month.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Farina, Co-chair with Judith Burke)

Nursing Practice and Professional Issues (NPPI) 2008

The Nursing Practice and Professional Issues (NPPI) committee is about workplace issues and advocacy in the workplace. The American Nurses Association (ANA) defined the term workplace advocacy as "an array of activities which will be initiated to address the many and varied employment and workplace challenges nurses face on a daily basis" (ANA Board of Directors, 1991). NPPI works to promote improved working conditions by addressing the growing number of occupational hazards that threaten nurses such as violence, muscle and skeletal safety, needle sticks, safe staffing and more.

Members from around the state of Colorado, including but not limited to, Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Durango, Steamboat Springs and Evergreen have participated in meetings throughout the year via conference calls with some folks, including students, meeting at the CNA office.

The Professional Portfolio was discussed as a method for credentialing advanced practice nurses whose specialties do not provide a certification. Business meetings included addressing the Clinical Practice Guidelines and Collaboration for APNs and MDs, Position Statements on medication administration, the Sunset Task Force and recommendations, and the upcoming Sunset Review of the Nurse Practice Act scheduled for January of 2009. Other issues brought forward included discussion of the disciplinary complaint and review process for APNs and RNs. NPPI members were charged with finding additional supporting rational and evidence.

Vicki Carroll will be giving the keynote presentation on Violence Towards Nurses at the International Conference on Workplace Violence in the Healthcare Sector in Amsterdam, October 22-24th, 2008. The International Council of Nurses

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(ICN) is one of the sponsors, along with Sigma Theta Tau International.

The members of NPPI have been hard at work and are to be commended for their research and dedication to the profession of nursing. NPPI is committed to informing the membership and Colorado nurses about our activities and developing the resources that will make every effort to meet the needs of all nurses working in Colorado.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Mary Pat DeWald RN, MSN, MPA, APN
NPPI Chair

Membership & Marketing Report

The Membership and Marketing Committee set a goal of increasing membership by 10% in 2007-2008. We studied trends in generational lifestyles and demographics and sought input from student nurses and non-members. Last year's initiative to offer an option for State Only membership set the stage for a new wave of "out of the box" thinking. This year we pursued several new initiatives.

The first was to offer special interest nursing districts. We are investigating offering membership to members of other nursing specialty groups.

The third area of growth focuses on special events. These would include Nurses Night at the Rockies and other entertainment venues, activist events focused on a cause or relief work, and outings like hiking or snowshoeing where nurses can enjoy Colorado together.

Eve Hoygaard led several student and new grad events. Students that attended the "100 Nurses for 100 Legislators" event were sent follow up surveys and invited to the monthly "Legislative Latte," an informal gathering of nurses to discuss

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current legislative issues at a local coffee shop. Eve attended the Colorado Student Nurses Association Convention and CNA had an exhibit table. One student was given a free CNA membership for the New Grad rate. Jo Ruth, Board Liaison to the CSNA, met with presidents of the CSNA chapters over lunch. Bret Lyman was also present and is working on recruitment of CSNA members into CNA after graduation.

Our “out of the box” discussions were spurred by some excerpts Fran Ricker shared from the book “7 Measures of Success” on being a member-driven organization, as follows:

- a. A Customer Service culture is built on structures, processes and interactions that are customer-focused.
- b. Don't do anything without asking the customer for input.
- c. In order to build a customer service culture there must be no fear of failure. The group must be willing to experiment.
- d. Timely communication is dependent on frequent e-mail bulletins—not occasional newsletters.
- e. Personal contact is a must—especially with younger generation.

Nurses Night at the Rockies was a huge success—selling out early and providing a great opportunity for nurses to relax and have fun together. Quite a few people invited non-CNA members. Many thanks to Mary Kershner for all her efforts in organizing and promoting Nurses

Night at the Rockies.

We have a number of ideas for events in the coming year. We have been using a phone conference line to enable greater participation in our meetings to members that do not live in the Denver area. If you have ideas you'd like to share with us, please e-mail or call the CNA office.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacie Seaman, Chair

District 4 Report

DNA 4 met at Colorado State University-Pueblo, Department of Nursing. Present were: Linda Skoff, Lori Rae Hamilton, Joe Franta, Dr. Barbara Sabo, Dr. Melva Steen, Pat Good, Nancy Van Etten, Nancy Whetzel, Karen de la Cruz, and Chantelle Benally (guest).

Linda Skoff, President, called the meeting to order. Nancy Whetzel read the minutes of the March meeting, which were approved. New state members were announced: Dr. Mary Kontz, Eleanor Sanchez, and Verna Hauner.

Scholarship Committee Report:

Nancy Whetzel distributed copies of the scholarship criteria and information from last spring for review and suggestions from members.

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*Reports continued from page 15***New Business:**

Lori Rae Hamilton, Vice President, reported on the Center for American Nursing. Lori presented information about her recent trip to Washington, D.C. to the C.A.N. national meeting. She explained ANA's efforts to divest from the union arm of the organization. C.A.N. has made major contributions to workforce safety through policies on lifting patients and nurse fatigue. Colorado Nurse Association will decide whether to fund CAN or if individuals may choose to do so by a separate membership. The ANA focus would continue to be that of supporting legislative issues. Lori Rae encouraged members to read more on the ANA website.

DNA 4 has nominated the following members for awards at the state convention: Judith Frankenburger (Hall of Fame), Lori Rae Hamilton (Virginia Paulson Award), and Nancy Whetzel (DNA Nurse of the Year).

