

The

FLORIDA Nurse

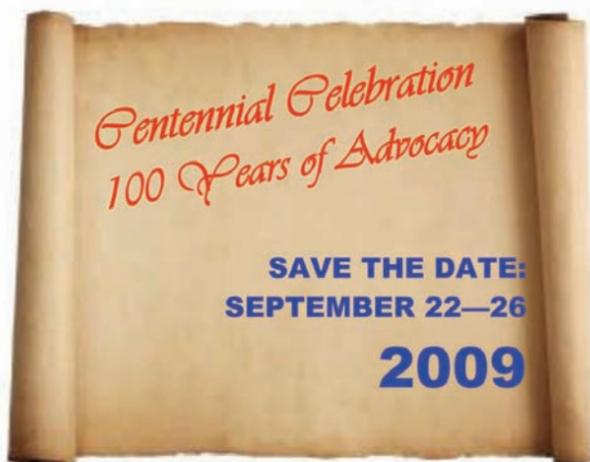


FLORIDA NURSES ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE FLORIDA NURSES ASSOCIATION
CIRCULATION 223,000 TO EVERY REGISTERED NURSE & NURSING STUDENT IN FLORIDA

Volume 57 • No. 1

March 2009



St. Pete Beach | TradeWinds Island Resorts

Mark your calendars now for the celebration of the year!

More Info: floridanurse.org

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See Pages 18-21



2009 Clinical Excellence Conference
April 3, 2009 | Leu Gardens, Orlando



Nurses are at the heart of the matter...

Nurses share their personal stories of how they made a difference in a patient's/family members life at this conference. More info on page 6.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Openness, Transparency and Inclusiveness

by Andrea Gregg, DSN, RN
President, Florida Nurses Association



Andrea Gregg

This year, 2009, is our Florida Nurses Association's Centennial year. At our convention in September, we will take a walk back in history to our early beginnings. When the House of Delegates (HOD) convenes during convention, we will explore the possibilities of our association's future. Recommendations from the Futures Task Force (FTF), created by delegates at the 2007 HOD, will be considered. If approved, these recommendations for restructuring FNA will significantly change how we conduct the business of nursing in Florida. Because the HOD's decision on the future of FNA is so important, I have given much thought to the due diligence process and related communications with members.

It is not surprising that my thoughts about FNA's

future filtered into a book that I have just finished reading, *The Last Lecture*. Although Randy Pausch, the author, had only months to live while writing this book, its content is upbeat and provides thought-provoking wisdom for living well. One such idea came from his high school coach who instructed the boys on the *head fake* strategy. A head fake, it seems, is when the quarterback looks in one direction as if he intends to go there, but in fact his belt buckle is facing the opposite and 'real' intended direction. The coach's wisdom was to watch the belt buckle, not the head. What an instructive metaphor for our due diligence process!

While the head fake can be a productive strategy (as you will find in the book), all too often is used for its original purpose of deception. People say one thing, but do another. In the world of politics, like football, head fake communications unfortunately can be accepted as a way of doing business. Some legislators may promise support, but then vote differently. Organizations may espouse communitarian goals, but then expend resources in a seemingly opposite direction. To avoid such deceptive practices in our own association, I am calling for all of us to practice *openness, transparency and inclusiveness* in our communications, particularly as we move forward in our deliberations on FNA's future structure.

Openness to me means that we will communicate and give feedback frankly and directly. If we perceive a head fake (or similar deceptions) then we need to talk with the responsible person or group about the incongruence. Maybe they don't realize what they have done or perhaps they have intervening reasons. Minimally, both the importance of the

President's Message continued on page 2

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NOTES FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FNA Leaders Meet to Collaborate on Historic Change

**Willa Fuller, RN
Executive Director**

Lucerne Hospital of the Orlando Health System in Orlando was the site of a historic meeting of FNA Leadership to discuss the future structure and function of the Florida Nurses Association. At the 2007 House of Delegates, a motion was passed that directed the newly elected Board of



Willa Fuller

Director to look at the current status of the association and to bring back a plan for change and innovation to the 2009 House of Delegates.

A Futures Task Force was formed made up of several district presidents/representatives, a representative from the Workforce Advocacy Program and the Labor Employment Relations Commission and members of the current board of directors. These members moved forward with creative and innovative thinking considering the past structure and then looking at the core functions of the organizations and proposing many ideas about how to carry those out in a new structure. After two meetings, a plan was forged. A structural design was proposed based on larger regions rather than small districts. Leadership, structure and function would be determined

Executive Director continued on page 18



Task Force members Mary Lou Brunell and Denise McNulty address the group.

President's Message continued from page 1

behavior and our expectations will have been communicated. Please read again the Futures Task Force proposal¹ with *openness* in mind. We need feedback from members, whether it is requests for clarification or confirmation of understanding.

Transparency means that we will communicate our intentions and actions clearly and completely throughout a due diligence process. The implications of the FTF proposal are broad and need careful scrutiny and 'as if' planning before our delegates can consider them fully in September. Plans are underway for District Presidents to collaborate on the implications of moving from a district to a regional structure. The Bylaws Committee is working on changes that will be necessary for conducting business in the new structure. You can help as well by staying tuned into our reports in *The Florida Nurse* and on the *Members Only* website, which brings me to my last communication strategy.

Inclusiveness means that diverse opinions and perspectives are not only welcome, but are actively sought. This means that we need to prepare proactively by seeking opinions of members well

in advance of the HOD. Don't worry if your opinion is different from the FTF proposal; your ideas are important. It has been my experience, for the most part, that more commonalities than differences emerge when diverse perspectives come together. Diversity can enrich our choices for, on and commitment to a course of action.

In preparation for the HOD, we will begin this month our due diligence process of considering how the recommended structure will work and its implications for FNA members. Restructuring for the future, no doubt, will be uncomfortable for some members who appreciate the way things are now and embraced by other members who want something different. Amid such sentiment, I hope that you will give *openness, transparency and inclusiveness* a chance. Change moves each of us outside of our comfort zones, but change we must. We have a century old organizational structure that no longer meets member needs fully. Let us work together, as our founders did, toward a new future.

¹ Go to <http://www.floridanurse.org/members/login.asp>. Log in and click on Members Only Newsletter – Winter 2008.

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2007-2009**

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NEWS FROM
HEADQUARTERS

Get On Board With E-FNA

by Leah Nash, Director, Member Services and Leadership Development, FNA



Leah Nash

Attention FNA Members: FNA needs your email addresses today more than ever! With the global effort to be green and the “need for speed” in communication today, FNA has been utilizing e-communication as much as possible. If FNA does not have your current email address, you will not receive these exciting communication pieces, as well as your district update e-notices.

Some of the exciting e-communication that you are missing is:

- *FNA QuickNews*, FNA’s weekly e-newsletter. This e-newsletter is chock full of important member information that needs to go out to members on a timely basis. The eblast provides you with FNA updates in a quick, concise manner and gives you the resources that you need to follow up on any of the topics. Some of the topics have included: Calls for state and national committee appointments, calls for proposals for state and national conferences and announcements of member appointments, among other things. The eblast also gives you up-to-the-minute updates on FNA conferences, meetings and other important issues.



- *Focus on the Foundation*, an electronic update on the Florida Nurses Foundation. This new quarterly e-newsletter lets members know what is happening with the Florida Nurses Foundation. From the distribution of statewide scholarship and research grant dollars to developments in the Barbara Lumpkin Institute (the Foundation’s contribution to nurse political advocacy), *Focus on the Foundation*, provides information on how Foundation dollars—contributions from you—are making a difference in the future of nursing.
- *New Grad Gazette*, e-newsletter for and about students/new graduates. If you are a student or new grad, have you ever wished that there was a publication just for you to help you cope with the hardships of becoming a new nurse? If you are an educator, have you ever wanted a resource to give to your students and new grads that periodically has tips and tools for new nurses? FNA’s new e-newsletter, *New Grad Gazette*, is a resource that provides these tools for you. This quarterly

e-newsletter has been developed with students and the new grad in mind.

- *Members Only*, FNA’s Official Member Newsletter. In February of this year, *Members Only* was only distributed via email and available online in the *Member’s Only* section of the FNA website. *Members Only* contains important FNA information such as updates from FNA Headquarters and ANA, member announcements and special member information. This newsletter is about the FNA member, both as individuals and as an association. Members: If you would like a hard copy of *Members Only* mailed to you, please contact conferences@floridanurse.org or call the Members Only hotline.

If you are a member of FNA and FNA does not already have your current email address, please send it to conferences@floridanurse.org as soon as possible.

If you are reading about the e-items above and are not a FNA member already, perhaps you have found the items listed above interesting. E-newsletters, such as the material listed in this article, are only some of the incredible member benefits that FNA members receive with membership. Other member benefits include: ANA membership and district membership; Lobbyists in Tallahassee; reduced fees for American Nurses Credentialing Center certification; networking, leadership and learning opportunities; reduced liability insurance rates; reduced rates at FNA/ANA conferences; and CE discounts. Beyond these tangible benefits, and probably the most important reason to consider membership, is that each FNA membership makes the voice of Florida nurses stronger in so many different capacities. Become a member and let FNA work for you!

To join FNA, please fill out the membership application on page 6 or visit floridanurse.org.

Celebrate Nurses Week: May 6-12

The work of America's 2.9 million registered nurses to save lives and maintain the health of millions of individuals is the focus of this year's National Nurses Week, to be celebrated May 6-12 throughout the U.S.

Using the theme, "Nurses Building a Healthy America," the American Nurses Association (ANA) and its 54 constituent associations—including FNA—will highlight the diverse ways in which registered nurses, the largest healthcare profession, are working to improve health care. From acute bedside nursing to long term care, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession is meeting the expanding healthcare needs of American society.

National Nurses Week begins on **May 6**, marked as RN Recognition Day. The week ends on **May 12**, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession. ANA and the FNA, through the members, advance the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting economic and general welfare, promoting a positive and realistic view of nursing and lobbying Congress and regulatory agencies on healthcare.

Here are some simple ways to celebrate Nurses Week at your location:

- Designate a Nurse Week Planning Committee.
- Obtain a proclamation from the mayor of your town proclaiming May 6-12 Nurses Week for your community.
- Plan a special event to honor nurses in your community.
- Write an article for your organization's newsletter about Nurses Week.
- Plan a trip to the Marlins game for National Nurses Night on May 16th... you even get a special rate!

These are just a few easy ways to celebrate and honor nurses during this special week. For more ideas, please visit www.floridanurse.org.



Building A Healthy America



CELEBRATE NATIONAL NURSES NIGHT WITH THE FLORIDA MARLINS



CLUB LEVEL C SEATS ONLY \$30 (Regularly \$46)
INFIELD BOX SEATS ONLY \$27 (Regularly \$48)
BULLPEN BOX SEATS ONLY \$21 (Regularly \$33)

Seats subject to availability



SUPER SATURDAYS also include:

- Post-Game Concert
- Post-Game Fireworks Extravaganza
- Stadium Giveaway for first 15,000 fans

Any nurse with a valid Nurses ID that purchases a ticket in Club Level C will receive a \$5 Stadium Dollar Voucher (Courtesy of District 5 FNA) that can be used for food, drinks and merchandise. All Stadium Dollar Vouchers can be picked up the night of the game from Jill Tahmooressi, District 5 FNA President, at the Club Level C check-in table from 5-6:30 PM. As part of National Nurses Night, there will be a pre-game on-field ceremony recognizing 20 nurses for their outstanding dedication and commitment to their profession.

YOU CAN NOW ORDER YOUR TICKETS ONLINE! Tickets will be available after March 1, 2009 at www.marlins.com/nurses. Use password "nurses"

For more information or for Groups of 20 or more contact Bray LaDow at 305-626-7324

Taking Care of Everything

by Linda Rice, RN

After being a nurse for 25 plus years, I sometimes wonder what else I will learn from my patients. I now think of Mrs. Siren, a 75 year-old acute leukemia patient that recently just taught me so much more about nursing. I remember moving her to a larger room our first weekend together on our 24 bed malignant hematology unit. I



Linda Rice

was told in her report that she raised her son alone and was a strong woman. She would need to be, I thought, to handle an AML treatment plan.

Mrs. Siren received a difficult chemotherapy induction and I proceeded with an honest upfront approach to her teaching needs. This woman was able to handle the truth about the difficulties she may encounter and wanted to hear them. I continued to explain to her how she would feel worse as her blood counts declined and then we would help her build back up after we, hopefully, got all the leukemia—or we would give her more chemotherapy, if she could handle it. She was a strong woman and wanted to live, that was why she was here, she explained. Her treatment began. By day 14, bone marrow showed residual blasts and reinduction and more chemo was prescribed. The blood counts were very low.

She would ask me to leave the door open just a little because of her little claustrophobia. Mrs. Siren was going to be in the room a long time. I did not need to contribute to the stress of all of this. So, as I opened the door a jar despite her profound neutropenia, I heard her say, "Thank you Linda, for taking care of everything."

Mrs. Siren was a real trooper. Her admission lasted for months. At one point, she developed fluid overload, had an MI and I sent her to a monitored unit. I remember asking the 3rd floor nurse to keep the door open just a little because she felt a bit claustrophobic. Mrs. Siren assured me she was going to be fine and would be back on our unit as soon as she could. The next weekend she was back, only around the corner. I remember her bone marrow was clear of leukemia and we started the growth factor injections to assist with WBC recovery. We ate out that weekend—she treated some of us— and we were back on course. The weeks went on and every weekend I would encourage her to get up to eat, walk and shower. Reluctantly, she would and when I left, I would hear her say, "Thank you, Linda, for everything."