Melva Steen, a member of the state nominating committee, read the duties for the open positions for CNA—Vice President (2 yr term), Treasurer (2 yr term), Board of Directors: Region 2 (1 position) and Member at Large (1 position). There is a one-year position open on the Nominating Committee and one open position on the Council on Collective Bargaining. Lori Rae plans to run for the Region II Board of Director position.

Pat Good, a member of the state membership committee, reported that the committee is planning to recognize new Internet District members in some way at the convention. Breakfast and nametag indicators are ways they may be recognized. The Internet District is one membership option in CNA.

The following meetings/programs for 2008-09 were discussed and approved:

Sept 15, Dinner at La Renaissance Restaurant, Chinese Auction Fund Raiser. Order from menu. 6:30 PM

Oct 20th, CSU Pueblo, R220. View new DVD about NP's and discuss votes for Convention. 6:30 PM

Nov 17th, Rawling's Library Meeting Room. Convention report, plan Christmas party and receive names for gifts for Pueblo S.E.T. clients. Plans: Invite PCC to present some aspect of their nursing program. 6:30 PM

Dec. 15, Christmas Dinner Party at Dorothy DeNiro's, 6:00 PM. Collect Pueblo S.E.T. gifts

Feb 10, Review Scholarship application plan and legislation. Program: Financial Planning for Nurses. CSU-Pueblo, R220, 6:30 PM

Mar 14, Saturday. La Junta—Demonstration of the Mobile Simulation Unit at Otero Junior College Nursing Program at 10:00 AM. Lunch at the Hogs Breath Cafe.

April 18th Luncheon at the Country Club. Presentation on local nurse's Mission Trip to Latin America.

Nancy Whetzel introduced the evening's guest speaker, Karen de la Cruz, Assistant Professor of Nursing, and Colorado State University-Pueblo. Karen presented an interesting and entertaining program on "The Development of Nursing in the Western U.S. and Later Years."

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Skoff, RN
President DNA 4

District 6 Report San Luis Valley

During Nurses Week, DNA 6 members hosted a Tea in the atrium of the San Luis Valley Regional

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Medical Center. A photo display of “nurses in action” at work and home was highlighted by a collection of old nursing caps.

In mid-July, many DNA 6 members, *the Nightingale Nomads*, participated in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life event. There were over 700 participants in this year’s SLV event. The local SLV event raised an approximate total of \$50,000 for the organization.

DNA 6 San Luis Valley Nightingale Committee is now providing Adams State College nursing students’ with scholarships for mission trips to Honduras. This will be an opportunity for nursing students to perform outreach services to a population in need of health care while completing their service learning requirements for nursing school.

Many DNA 6 members are also members of Adams State College Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society of Nursing. Its membership continues to steadily grow since its inception last year. We are preparing for our next meeting in December.

DNA 6 continues to discuss fundraising projects to provide the means to give back to our nursing community. Membership recruitment efforts also continue. Several members are currently seeking higher education within nursing. Louise Sowards graduated in May with her Master’s degree as a CNS with an emphasis in palliative care. Amanda Jojola is currently enrolled in a DNP program and Shawn Elliott has recently applied to a DNP program. Helen Lester is pursuing her Master’s degree. Not only is Helen moving forward with her education, but as the guest speaker at Trinidad State Junior College Nursing Pinning in August, she also inspired nursing graduates to follow suit.

Many members continue to serve on various advisory committees and boards of our local health care facilities to assure nursing representation within our community. They are also members of local, state, and national organizations. Sue Foster

continues to serve with the ANA Congress on Nursing Practice and Economics Organization.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Jojola RN, FNP, MSN
President DNA 6

District 8 Report

District 8 had a year when we enjoyed events that have become cherished traditions as well as many changes. We started the year with a wonderful representation at the CNA Convention with a full slate of delegates.

In October, we enjoyed a presentation by Molly Wright, Cardiac Nurse Educator at North Colorado Medical Center, on the award-winning Cardiac Alert Program. The Cardiac Alert Program is a partnership between the Cardiovascular Institute and Weld County Ambulance Service that has resulted in a remarkable median door-to-balloon time for STEMI patients of 64 minutes during business hours and 69 minutes after hours. “Time is muscle” so the patient outcomes are remarkable.

Among the traditional events we participated in was the Blessing of Hands event at North Colorado Medical Center in partnership with the Chaplains and other volunteers in December and May. In May we bid farewell to our faithful Secretary of many years, Karen Thompson, and welcomed a new member, Robert Lovett, to the position. We also celebrated Nurses Week by awarding four scholarships to nursing students at the University of Northern Colorado. Funding was provided by proceeds from the 2007 Garden Tour sponsored by UNC School of Nursing Faculty Emeritus and Colorado Nurses Association members.

- Kim Hartmann has completed the second semester in the School of Nursing and is a member of the National Student Nurses Association. She was a nurse intern at National Jewish Medical and Research Center last summer and participated in the UNC Relay for Life.