Having a patient for weeks and weeks is a privilege an oncology nurse understands. The relationship can grow to an unbelievably satisfying level as the patient begins to trust and the strong feelings of familiarity develop. I found myself talking to Mrs. Siren about my kids and asking her advice since she raised a very successful son who worked out of the country. I would let her know the scores of my son's basketball games and she would always say she would have to stick around to find out how he did. She was a wise woman and I appreciated her interest in my success.

I spoke to Mrs. Siren's son almost every weekend and I told him I would let him know if she needed him. He had a very important job but would leave it if he needed to. The prognosis was so uncertain that the task was harder than it sounded. The bone marrow biopsy was repeated over again and I was told it looked good. It was an uneventful afternoon when I decided to talk to her about DNR (do not resuscitate) anyways. Her neutropenia was approaching day 60 and she was 75 years old, no matter how strong she might be. She had the right to make this decision. Her son was out of the country. She trusted me to think of everything. We talked about DNR and our

attending physician later went in and wrote the order for DNR. She said she was glad to have that done and thanked me again for taking such good care of her. I too was happy to address this subject voluntarily and not out of urgency or necessity. I still had to remember to leave the door open just a little. As I re-opened the door, just a little, I would hear her say, "Thank you Linda, for everything."

That next Saturday it started out as usual, her son called and I told him the update: Mrs. Siren was on TPN by then and seemed to be hanging in there. I promised him I would call him if he was needed. The next day I went into her room to see her last, as I often did, so to talk with her longer. I slipped in quietly and she was asleep. She looked different to me this time, the look an oncology nurse can recognize at the doorway. I put her meds on her stand and reached out for her hand. She woke gently and tried to speak, I asked her if she wanted to sleep. She nodded and I told her to lie back and not to worry about taking the pills. I assured her we would have the doctors give her anything she really needed through IV. I then tidied up her room, asked my tech to bring her ice and let her stay in bed. I left the door open just a little.

I walked past the nurses' station, entered the medication room and started to cry. A friend asked me why I was crying and I told her that I had to call Mrs. Siren's son to let him know she was dying. I let the attending physician know what I was going to do. He nodded empathetically after a brief moment with the patient. It was not easy, but I located Mrs. Siren's best friend and called her son. I told them to come now, that she looked bad, her wishes were being followed and that she did not know I was calling anyone. Arrangements were made for her son and all of her closest friends to be with her. After her friends left and the room was ready for the son's arrival, I went in alone with her. I sobbed as I told her that it looked like we would not have another weekend together and I would miss her. She smiled so gently, sobbed and spoke clearly, "My darling angel, this is just

my time, we cannot change that. You have done everything, it is simply my time." I cried with her and she promised to be there for me when my time was near.

The rest of the day went on as her friends came by and Mrs. Siren looked like she enjoyed the time with each of them, despite her fatigue. Her closest friends thanked me over and over again and I was thankful for them being there with this wonderful woman who wanted so much to live. I slipped into her room before I left where there was standing room only and the cot was set up for her son's arrival. I held her hand and said goodbye. I told her to wait for her son and how happy I was that she had all of her good friends around her. She somehow knew that I had called them. As I went out the door she said to me one more time, "Thank you, Linda, for everything." It made me cry as I left.

As I drove to work the very next weekend, Mrs. Siren suddenly came to my mind. I felt empty knowing she would not be with me for the first weekend in 3 months. I wondered what exactly happened to her and I asked her out loud if she had passed, as if she would hear me. The hair on my body stood up and I felt a warm feeling and chills at the same time across my skin. When I arrived at work, I asked everyone what happened. I was told she was discharged to hospice house and she died there. Her son did get there in time. I almost wished I knew more but was happy that she was not alone. A little later that day, there was a phone call for me. When I picked it up, I realized by international number on the caller ID that it was Mrs. Siren's daughter-in-law. She confirmed that Mrs. Siren died at hospice very peacefully. She thanked me for getting her husband back to the states in time and told me that he never left her after he arrived that Sunday night. The rest of the compliments are really just a blur to me but I remember her saying, "I know you are busy, now go help someone else like you did for us... Thank you, Linda, for everything." What a coincidence... or maybe it was not.

2009
Clinical
Excellence
Conference

Register Today!
April 3, 2009 | Leu Gardens, Orlando

Nurses share their personal stories of how they made a difference in a patient's/family members life of this conference. Lunch is provided.

Contact conferences@floridanurse.org for more information.

Nurses are at the heart of the matter.

With a focus on clinical practice, this one day event is based on Dr. Patricia Benner's work related to the journey of nurses from the levels of novice to expert. Through exemplars, nurses share their experiences and demonstrate evidence of their effect on the course of their patient's experience in the healthcare arena under their care. The exemplars also demonstrate the expertise of these nurses based on the clinical decisions they made and the care they gave. These nurses were nominated by FNA members as experts in clinical practice. They will share what they thought and felt about the clinical situation.

Check, As Applies	Before 3/13	After 3/13
FNA Member _____	\$85	\$100
Retired Member _____	\$65	\$80
Student _____	\$35	\$35
Nominator _____	\$75	\$75
Guest of Presenter _____	\$40	\$40
Non-Member _____	\$125	\$140

Name & Credentials _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Circle Payment Method: Check MasterCard Visa AMEX Discover

Credit Card #: _____ Exp date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

Please indicate any special needs (physical or dietary): _____

_____ Check here if you need a vegetarian meal.

**Refunds for this conference must be requested by March 16, 2009. No refunds will be made after this date. No telephone registration accepted. Return completed registration form and payment to FNA, P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853-6985, conferences@floridanurse.org or fax to 407.896.9042. Conference registration fee includes CE, conference materials, morning coffee and lunch.

MORE INFO: floridanurse.org | conferences@floridanurse.org | 407.896.3261

MEMBERSHIP



2009 Star Campaign "Starship FNA"

3-2-1 BLAST OFF! The 2009 Star Campaign has officially launched! Please see below for FNA superstars who are on board with the Star Campaign.

Don't forget, Star Campaign cadets who recruit the most receive special prizes, such as free registrations to FNA conferences, including this year's Centennial Celebration. This year, we are also awarding top recruiters with hotel stays from all over the state of Florida!

Thank you to those of you who have been working hard to recruit new FNA members. Remember, FNA only gets stronger with the more members that we have. As we grow in numbers, we grow in strength and voice!