Reports continued on page 18



The Ninth Annual Legislative Connection Dinner

Sponsored by
**District 16 & 20 Nurses
Associations & Public Health
Nurses Association of
Colorado**

**SAVE THE DATE:
THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 26, 2009**

Legislators & Nurses Working Together
– Nurse Practice Act Sunset Review
– Healthcare Issues & Legislation

SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER

1370 Grant St., Denver 80203

Registration & Wine Reception 5:00pm
Welcome & Legislator Introductions 5:30pm
Dinner & Program 6:00-8:00pm

**~Watch for Registration
in December!~**

Reports continued from page 17

- Joan Parrish graduated in August of 2009. She has worked as a Certified Nurse's Assistant at Poudre Valley Hospital and volunteered for the UNC Relay for Life and served on a medical mission trip to Honduras.
- Hebah Refaat graduated and completed her fourth semester in the School of Nursing. She is a member of the nursing honor society Sigma Theta Tau and volunteered at the 9 Health Fair. She plans to work in the Emergency Department at North Colorado Medical Center and pursue graduate degrees in a few years.
- Leah Schichtel graduated in August 2008. She is also a member of Sigma Theta Tau and has worked for Home Health Care Professionals and The Medical Center of Aurora. Leah has many family members in the health care field and she plans to follow the family tradition of compassion by serving the uninsured population.

Poor attendance at many of our events prompted a re-thinking of how we operate. We are focusing on addressing the needs and interests of busy nurses and especially the emerging generation of nurses. We are moving toward an online community and we've re-designed our website to serve as the hub for connection and communication. <http://www.colorado-nurses-dna8.org/>

In March we supported the teams led by student nurses at the University of Northern Colorado Relay for Life event. We handed out "Future Nurse" buttons and juice boxes as they raised thousands of dollars for cancer research. In April we hosted a Moderated Blog focused on new graduate nurse issues. Blog authors Stacie Seaman, Bret Lyman, Teri Egan and Diane York contributed articles on "How to be Happy," "Legislation and Nursing Practice," "The Power of Nurse Mentors," and "I'm Graduating from Nursing School Soon. How Do I..." We had a Blogging Party where the authors responded to comments from students. We learned a lot and came up with some ideas for improvement during our next Blog Event.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacie Seaman
President DNA 8

District 16 Report Denver Metro

In May we held our annual meeting at the new and much improved Children's Hospital with special thanks to Darla Van Essen who was the hostess. Those who attended had a brief tour of the facility, and I was told it was a great hit.

Over the summer a number of our members did a bit of traveling to see friends and family, but probably not nearly as exciting as the trip Mary Kershner and CJ Cullinan took. They attended the annual ANA convention in Washington D.C. It was a much drier time this year, no rain. I think a city gearing up for national conventions has to be better or not!

We, along with most of the nation, are now gearing up for a busy fall with this being an election year. So we started off with our annual Wine and Wade at Mary Kershner's. The main topic of discussion was the upcoming Democratic National Convention which was touched upon briefly. Several members were planning to attend some of the events surrounding the DNC. Of course, the Colorado Nurses Association annual convention held on November 7th & 8th is something to look forward to, also.

We are also in the process of planning programs for the upcoming year with one date to save and keep open—February 26th—for the annual legislative connection dinner. More info to follow.

I would like to take this time to acknowledge all of our members who are active within the organization as well as outside. Mary Kershner continues to volunteer at Samaritan House, CJ Cullinan, among other things, was involved with the Governors' Task Force, Judy Burke and Sara Jarrett with GAPP, and Chris Schmidt's continued involvement with Health Care for All Colorado. Darla Van Essen is on the Finance Committee, Mary Lambert and Mary Kershner with Membership and Marketing, just to name a few—and I apologize for leaving some out. We are a great team—THANKS!!

Lastly I would like to invite any and all nurse members, nonmembers, and students to join us at our monthly meeting. They are typically held at CNA Headquarters on either the 2nd or 3rd Wednesday of the month this year. For further information you can contact Mary Lambert at mlam5073@yahoo.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Lambert
President DNA 16

DNA 20 Annual Report

DNA 20 has increased its membership and will send 17 delegates to the Colorado Nurses Association House of Delegates in 2008, compared to 14 delegates in 2007. Besides serving as delegates, DNA 20 members are active on CNA boards, committees and task forces serving on the Board of Directors; Continuing Education Provider, Continuing Education Approval Board and Finance Committee and the Health Care Access

Reports continued on page 19

Reports continued from page 18

Task Force. DNA 20 was a co-sponsor with DNA 16 of the Nurse-Legislator Connection Dinner.

At its district meetings in the past year, presentations were given by DNA 20 members and others on:

- The Role of Nurses Aboard an Aircraft Carrier presented by Linda Stroup
- Veteran Affairs Compassion Corps Program presented by Jane McCabe
- La Buena VIDA: Victory in Diabetes Awareness presented by Susan Moyer
- Bio-Surveillance Emergency Preparedness to Support the Democratic National Convention presented by Kiska May.
- How to Protect and Promote the Profession of Nursing and Your Professional Organization presented by Linda Krebs.

The latter presentation was given in January to nursing students at Front Range Community College. Over 20 students attended along with DNA 20 members. Three tickets for the Nurse-Legislator Connection event were awarded as door prizes.

DNA 20 members enhanced the image of nursing by donating food, toys, and toiletries to the Jeffco Action Center, donating two gift baskets for the Colorado Nurses Foundation Silent Auction which raises monies to fund nursing scholarships, and attending the Nurses Night at the Rockies. To increase the pool of students applying for its nursing scholarship, DNA 20 donated \$1000 to the Colorado Nurses Foundation for a DNA 20 scholarship to be awarded in late 2008 by the foundation. A fundraiser to help finance the scholarship was held at Heritage Square Music Hall in December where DNA 20 members attended the holiday music revue "From Rags to Riches."

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Pederson
President DNA 20

DNA 30 Report Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses

The Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses (CSAPN) has been very busy this past year. We have been actively involved in efforts to improve access to health care and are very proud to say we succeeded this year in having three bills passed and signed by Governor Ritter in March, 2008. Some of the statutes will not formally take effect until January, 2009 and July, 2009.

HB 1060, Insurance Empanelment for APNs will take effect January, 1, 2009. This bill is to ensure that APNs are considered for network membership by insurance carriers and are notified with a

specific reason if they are denied. It also allows APNs to be listed in the carriers network.

HB 1061, Signature Recognition on Forms within the APN Scope of Practice goes into effect January 1, 2009 and Involuntary Commitments for Drug and Alcohol go into effect July 1, 2009. This bill allows APNs who treat the patient to also take care of the paperwork, removing barriers for the clinician providing direct services.

HB 1094, Updating Medicaid Statute to encompass all APNs will take effect July 1, 2009. This bill authorizes direct payment to all APNs. There may however be limitations to this program secondary to federal rules and regulations. Copies of the complete laws can be obtained through the Colorado General Assembly webpage at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/>.

We encourage all APNs to be in touch with their legislators and continue in the efforts to educate legislators and the public about the unique role of APNs and the value we provide in access to care.

The sunrise review of the Colorado Nurse Practice Act is scheduled for January, 2009. DNA 30 members have been busy at the table, working collectively with other organizations to be fully informed and aware of the issues that ultimately could affect one's practice. The recommendations for the Sunset of the Nurse Practice Act were completed and submitted to the Sunset analyst, Ellen Graham, on June 10th, 2008.

On the evening of May 7, 2008 the APN DVD Premier took place at Neighborhood Flix Cinema and Café. A great party was had by all who attended this amazing event. On behalf of the Colorado Nurses Association, filmmakers, Sue Hagedorn and Victoria Erickson were awarded recognition trophies for their film the APN DVD: Caring for Colorado.

In July, 2008, DNA 30 members volunteered their time at the National Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Conference in Keystone, Colorado to promote advanced practice nursing. The Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses includes Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Certified Nurse Midwives, and Certified Registered Nurse anesthetists. Our meetings are held monthly, the first Wednesday of the month except for the month of July. Please check our website at www.csapn.org for more information and our exciting programs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Pat DeWald RN, MSN, MPA, APN
DNA 30 Secretary

DNA 31 Report

We are very pleased that our state's first lady, Jeannie Ritter, has chosen to advocate for mental health. Maureen Doran continued her work with a task force which focused on surveying our membership regarding our roles and contributions in Colorado. That task force, now under the leadership of Judy Murray and Mary Ciambelli, is putting together a brochure about Advanced Practice Psychiatric nurses, both CNS's and Psychiatric Mental Health N.P's. The goal is to educate Mrs. Ritter and the public about our role in mental health care.

On May 2nd we held our annual Spring Symposium. Fran Ricker, Executive Director of CNA, presented information about the APN legislation which was passed this year followed by members of our Practice Act Task Force presenting about their work. At this event we congratulated Diane Lind Dean on being selected as this year's Clinician of the Year.

Louise Suit arranged for our district to participate in sponsoring an event hosted by Regis: "Bridging the Divide: Suicide Awareness and Prevention Summit." This national conference took place May 19-22, 2008. Louise put together an exhibit table representing our district for the event, and she and Mary Ciambelli attended. Mary also has been representing psychiatric APNs on the Behavioral Health ADAD work group. In May we celebrated with District # 30 the passage of the three APN bills this year at the premier of the new APN DVD: "Caring for Colorado" at the Neighborhood Flix Theatre.

We congratulate our members who published papers in *Perspective in Psychiatric Care*. Kelly Gaul published an article in October: "Public Health and Mental Health: A Model for Success." Deb Sandella published an article in April: "Releasing the Inner Magician."

Our board very much appreciates our active and involved members.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Willits
President DNA 31 ♦



**The Colorado Nurses Association
Would Like to Thank Our 2008
Convention Sponsors & Exhibitors
for their Time, Effort and
Continued Support of Professional
Nursing!**

GOLD (\$2,000)

Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc.

SILVER (\$1,000)

Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc.
CO Dept. of Corrections
Peer Assistance Services
SBIRT Colorado

OTHER (\$500)

Bank of America

Exhibitors

Arbonne International	Denver, CO
A Scrub Stop	Denver, CO
CO Christian University	Denver, CO
Cover Colorado	Denver, CO
DNA Services of America	Denver, CO
Duramed Pharmaceuticals	Denver, CO
Grand Canyon University	Phoenix, AZ
Health Management Corporation	Denver, CO
Peer Assistance Services	Denver, CO
Sava Senior Care	Hubertus, WI
Science Care	Phoenix, AZ
SOS Healthcare Staffing	Denver, CO
Take Care Health Systems	Fargo, ND
The College Networks, Inc.	Indianapolis, IN
University of Colorado, College of Nursing	Denver, CO
University of Phoenix	Phoenix, AZ
Western Governors University	Salt Lake City, UT

A poster for the movie "A Wonderful Life" featuring a blue border decorated with orange and blue snowflakes. A snowman wearing a blue hat and scarf is positioned at the bottom left. The text is in orange and blue colors.

A Wonderful Life

December 17

7:30 p.m.
at Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities,
6901 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada, CO 80003

Join the holiday spirit! Colorado Nurses Association District 20 is hosting a fund raising night. Tickets are \$48 with \$10 from each ticket going to support a CNA District 20 nursing scholarship.

Checks can be made payable to Arvada Center or Susan Moyer. Payment must be received by **November 3**.

For more information, contact Susan Moyer at 303.239.7045 or skmoyer@jeffco.us.