Cynthia Archibald	1	Lisa Girouard	1	Kevin Metzging	1
Jen Augarten	1	Andrea Gregg	1	Susan Ricci	1
Susan Bedinger	1	Casey Hense	1	Kathleen Rudolph	1
Anne Boykin	1	Ruby Rose Hutchinson	3	Andrea Seaman	1
Edward Briggs	1	Mavra Kear	2	Sherry Sharp	1
Virginia Carter	1	Brandy Lehman	1	Cynthia Thomas	1
Deborah Chapa	1	Rhonda Lesniak	1	Sandra Thompson	1
Cheryl Cicotti	7	Carolyn Lightner	1	Maria Wilder	1
Elizabeth Cleveland	1	Toni Linck	1		
Robin Dayton	1	Maria Lourdes Lledo	1	FNSA	
Wilson De Jesus	2	John Lowe	1	William Ahrens	1
Susan Dyess	1	Marsha Martin	2	Debra Hunt	1
Annmarie J. Farro	6	Diane Mayes	9	Toni Linck	12
Susan Forbes	1	Gina McLain	3	Meg Marcus	1
Susan Fountain	1	Denise McNulty	1	Diane Mayes	1

District Listing

Dist. #	Name	Dist. #	Name	Dist. #	Name
1	Escambia, Santa Rosa	11	Flagler, St. Johns	25	Monroe
2	Baker, Nassau, Duval, Clay, Bradford	12	Polk	27	Highlands
3	Marion	15	Walton, Holmes, Jackson, Washington	29	Collier
4	Hillsborough	16	Columbia, Union	30	Hamilton, Suwanee, LaFayette
5	Dade	17	Indian River	32	S. Brevard, N. Brevard
6	Volusia	20	Sarasota, Manatee, Hardee	35	Gadsden, Liberty, Calhoun, Franklin
7	Lee, Charlotte, DeSoto	21	Broward	36	Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter
8	Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake	22	Gulf, Bay	38	Okaloosa
9	N. Palm Beach	23	Leon, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Wakula	40	S. Palm Beach
10	Alachua, Gilchrist, Levy, Putnam, Dixie	24	Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry	46	Pinellas

FNA Launches Exciting New 2009 Membership Drive

The 2009 Star Campaign is underway but this year we are working to make recruiting doubly worthwhile to both the organization and *especially* the recruiters with bigger and better rewards for the top recruiters. These prizes (to date) will include hotel weekends, prizes from Florida attractions, provided by the following sponsors:

Hotels

- Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort-Clearwater Beach, FL.
- Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort- Daytona Beach, FL
- Hilton Naples- Naples, FL
- Hutchinson Island Marriott Beach Resort
- PGA National Resort and Spa-Palm Beach Gardens, FL
- Plantation Inn Golf Resort and Spa- Crystal River, FL
- Quorum Hotel-Tampa, FL
- Radisson WorldGate Resort
- Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, FL
- Safety Harbor Resort Spa-Safety Harbor, FL
- Mission Inn Resort and Club-Howey in the Hills, FL
- Hyatt Hotels Coral Gables-Coral Gables, FL

Attractions

- Homosassa Springs Wildlife S
- Ripley's Believe it or Not Museum
- Butterfly World
- Central Florida Zoo and Botanical Gardens
- Gator Land
- Canoe Outpost-Peace River
- Florida Aquarium
- Bok Tower Gardens
- Museum of Science and History
- Wet and Wild

Sophia Palmer Risk Retention Group

Two \$100 bills in celebration of our Centennial to go to the two Grand Prize winners!

The two Grand Prize Winners will also receive registration to the Centennial Convention and three nights in the hotel during the convention as in previous years.

The prize packages are still growing, so start recruiting today! You never know what you might win!

Florida Nurses Association Membership Application

Membership is open to all registered nurses (RN). FNA dues include membership in the American Nurses Association (ANA) and your local District Nurses Association. Please check the appropriate dues category.

ADP Option (Available to Full Pay and State Only members) Authorization is given to withdraw \$24.25 per month for full pay members or \$16.83 per month for state only members which includes \$1.00 service charge) on or before the 20th of each month. **Enclosed is the first month's payment along with a voided check for processing of further deductions.** FNA is authorized to charge the amount by giving the undersigned thirty days written notice. **The undersigned may cancel this authorization by written notification of termination to FNA within 30 days prior to deduction date.**

Authorizing signature _____

- FULL MEMBERSHIP DUES** **\$279.00**
Employed full time or part time under 62 years of age.
- SEMI-ANNUAL DUES** **\$140.75**
- REDUCED MEMBERSHIP DUES** **\$139.50**
 - Not currently employed
 - Full time student
 - FNSA First Time Renewal (new promotion!)
 - New graduate, basic nursing education program (first year only)
 - 62 years of age or older and not earning more than social security system allows without loss of your monthly social security payment.

- REDUCED SEMI-ANNUAL DUES** **\$71.00**
- SPECIAL RETIREMENT DUES** **\$69.75**
60 years of age or older and not employed
- FNA STATE ONLY MEMBERSHIP** **\$190.00**

Choose the payment plan you desire:

- Full payment
- Semi-annual (Full and Reduced payment only)
- FNA State Only Membership

Credit Card Information

- Discover
- American Express
- Master card
- Visa

Credit Card Number _____

Card expires: _____ Signature on Card _____

3 digit security code _____

Please make your check payable to Florida Nurses Association,
P.O. Box 536985, Orlando FL 32853-6985.

I was referred by: _____

Graduate Nurse/FNSA ID # _____

District Number: _____ Amount enclosed _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (____) _____

Email address _____ Circle one: RN ARNP

Major Area(s) of Practice _____

Employer _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Employer Phone _____ Date of graduation (student) _____

License number _____ Date of Birth _____

Note: Membership dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution, rather they may be deductible as a business expense if you itemize your deductions. The exception is that a portion of your FNA and ANA dues used for lobbying purposes that is estimated to be twenty five percent (25%). A portion of a members annual dues (\$5) is automatically contributed to the Florida Nurses Political Action Committee unless by written request, the member designates this amount be paid to the FNA General Fund.

The Florida Nurse newspaper is being sent you courtesy of the paying members of the Florida Nurses Association. Receipt of the newspaper is **not** an assurance of membership. To join, please complete and mail in the application on this page or go to our website at www.floridanurse.org to join online.

Greetings from the Florida Nursing Students Association!

by Josie Schreder-Guhl, FNSA President

Let me take a minute to introduce myself... I'm Josephine (Josie) Schreder-Guhl, President of both the Florida Nursing Students Association (FNSA) and the Barry University Nursing Students Association (BU-NSA). I am currently in my final semester of working on my RN/BSN at Barry University and my senior honors thesis title is *Determining Effective Leadership Characteristics in Undergraduate Students*. I was born in Lancaster, PA and grew up in Key West, FL. I am looking forward to a career in Pediatric Intensive Care nursing upon graduation.



Josie Schreder-Guhl

The FNSA is very fortunate to have twelve amazing executive board members this year, as well as 3 consultants!

- Summer Howell, 1st Vice President, Santa Fe College;
- Michelle Rogers, 2nd Vice President, University of Central Florida;
- Sheena Henry, Corresponding Secretary, Santa Fe College;
- Sarah Linck, Recording Secretary, Polk Community College;
- Nathan Roddenberry, Treasurer, University of North Florida;
- Leanna Preuss, Region 1 Director/Membership, Florida State University;
- Jessica Campbell, Region 2 Director/Communications, Florida Southern College;
- Sarah Dickerman, Region 3 Director/Nominations and Elections, University of Central Florida;
- Schevon Pierre, Region 4 Director/Legislative, Polk Community College;
- Jenna Beyounes, Region 5 Director/Community Health, University of Central Florida;
- Jennifer Sastoque, Region 6 Director/Resolutions, Barry University;

- Mary-Patricia Allen, Region 7 Director/Breakthrough to Nursing, Manatee Community College; and
- Consultants: Toni Linck (Polk Community College), Dr. Pamela Ark (University of Central Florida) and Cynthia Boucher (Santa Fe College).

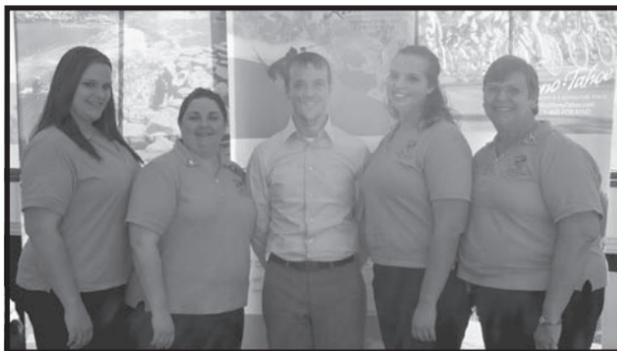
The FNSA sponsored Nursing Students' Week, as proclaimed by Governor Charlie Crist, February 22-28, 2009. This was a week in which nursing students from all over the state celebrated the future nurses that we will become! Nursing students participated in community service events, such as taking blood pressure screenings, presented workshops about resume writing and how to land the perfect nursing job and rewarded themselves with pizza and ice cream parties.

FNSA will also be attending Lobby Days in conjunction with FNA. We are excited to talk to several key representatives, as well as to network with lobbyists and nurses from all over the state of Florida. It is extremely important to get our voices heard as nurses. If we don't fight for our profession, who will?

We are also looking forward to attending the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) Annual Convention, in Nashville, TN, April 14-18, 2009! Last year, Florida had the highest delegation. This year, we hope to have the same showing! We will be presenting the resolution passed by the FNSA House of Delegates in October pertaining to ANA's position on nursing workforce data collection to the NSNA House of Delegates.

We are looking forward to another great year of working with FNA! I want to personally thank you for your continued support and guidance!

Josie Schreder-Guhl
FNSA President
fnsapresident@yahoo.com



Sarah Linck, Michelle Rogers, Josie Schreder-Guhl and Toni Linck at the 2008 NSNA Midyear Conference.

Longtime FNSA Consultants Move on after Outstanding Service

FNA would like to recognize the work of two outstanding members who have dedicated immeasurably to the success of the FNSA. Dr. Mary Lou Van Cott and Dr. Carol Petrozella have both served as FNSA consultants on the local and state level for 25 and 16 years respectively. Both have recently stepped down from their roles as FNSA state consultants.

Dr. Van Cott began her service for FNSA at the University of South Florida in Tampa before becoming a state consultant. As school consultant, she performed many duties including the massive task of handling registration at the state convention for many years running. At the state level, she not only attended weekend meetings and convention, she served as parliamentarian. Dr. Van Cott also served as parliamentarian at the national level. Several years ago, in honor of her work, FNSA awarded Dr. Van Cott *Honorary Lifetime Membership*, their highest honor.



Mary Lou Van Cott

Dr. Petrozella began her work with the students at Miami-Dade Community College (now Miami-Dade College). She worked with all aspects of the association but primarily focused on working with the students involved in community health, particularly the Childhood Amblyopia Prevention Screening (CAPS) Program and the March of Dimes initiative. She also oversaw convention registration and served as a problem solver and "go to" person for issues and problems during conventions that consistently drew 1100-1400 students from across Florida. Dr. Petrozella was also awarded *Honorary Lifetime Membership*.



Carol Petrozella



New Graduates!
We can't imagine a future without you!



Every day there are challenges facing the profession of nursing. FNA is in need of new leaders, fueled by professionalism, enthusiasm and an appetite for advocacy. Don't stand on the sidelines and let others make decisions for you. Join us today!

FNSA members get a complimentary membership for the first year! Complete the application within 60 days of graduation and include your NSNA membership number. You get the full benefit of membership for free. That's a \$279 value! We offer Non-FNSA members the opportunity to join for half price.

NEW Benefit: FNSA members who join for free get the second year for half price!!! We make it easier for you to stay on the road to professional advocacy.

Florida Nurses Association
P.O. Box 536985
Orlando, FL 32853-6985
Phone-(407)896-3261
Fax-(407)896-9042
info@floridanurse.org

Visit us on the web at www.floridanurse.org.



FOUNDATION

Friends and Colleagues Tribute In support of the Paula Massey Nurses in Need Fund

The Foundation Trustees have been diligently working on ways to increase the Foundation's funding, including for Nurses in Need. For the first time, in 2008, the program ran out of money and was unable to fund grants throughout most of 2008. For this reason, the Trustees voted to continue raising money to increase the Paula Massey Nurses In Need Fund endowment to \$15,000.

In order to raise those additional funds, the Florida Nurses Foundation is initiating a special program where nurses may pay tribute to a friend or colleague who they feel has been a mentor or supporter to them, or has made significant contributions to nursing in Florida. For this tribute, the Foundation would like to encourage nurses to donate any amount they can afford and the name of their honoree will be highlighted in The Florida Nurse, Members Only, FNA QuickNews and the FNA website. This is a great way to say thank you and recognize a colleague. If you would like, you can tell the story of how this colleague supported you and some stories will be selected to be featured in The Florida Nurse.

To contribute, please fill out this form:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

I would like to honor _____

Donation amount: _____

____ Check enclosed ____ Credit Card

Circle one: MC Visa AMEX Discover

CVV code _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

_____ I am attaching /enclosing a story about my honoree. (optional)

Please send to FNA, P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853-6985 or fax credit card payments to 407.896.904. Questions? Email foundation@floridanurse.org

FNF Offers Research Grants and Scholarships

Florida Nurses Foundation Awards Research Grants and Scholarships Annually

The Florida Nurses Foundation (FNF) is pleased to announce that the 2009 research grant and scholarship applications are now available online. Please visit floridanurse.org/foundationGrants for the applications and upload instructions. Only applications uploaded through the FNA website will be considered. The deadline to upload completed applications is June 1, 2009. Inquiries about scholarships and research grants should be directed to foundation@floridanurse.org.