Sponsored by
Colorado Nurses Association District 20

Nursing Students Scholarship Information



Colorado Nurses Foundation

Application Deadline:
November 15, 2008

These students are invited to apply:

- Junior or Senior in a BSN undergraduate program
- RN enrolled in a BSN or higher degree nursing program
- Student in second year of nursing studies in an associate degree program
- RN with Master's degree enrolled in a doctoral program
- Student in second or third year of a Doctorate Nursing Practice program

Undergraduate applicants must have a 3.25 grade point average minimum, and graduate student applicants must have a 3.5 gpa minimum. For more information on criteria for awards and for scholarship applications, contact:

Vicki Carroll
CNF Scholarships
970-416-6811
CNFScholarships@aol.com
www.coloradonursesfoundation.org



Friends of Nursing

Application Deadline:
October 8, 2008 & January 23, 2009

Nursing students enrolled in the following Colorado schools are invited to apply:

- Adams State College
- Beth-El College at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
- Mesa State College
- Metropolitan State College
- Regis University
- University of Colorado Denver
- University of Northern Colorado
- University of Southern Colorado

For an application, contact FON website (www.friendsofnursing.org) or the Dean/Director/Chair of your School of Nursing

Important Dates for FON

October 8, 2008:
Application Deadline
January 23, 2009:
Application Deadline: accelerated programs only

Ann N. Smith, FON Scholarship Chair
303-449-5316
asmith2498@aol.com



Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Alpha Kappa Chapter-at-Large (AKC)

Application Deadline
February 13, 2009

The Alpha Kappa Chapter-at-Large of Sigma Theta Tau International awards scholarships to students in the nursing programs at Regis University and the University of Colorado Denver College of Nursing

For Specific Criteria for Each Scholarship:
Go to <http://www.sttialphakappa.org/DownloadablePage.htm>

General Criteria for Scholarships

1. Student must have a 3.5 GPA or higher
2. Current or invited member of Alpha Kappa Chapter-at-Large (STTI)

Application questions:

Karen LeDuc, Scholarship Chair
Office Phone: 303-764-8685 or email:
LeDuc.Karen@tchden.org/
mleduc@regis.edu

University of Colorado Denver
C288-6PO Box 6511
Aurora, CO 80045
Attn: Dr. Marilyn Krajicek

Regis University
3333 Regis Blvd—Mail Code G-8
Denver, CO 80221
Attn: Ellen Martinelli (Room 301) ♦





New & Renewing Members for Aug. 2008

Name	DNA #
Janet G. Udell	3
Nancy Whetzel	4
Linda Sowards	6
Michelle D. Medina	16
Elizabeth A. Arcara	16
Suzanne T. Parker	16
Judith Linn	20
Barbara Williams	20
Lori Ann Cook	20
Lynne Hedrick	20
Nisa Levy	30
Boping Chen	30
Sally T. Watson	30
Melissa J. Cardenas	30

New & Renewing Members for Sept. 2008

Name	DNA #
Kathy J. Horn	5
Amanda Preston Araujo	7
Terri J. Cooley	7
Kathy Smith-Stillson	9
Dayna Cardinal	16
Monika M. Goodman	16
Mary Khoury	16
Deborah S. Moriarty	20
Susan Moen-Berenbeim	23
Alison M. Phillips	23
Elizabeth A. Tucker	30
Traci L. Shahan	30
Ann M. Cox	30
Tenley Roeder	30
Autumn Donley	30



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Members must have been granted a license to practice in at least one state

All information must be completed for application to be accepted

Telephone 303-757-7483

Fax 303-757-8833

www.nurses-co.org cna@nurses-co.org

MAIL/FAX COMPLETE WITH PAYMENT TO:
Colorado Nurses Association
1221 South Clarkson Street, Suite 205
Denver, CO 80210

Thank you for your interest in the Colorado Nurses Association or ANA/CNA. We appreciate your awareness that nurses have responsibilities to their profession in addition to their job requirements, and welcome your membership and participation.

FULL ANA/CNA MEMBERSHIP THE BEST WAY TO SUPPORT CNA	STATE ONLY MEMBERSHIP
Assures support for national issues—supports development of standards, national health care policy reform, and safe staffing	Assures support for state legislative issues, public education, promotion of nursing throughout the state.
Additional insurance and product discounts	State only Members will receive discounts on CNA Continuing education offerings.
Discounts on materials at nursebooks.org and other important nursing products	State only members will receive the CNA Member News and will be added to the CNA email list serve.
Up to \$140 discount on ANCC credentialing	State only members are not eligible to run for CNA President, ANA Delegate, or offices in the Center of American Nurses or UAN or ANA appointed committees
Members may run for ANA Delegate and ANA committees	State only members can run for CNA Board Member-at-large. State Only Members are not eligible for other CNA Board positions.
Members may run for all Colorado Nurses Association offices, including President	May be appointed to committees that participate in legislative activities and decision making.
Access to the ANA "Members Only" articles at the ANA website—nursingworld.org.	State only members will not receive ANA publications or have access to the ANA "Member's Only" website.
Includes the ANA publications, <i>The American Nurse</i> , <i>American Nurse Today</i> and <i>Online Journal of Nursing</i>	

Please fill out entire form, here and on page 19. Please call the Colorado Nurses Association at 303-757-7483 if you have any questions.

Date: _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle _____ Credentials _____
 Basic School of Nursing _____ Graduation (Month/Year) _____ RN License Number _____
 County _____ US Legislative District (if known) _____ State House (if known) _____ State Senate (if known) _____
 Home Telephone _____ Fax Number _____
 Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Employer Name _____ Position Held _____
 Work Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Work Telephone _____ Email (Required for DNA #2) _____ APN Registry? Yes/No _____
 Prescriptive Authority? Yes/No _____
 Referred by _____

A Nurse is More®

A Nurse is more, Why?

Though nobody can say why, for sure,
Nurse's desire, for service, is pure.
Not for themselves, it has to be for others.
A life dedicated, to their sisters and their brothers.

the workplace, and medical office.

Where we are, to go for our care,
thankfully, we find Nurses there.
Aging, sick, fearful, weary, we turn to Nurses,
and know they care.

A Nurse is more, How?

Through reserves, of strength, care and love,
Nurses take their lead, from the power above.
Above and beyond, their duty comes first.
Their patient's needs paramount,
before even hunger and thirst.

A Nurse is More,

A Nurse is more, much more than all we've said,
or all we can say, other than, to acknowledge the
Nurses, who so brighten our day. In gratitude, we
thank Nurses, their willingness to serve, we find so
appealing, bringing to us, their comfort, wisdom,
compassion and healing.

A Nurse is more, When?

When we need them the most, at our times of ill,
Nurses come through, with their care and goodwill.
When we feel we can't go on, and wish,
to give up the ghost.
That's when our Nurses, give it their most.

A Nurse is More©

Copyright © 1999 Richard G. Shuster
rgsjesshuster@charter.net
Written to honor all Nurses,
Dedicated to Jeannine E. Shuster, R.N.

A Nurse is more, Where?

In the hospital, the battlefield, the clinic,
the home and hospice,
Nurses are there, In the ER, the OR,

Permission is granted to reproduce this poem for any Nurses
forum. Nurse's Week and Nurse's Day are during May.
If you know a Nurse, are related to a Nurse, or just would like to
thank a Nurse, please send or give a copy of this poem.

ANA/CNA MEMBERSHIP		
	ANNUAL	EPAY
◦ FULL MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$299.00	\$25.41
◦ REDUCED MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$149.50	\$12.96
• NOT EMPLOYED		
• FULL-TIME STUDENT		
• NEW GRADUATE FROM BASIC NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM, WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION APPLIES TO FIRST YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP ONLY		
◦ SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$74.75	\$6.23
• 62 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER NOT EMPLOYED		
• TOTALLY DISABLED/NOT EMPLOYED		
◦ LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP (ALL MUST APPLY)		FREE
• ANA MEMBER FOR 25 YEARS OR MORE CONSECUTIVELY		
• 65 YEARS OR OLDER		
• RETIRED		
◦ NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING MY DUES ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ISSUES	\$299.00	\$25.41

STATE ONLY MEMBERSHIP

	ANNUAL	EPAY
◦ FULL MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$120.00	\$10.50
<i>(No discount Membership Dues for State Only Members)</i>		

(You May Choose Only One District)		
_____	Geographic District (Based on City & Zip Code)	
_____	DNA 2 (Corresponds primarily through email)	
_____	DNA 30 (Advanced Practice Nurses)	
_____	DNA 31 (Clinical Specialists in Psychiatric Nursing)	

CREDIT CARD NUMBER - (M/C & VISA ONLY)		

_____	EXPIRATION DATE	SIGNATURE CODE

PRINT CARD HOLDERS NAME		

CARD HOLDERS SIGNATURE		

_____ TOTAL PAYMENT AMOUNT ENCLOSED		

 State Nurses Association Dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes, but may be deductible as a business expense. However, the percentage of dues used for lobbying by the Colorado Nurses Association is not deductible as a business expense. Please check with the Colorado Nurses Association for the correct amount.

_____ E-PAY (Monthly Electronic Payment) (Please make all checks payable to the American Nurses Association)

This is to authorize monthly electronic payments to American Nurses Association, Inc. (ANA) by signing below;
 I authorize ANA to withdraw 1/12 of my annual dues and any additional service fees from my account.

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

CREDIT CARD Please complete the credit card information above and this credit card account will be debited on or after the 1st of each month.

Monthly Electronic Deduction Authorization Signature (Required for Processing)

_____ Automatic Annual Credit Card Payment

This is to authorize annual credit card payments to the American Nurses Association, Inc. (ANA) by signing below; I authorize ANA to charge the credit card listed above for the annual dues on the 15th day of the month when annual renewal is due.

Automatic Annual Credit Card Payment Authorization Signature (Required for Processing)



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



*Holiday Greetings from
 the Staff and Board
 of the Colorado Nurses
 Association*

New Clinical Guideline is a Positive Step in Alcohol and Substance Use Prevention

by Brie Reimann, Program Director,
SBIRT Colorado

Most healthcare professionals agree that SBIRT—“Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment”—is a worthwhile and proven prevention practice that can substantially reduce the number of people who move from substance use to substance abuse and even addiction. The potential financial and social benefits of the SBIRT practice are compelling. I look forward to when SBIRT is a standard practice as common as an annual blood pressure check. But first, we must equip all Colorado health care professionals with resources they can use to incorporate SBIRT into their own approach to care.

The SBIRT Colorado team took a unique and significant step toward establishing screening for use of alcohol and other drugs as a standard healthcare practice by partnering with the Colorado Clinical Guidelines Collaborative (CCGC) to create a new Guideline for Substance Use Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment (SBIRT).