FNF exists to promote nursing and delivery of healthcare through the advancement of research, education and practice. Each year, funds are provided to registered nurses and students for scholarships and research grants.

FNF was established by members of the Florida Nurses Association (FNA) in 1983 and first grants

were awarded in 1986. The FNF focus has evolved over time to include support of nursing education and research, healthcare advocacy education and to provide assistance to nurses in need. Funding for FNF initiatives comes from FNA member donations, entrusted FNA member funds and FNF fundraising efforts.



Nurses



Building A Healthy America

Happy National Nurses Week

May 6-12, 2009

Nurses



Building A Healthy America

are you what you eat?

Some people believe that food goes hand-in-hand with memories. The Florida Nurses Foundation (FNF) is banking on it! FNF is putting together a special Centennial cookbook and are looking for FNA members to contribute your favorite recipes and stories.

calling all chefs!

Is your favorite potato salad recipe handed down through generations of your family? Do you want to share your apple pie recipe, as well as your favorite Fourth of July story? Will your spaghetti recipe make mouths water and your spaghetti story make sides split? Send your recipe and anecdote to foundation@floridanurse.org... Photos are welcome!

*Thank you in advance for your submissions. FNF cannot guarantee that each recipe/story/photo submitted will be included in the FNF Centennial Cookbook.

The Art of Nursing

This year, in celebration of FNA's 100 Years of Advocacy, the Florida Nurses Foundation will be holding an auction based on the artistic works of nurses. We are inviting nurses to donate items that they have created or, if you are not artistically inclined, we would like to encourage you to donate nursing related items of an "artistic" nature so that everyone has the opportunity to participate. The following items are suggested donations, but feel free to come up with other appropriate items:

- Paintings, Drawings, Quilts, Fiber Arts, Wearables, Photography, Ceramics, Pottery, Dolls (porcelain, ceramic, cloth, art dolls), Knitted or Crocheted Items, Carvings, Posters (particularly historic items), Collectibles, Art Books That Depict Nursing, Etc.

If you would like to donate an item to the FNF auction, please email foundation@floridanurse.org or mail to FNA Headquarters.

up Sport the Barbara Lumpkin Institute. the hottest BLI gear.

Everyone Wins.

Donate to the Barbara Lumpkin Institute and get exclusive BLI gear! BLI is a division of the Florida Nurses Foundation dedicated to educating nurses about public policy and healthcare advocacy.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Your Support | What You Sport |
| \$30..... | Mug |
| \$75..... | Mug & Calculator |
| \$225..... | Water Bottle & Brief Bag |
| \$250..... | Brief Bag, Mug, Calculator & Water Bottle |



fundraiser

Support public policy education for nurses by purchasing Barbara Lumpkin Institute gear. All proceeds benefit the Barbara Lumpkin Institute. If you would like to purchase BLI items, please email conferences@floridanurse.org

Patient Advocacy Needed More than Ever

by Anna Small, CNM, JD

At the time of publication, the 2009 Legislative Session is about to begin. As FNA does every year, we have sought and found sponsors for several bills which will improve working conditions and the practice of nurses at all levels. Of overshadowing interest this year, however, is the projected revenue shortfall which will require significant cuts to the budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.



Anna Small

Legislation this year of significant interest to nurses is a staffing bill by Representative Brisé. The bill requires that each hospital establish a collaborative council with a majority of registered nurses who provide direct patient care. The council will develop a staffing plan for each patient care unit based on the ANA principles of staffing.

Also of interest is this year's Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs) controlled substance prescribing bill filed by Senator Bennett and Representative Zapata. This bill seeks a legislative change which would permit ARNPs to prescribe controlled substances schedules II-V. While we have allies this year in the Florida Hospital Association and the Florida Retail Federation, and while the Senate Interim Study results were very positive, the bill has fierce opposition.

The clinical laboratories bill has been filed again this year by Representative Luis Garcia and Senator Mike Fasano. This bill got bogged down at the end of last year due to political reasons, but we are optimistic regarding its chances this year. If it passes, it will add ARNPs to the list of providers from whom clinical laboratories are mandated to accept orders and specimens.

We are also closely following legislation which will require hospitals to develop a safe patient handling policy and we are actively working on maintaining the funding for the Florida Center for Nursing.

Which brings us to the budget. Since healthcare and education make up a significant portion of the state's budget, it would be impossible to make the kind of budget cuts which have recently been required without reducing the healthcare budget.

In early 2009, there was a special session to cut the 2008-2009 budget due to revenue shortfalls. Presently, the revenue shortfall for the 2009-2010 budget is projected to be another \$4 billion.

As we wait for effect of a federal economic stimulus package, we Floridians are faced with rising unemployment, a decrease in tourism and a bottomed out real estate market.

As nurses, we are patient advocates. The 2009 Legislative Session will provide us an opportunity to advocate for others. While we do intend to emphasize the proposed legislation discussed in this article, we will also be provided with ample opportunity to speak up for some of our most vulnerable citizens as we monitor proposed budget cuts to Florida's health programs. We plan to advocate for an increase in the cigarette tax which will serve a two-fold purpose of raising needed revenue and deterring people from smoking.

We encourage FNA members to monitor FNA's weekly legislative updates in order to follow the proposed budget cuts. Together, though advocacy, we can protect the children, the elderly, the disabled, the uninsured and the under-insured from further budget cuts which could cause irreparable damage to their way of life and to our ability to provide them with crucial services.

Legislative District Coordinators: Heart of FNA Legislative Program

We are currently in the midst of our busy legislative season and we are appealing to you to get involved with FNA's legislative program. The time is NOW. *YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.*

FNA's Legislative District Coordinator (LDC) network has been developed and is maintained so that you—nurses on the local level—can interact with your legislators on behalf of nursing and healthcare issues. FNA gives you the tools that you need to communicate with your legislators—from a toolkit filled with sample scripts, letters, etc. to learning sessions that will educate you on FNA legislative priorities, communication skills and more. LDCs take these tools and represent FNA to legislators and to the community.

LDCs are the face of the FNA legislative program: Meeting with legislators about nursing issues, distributing FNPAC checks and representing FNA at local legislative forums. The program is what you make of it and will take as much as time as you are willing to invest in it.

Does this all sound appealing and exciting to you? Then you are the perfect candidate to be a FNA LDC. LDCs are needed throughout the state of Florida. Please see below for a list of districts/counties that need FNA LDC representation. If you are interested at all in becoming a FNA LDC, please contact govt@floridanurse.org or call the Members Online Hotline at 800.637.0227 as soon as possible. Please indicate which FNA district you are from and which House/Senate district you would like to represent.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration!

Legislative District Coordinators Needed

LDCs are needed in the following FNA districts to communicate with the corresponding House and Senate districts:

FNA District, County	House District	Senate District
38, Okaloosa	4	
1, Santa Rosa	4	
2, Clay	13	
2, Clay	20	
11, Flagler	20	
11, St. Johns	20	
Bradford	21	
2, Clay	21	
8, Lake	21	
3, Marion	21	
10, Putnam	21	
6, Volusia	21	
6, Volusia	27	
32, Brevard	29	
17, Indian River	29	
8, Orange	39	
4, Hillsborough	47	
8, Orange	49	
8, Osceola	49	
4, Hillsborough	59	
4, Hillsborough	60	
36, Pasco	60	
4, Hillsborough	68	
20, Manatee	68	
20, Sarasota	70	
7, Charlotte	72	
7, Desoto	72	
7, Lee	72	

FNA District, County	House District	Senate District
29, Collier	77	
24, Glades	77	
24, Hendry	77	
27, Highlands	77	
24, Martin	78	
24, Okeechobee	78	
40, Palm Beach	78	
24, St. Lucie	78	
24, Okeechobee	79	
8, Orange	79	
8, Osceola	79	
12, Polk	79	
24, Martin	81	
24, St. Lucie	81	
40, Palm Beach	84	
21, Broward	102	
5, Dade	102	
5, Dade	104	
5, Dade	109	
5, Dade	110	
21, Broward	112	
29, Collier	112	
5, Dade	112	
5, Dade	116	
5, Dade	117	
5, Dade	118	
5, Dade	119	
7, Charlotte		23
20, Manatee		23
20, Sarasota		23
5, Dade		33
5, Dade		40

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama

Patricia R. Messmer, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN

As the secretary of the American Nurses Association-Political Action Committee (ANA-PAC), I was invited to several inaugural events in honor of incoming 44th President, Barack Obama and 47th Vice President Joe Biden and their families. It was a wonderful few days of historical events! I was honored to have shared it with the other ANA-PAC Board of Trustees and ANA President, Becky Patton.

Monday, January 19th: ANA-PAC Vice-Chair, Lori Lioce (Alabama Nurses Association) and I attended a Skadden Arps Executive Briefing, *What Lies Ahead for the Next Administration & the Impact on the Business Community* at the Mandarin Hotel, DC. Gregory M. Luce of Skadden Arps spoke on healthcare issues. The keynote speaker was Eugene Robinson, columnist for

the *Washington Post*. Mr. Robinson stated in his address and *Washington Post* column on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 that our new president is a man who knows exactly who he is. Eugene told about his parents' experience with segregation in the South and how they were so thrilled to see Obama become the new 44th President. Lori and I then went to the Florida Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Congressmen Robert Wexler and Ron Klein's dessert reception in the Library of Congress.

On Monday evening, I attended The Illinois State Society Inaugural Gala at the Renaissance Hotel with ANA-PAC Chair, Sara Jarrett (Colorado Nurses Association) and ANA-PAC Treasurer, Mary Behrens (Wyoming Nurses Association). There, I had the opportunity to meet and talk to JC Watts, the former US Congressman from Oklahoma. Watts, a moderate Republican, supported Mr. Obama for his ideology.

Tuesday, January 20th: Lori Lioce, ANA-PAC Member, Mary Maryland (Illinois Nurses Association) and I navigated our way through the Metro, crowds and security to be at the **ANA Joint Event** Swearing In Ceremony and Parade Watching at 101 Constitution Ave NW, DC. We were with Becky Patton, ANA President, and other ANA officers/former officers, including Barbara Thoman Curtis who now resides in Daytona Beach, Florida. It was well worth the effort and, as nurses, we had patience, perseverance, positive attitudes and determination and, of course, layers of warm clothes!



Pat Messmer, ANA-PAC Secretary, and Becky Patton, ANA President.



Pat Messmer, ANA-PAC Secretary, and Florida Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz.



Don't Bet On It...

Legislative District Coordinators (LDCs) are the lifeline of FNA's legislative program and the voice of Florida nurses. LDCs meet with legislators, are FN-PAC liaisons and make sure that the nursing issues are at the forefront of political issues.

If you care about the legislative future of nursing in your district and in the state of Florida, don't place your bet on someone else. Take the future of nursing into your own hands and become FNA LDC today!

How Do You Become a FNA LDC?
 Contact govt@floridanurse.org or visit floridanurse.org and click on Legislative Activities.



District 3– Marion County

Mary S. Clark, ARNP

**District 3 Conference 2009
Family Practice Potpourri
Encore
May 16 , 2009**

**Ewer Century Center
On CFCC Campus
Ocala Florida
8:00–5:00 PM
\$50 early bird before
1/31/08**

**\$10 discount for FNA
members**

Approval pending 6 hours ANCC and AAPA credits. For more information, visit marionnurses.org.

DISTRICT 5–Miami-Dade County

Jill Tahmooressi, RN

District 5, Florida Nurses Association met on December 5th in conjunction with the South Florida Organization of Nurse Executives. This joint meeting at the Hotel Sofitel in Miami comprised of a very valuable and interesting legislative session with 3 state-wide legislative experts; Barbara Lumpkin, Robert M. Levy and Nancy Humbert. The meeting and legislative update was an extraordinary event. Participants learned much from the speakers on the state of Florida with regard to healthcare and nursing advocacy. This event was very well attended by 100 participants and much appreciation to President-Elect South Florida Organization of Nurse Executives and District 5, Florida Nurses Association Treasurer Maria Lina (Bing) Wood for coordinating this collaborative joint meeting.

At the December meeting of District 5, FNA intent to serve as a delegate at the FNA convention and House of Delegates planned for September 2009 Clearwater Beach Florida was solicited. The first edition of the District 5 newsletter, *The Heartbeat* mailing late winter will accompany the ballot to serve as delegate to the House of Delegates and convention.

All ballots must be mailed back to Gene Majka, Barry University School of Nursing, 11300 NE 2nd Ave Miami Shores, FL 33161 on or before 8/1/2009. Write-ins on the ballot with a vote are welcomed.

The slate of officer's ballot for District 5, FNA Term 2010-2011 will be suspended until vote at the House of Delegates/ convention which will solidify the future of the district; as the district may be converted to regional with more broad reaching scope of representation.

Continue to stay informed of the House of

Delegate District 5 election results by going onto the District 5 website www.fna5.org kept up to date by Chair of Public Relations Bonnie Taggart. *The Heartbeat*, the district 5 official news publication is also available on the website.

Lastly, the 2009 District 5, Florida Nurses Association Awards packet will be available on the website by March for printing and submission by the due date listed in the awards packet; much appreciation to JoAnn Gottlieb, PhD, Chair of the Awards Committee for preparing this year's packet.