Nearly 30 percent of Americans, although not dependent on alcohol or other drugs, consume at a level that elevates their risk for causing physical, mental or social harm. According to statistics from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, the State of Colorado spends approximately \$202 million annually on health care costs due to problems related to substance abuse. Following are compelling statistics that drive the need for SBIRT in Colorado:

- A 2002 Harvard study concluded Colorado ranked second in severity nationwide on the overall Substance Abuse Problem Index, fifth on the Alcohol Problem Index, and 13th on the Drug Problem Index.
- The Drug Abuse Warning Network’s “DAWN Live!” study reports that Colorado ranks 19 percent higher than the national average and fifth in the nation in per capita consumption of alcohol.
- According to statistics from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, the State of Colorado spends approximately \$202 million annually



on healthcare costs due to problems related to substance abuse.

- Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs contribute to more than 70 diseases.

The Guideline recognizes the critical role health care professionals can play in preventing injury, disease and more severe substance use disorders. Through a brief screening, a health care professional can identify people with risky use early enough to interrupt progression to more serious use. Additionally, the Guideline promotes an open discussion between a health care professional and a patient, empowering patients to take charge of their health, and offers direction on how to connect patients who have substance dependence to specialized treatment.

If you haven’t yet seen a hard-copy of the new Guideline, I encourage you to view the online version at <http://www.coloradoguidelines.org/guidelines/sbirt.asp>. Additionally, CCGC staff will host education seminars and in-office trainings across the state to raise provider awareness and encourage implementation among as many health care professionals as possible.

About SBIRT Colorado

Brie Riemann is program director of SBIRT Colorado. SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) is a comprehensive, integrated, public health approach to one of the most preventable health issues—alcohol and other drug use. SBIRT Colorado delivers universal screenings to patients at 12 health care sites in Colorado, and is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and jointly administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services/Division of Behavioral Health and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment/Prevention Services Division. The project is managed by Peer Assistance Services, Inc. For more information and screening locations visit www.improvinghealthcolorado.com. ♦

In Memory

We have received information about the deaths of the nurses listed below. Names and available information about any nurse that you know, from your community or school of nursing, etc. will be greatly appreciated. They do not need to have been a member of the Colorado Nurses Association as we include any nurse who has lived, worked, and/or graduated from a school of nursing in Colorado.

A majority of the nurses whose obituaries are mentioned here were very active members of their community. Many were involved in multiple volunteer activities. We continue to receive information about the deaths of nurses who served in the United States Military during World War II. (We regret that available space occasionally limits the information we are able to include in this column.)

Burnam, Elvina RN died on August 11, 2008, in St. Francis KS, at the age of 85. She had worked at Presbyterian/St. Luke’s for 32 years prior to her retirement in 1986.

Craddock, Norma Jean, RN was born in a West Virginia coal mining town and struggled to complete her nursing education. As a RN, she worked in different areas before moving to Colorado. She worked in a hospital setting in Denver and died in June 2008 at age 75.

Cruse, Mona, LPN was born in the gold mining town of Victor, CO in 1910 and died July 8, 2008 at the age of 97. She worked at St. Luke’s Hospital, Denver for 23 years.

Duffy, Ruth T. RN, died at age 89 on September 6, 2008. She was a nurse at St. Luke’s Hospital Denver for many years.

France, Bernadine (Dunphy) RN, died July 16, 2008 at the age of 83. She completed her BS in Nursing at Marquette University in 1946, then moved to Colorado where she worked at Colorado General Hospital. Later, she worked as a school nurse in both Littleton and Englewood.

Gray, Evelyn RN, a caring nurse, died in July 2008.

Lenhdorf, Rose M. (Mazzola) RN, died July 22, 2008 in Boulder CO. She was born in Willimantic CT in 1916. She was a graduate of St. Raphael’s School of Nursing in New Haven, CT.

Lint, Mary B. “Sue” RN (85) died August 22, 2008 in Aurora CO. She served in the Army Nurse Corps in WWII and later worked at National Jewish Hospital, Denver.

Lovelace, Dorothy M. RN, of Aurora, CO died August 27, 2008 at age 83.

O’Keefe-Warme, Judy (Sand) RN (64) died August 14, 2008 in Evergreen, CO. Born in Rugby ND, she received her RN at St. Luke’s Hospital School of Nursing in Fargo ND where she later worked in/taught obstetrics/gynecology. Her bachelor’s degree in education was from Moorhead State University. She later worked as a career counselor in the Denver area.

Owens, Juanita (Berger), RN of Arvada, CO, died July 11, 2008 at the age of 76. She was a 1953 graduate of St. Francis School of Nursing in Wichita, KS.

Sakaguchi, Marguerita (Dizaka) RN was employed as a nurse at St. Anthony Hospital, Denver for more than 30 years. She died in July 2008.

Schubert, Florence (Bloomquist) RN, 80, of Denver died on July 30, 2008. Born in Portland OR, she attended Bethany College in Lindsborg KS and received her RN degree in Des Moines, IA.

Sheehan, Helen RN, died at age 83 on July 20, 2008 in Centennial CO. She was born in Pennsylvania and worked as an RN in Philadelphia before moving to Lakewood, CO in 1976. ♦

NEWS FROM ANA

AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

Congress Passes Mental Health Parity Legislation Included in Bailout Package

October 3, 2008

The American Nurses Association (ANA) is pleased to announce the House and Senate have approved the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Legislation, known as the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health and Equity Act of 2008. This legislation would require health plans offering mental health coverage to provide the same benefits for mental illness as they do for other medical conditions. ANA has been a strong advocate for mental health parity legislation that makes a real difference in the lives of those facing mental illness.

The legislation was part of the 700 billion dollar financial market rescue package passed by the Senate by a vote of 74-25. The House voted 263-171 to pass the measure which the President has signed into law.

To keep up to date on ANA's legislative agenda please visit, <http://nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ANAPoliticalPower.aspx> ♦

ANA Urges a Ban on BPA in Food, Health Care and Children's Products

October 1, 2008

The American Nurses Association (ANA) voiced concerns over the safety of the chemical bisphenol A (BPA) to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Tuesday. The FDA invited a panel of experts to comment on the agency's recent report which suggests that trace amounts of BPA are not dangerous. However, the National Toxicology Program (NTP) concluded BPA poses "some concern" to infants and children. BPA is a plastic hardening chemical used in baby bottles and food can liners.

In testimony, ANA urged the FDA to ban the use of BPA in food, health care and children's products. Nancy Hughes, the Director for Occupational and Environmental Health for the ANA commented, "The ANA is a firm advocate of the precautionary approach regarding dangers to the public health. Safer alternatives to BPA are available and currently in use."

For more information on ANA's environmental health policy please visit, <http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/OccupationalandEnvironmental/environmentalhealth.aspx>

ANA Board of Directors Endorses a Set of Standards for APRN Regulation to Improve Access to Safe, Quality Care by Advanced Practice Nurses

July 1, 2008

At its June Board meeting in Washington, DC., the American Nurses Association (ANA) Board of Directors endorsed a seminal document beneficial not only to the 240,000 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in the United States, but to the entire nursing profession and to the public they serve.

"A *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification & Education will*, for the first time, when implemented, standardize each aspect of the regulatory process for APRNs, resulting in increased mobility, and will establish independent practice as the norm rather than the exception. This will support APRNs caring for patients in a safe environment to the full potential of their nursing knowledge and skill," said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR.

The APRNs community is comprised of four roles: certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), certified nurse-midwife (CNM), certified clinical nurse specialist (CNS), and certified nurse practitioner (CNP). Additionally, APRNs focus on at least one of six population foci: psych/mental health, women's health, adult-gerontology, pediatrics, neonatal, or family.

Substantial challenges to educational expectations and certification requirements for APRNs, and the proliferation of nursing specializations have sparked debates on appropriate credentials, scope of practice, and state-by-state regulation of nursing scope of practice. To that end, the consensus model for APRN regulation focuses on the regulation and credentialing of nurses.

All graduate level APRN education will be required to include a broad-based education in the role, and in the population to be served, and will, in addition, include three separate graduate-level courses in advanced pathophysiology, advanced health assessment and advanced

pharmacology as well as a minimum of 500 hours of appropriate clinical experiences. As a result of implementation of the new model, all developing graduate level APRN education programs or tracks will go through a pre-approval, pre-accreditation or accreditation process prior to admitting any students to that program or track. APRN educational programs must be housed within graduate programs that are nationally accredited and they must ensure that their programs adequately prepare their graduates to meet eligibility for national certification which leads to state licensure.

The "*Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification and Education*," was developed by members of the APRN Consensus Work Group, facilitated by American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, (NCSBN) APRN Advisory Committee during four years of discussions and collaborative efforts in this groundbreaking effort to create a unified vision; this vision which defines APRN roles, practice and populations served. The goal is for full implementation of the new model by 2015.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) has been an active participant in both the APRN Consensus Work Group and the subsequently formed Joint Dialogue Group. In addition to ANA, members of the Joint Dialogue Group are the: American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program, National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, American College of Nurse-Midwives, American Organization of Nurse Executives, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National Council of State Boards of Nursing APRN Advisory Committee, National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission and nursing compact administrators. ♦

ANA CEO Takes Part in Interview Series on Health System Reform and Prospects for Change with the Next President

October 3, 2008

Linda J. Stierle, MSN, RN, CNAA,BC, Chief Executive Officer of the American Nurses Association took part in the health08.org Kaiser Family Foundation interview series *Viewpoints: The Health Care Debate* with various leaders of organizations representing health care providers, insurers, policymakers, employers, labor unions and consumers sharing her views on shortcomings in the nation's health care system and how it could be improved.

"Comprehensive health care reform is one of the most pressing issues facing the nation today. Lack of health security and access to affordable health care should be a priority for the incoming administration, especially since there are 47 million people uninsured in the U.S.," said ANA Chief Executive Officer Linda J. Stierle, MSN, RN, CNAA,BC.

With the general election campaign entering its final two months, health08.org, the Kaiser Family Foundation's Web site for election news, analysis and events, is presenting seven additional interviews with health care leaders exploring what they think the next President and Congress should do to make the health system work more effectively and what they think the biggest hurdles are to improving health care.

In these **new interviews**, Kaiser's Jackie Judd talks with leaders from the **American Academy of Family Physicians**, and the **Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease**. Upcoming interviews are with the **American Academy of Pediatrics**, the **American College of Cardiology**, the **American Hospital Association** and the **National Women's Law Center**.

These new interviews build on the collection of nearly 20 earlier conversations with leaders from a range of influential organizations representing health care providers, insurers, policymakers, employers, labor unions and consumers as part of the series, *Viewpoints: The Health Care Debate*. Four highlight videos compiling leaders' views on access to health care coverage, affordability, private vs. public plans and the potential for change from the first set of interviews in the series are also available.

The series covers a variety of health care issues including covering the 47 million uninsured Americans, reducing health care costs, improving access to care, enhancing the quality of health care and changing the tax structure to allow more people to purchase their own insurance.

Webcasts and podcasts of the interviews and highlight videos can be accessed on health08.org and on the Foundation's [YouTube](http://www.youtube.com) page. ♦