Reminder to members of District 5, with the exception of the first edition of each year which is sent by U.S. postal service, *The Heartbeat* is distributed via email so please keep your email address current with the Orlando, Florida office of Florida Nurses Association to avoid missing out on our district's news and activities.

If you do not have access to email and would like every edition mailed to you by hard copy please contact District 5 President at jill.tahmooressi@mch.com or 954-254-4762.

The first meeting of '09 is planned at the Dolphin Stadium during the Marlin's pre-game show (purchased ticket is necessary) on May 16th at 6:30pm in Club Level C. See Flier in upcoming *The Florida Nurse* for more details.

Awardees of the District 5, Florida Nurses Association annual 2009 awards will be honored on field during the pre-game show. Get your nominations in by printing the submission packet available on our website www.fna5.org.

Other meetings planned for this year include October 8th, 5pm and December 8th, 5pm at Miami Children's Hospital, Auditorium, Classroom A. The District is looking forward to your active participation moving nursing and healthcare forward this new year 2009!

District 6–Volusia County

Angeline Bushy, PhD, RN, FAAN

Happy New Year to all FNA members. I hope that 2009 is off to a good start for everyone.

The officers and members of FNA District VI continue to hold monthly meetings with a continuing education offering at the University of Central Florida (UCF) College of Nursing (CON) on the Daytona Beach (DB) Campus. Officers for the organization are Barbara Wheeler (Vice President), Stacey Deluca (Secretary), Jan Crownover (Treasure) and Angeline Bushy (President). Individuals having a range of interest and expertise from within the local area have been speakers at our meetings.

The November meeting focused on the Marchman Act-The Florida Substance Abuse Impairment Act: Questions & Answers, presented by Richard Rademacher, /Clinical Services Director, Substance Abuse at Stewart-Marchman-ACT Behavioral Healthcare. Mr. Radmacher reported on the significance of substance abuse in the local area, admission processes associated with the Marchman Act and informed attendees about receiving facilities in Volusia/Flagler County for clients admitted under the Marchman Act.

A sincere thanks to FNA District VI members who donated gift cards to the Volusia/Flagler Children's Medical Services (CMS) at the November meeting. Administrators of CMS sent a thank you note expressing their appreciation for the gift cards, as well as for the \$300.00 donation from FNA –District VI. Our donations were used for the annual Christmas party for their clients (families of children).

While attendance was low at the December meeting, the camaraderie—along with the food—donated for the potluck dinner were par excellence. Thank you as well to members who donated socks and shoes for the homeless at this meeting. Those supplies were delivered to the nursing office at the Volusia/Flagler Coalition for the Homeless on Ridgewood Avenue. It was obvious the particular donations are GREATLY

appreciated especially during this cold season of the year.

For the January 2009 meeting, Ms. Pat Dewsbury, BSN updated the members on the Florida Baker Act. She reported on the prevalence of individuals with mental health diagnoses in Volusia County, the admission processes associated with the Baker Act and receiving facilities in Volusia County for clients admitted under the Baker Act. Ms. Dewsbury, an active member of District VI, recently was promoted to the position of Vice President of Nursing of Stewart Marchman-ACT Behavioral Health Care. Prior to this, for almost 10 years, she served as the Director of Nursing for ACT inpatient services.

Finally, consistent with the nation as a whole, members of District VI were also actively engaged in national, state and local election activities. Several District VI members attended the inauguration of President Obama for President of the United States. We look forward to hearing about their experiences at a future meeting and being involved with healthcare reform initiatives at the national and state level.

District 8



District 8 (Orange, Seminole, Osceola and Lake counties) Holiday luncheon.

District 17– Indian River County

by Inez V. Fielding, RN

FNA District 17 held our annual Fish Fry on November 23, 2008 by the river at the home of Steve Massey, RN. This event was enjoyed by all.

The Christmas Celebration was at the home of Phyllis Burke, RN. Donations were made to a needy family, the Sources and student nurses.

Our next meeting will be our Valentine's Celebration at the home of Patricia Schwartz, ARNP. There has been a decline in attendance at meetings and hope this will increase attendance. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at Royal Palm Convalescent Center.

District 29– Collier County

by Denise McNulty, ARNP

A dinner meeting for members and their guests was sponsored by District 29 on November 13, 2008. Ninety nurses attended from Collier County. The dinner meeting was graciously hosted by Moorings Park and held in their beautiful Grill Room. Cocktails and networking began at 6 pm, followed by dinner and a membership meeting. The installation of new Board Members was conducted. A presentation entitled *Nurses Save Lives* was given by one of our District Members, Donna Wolf, MSN, ARNP. The evening ended with a raffle drawing. Our District raised a total of \$310 to help build our District fund. All raffle items were donated by our Board Members. Thanks to all for a great 2008! We are truly blessed.

LERC Update

by Leslie Homsted, RN

Director Professional Practice Advocacy, FNA

UAN National Labor Assembly

The 2009 United American Nurses (UAN) National Labor Assembly (NLA) will take place March 9-10, 2009 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. FNA LERC will be represented by 3 delegates: Marsha Martin, RN (Shands @ UF); Debbie Hogan, RN (State Unit); and Diane Mayes, RN (James A. Haley VA). At the NLA, the delegates will be considering proposed UAN Constitutional Amendments and Resolutions brought forward on timely issues. Elections will also be conducted for the following offices: UAN Secretary-Treasurer, two (2) Directors, one (1) Nominations Committee member, one (1) Hearing Panel member and one (1) Hearing Panel Alternate. The delegates will also have the opportunity to attend a Lobby Day at the Capitol on March 11.

Shands @ UF

Shands Local Unit Leadership has been working with Andrea Staples, UAN Director of Organizing, to develop and implement a plan for membership growth and development within their unit.

Wuesthoff Medical Center

Wuesthoff Local Unit Leadership has been working with Andrea Staples, UAN Director of Organizing, to develop and implement a plan for membership growth and development within their unit.

Guidelines for Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings

by Leslie Homsted, RN

Director, Professional Practice Advocacy, FNA

The CDC (Centers for Disease Control) issued the Guidelines for Hand Hygiene in Health Care Settings several years ago. The recommendations and guidelines are designed to improve hand-hygiene practices of HCWs (healthcare workers) and to reduce transmission of pathogenic microorganisms to patients and personnel in health-care settings.

The Guidelines for Hand Hygiene have been implemented in most, if not all, acute care settings and probably in most other healthcare settings. We continue to get calls and questions about the employer's ability to institute a policy on artificial nails and/or the length of nails that nurses and other direct care healthcare workers are allowed. The policies have been developed in response to the CDC Guidelines which include a provision stating that health care workers should avoid wearing artificial nails.

You will find the Guidelines for Hand Hygiene reprinted here for your use and reference.

For additional information you can go to the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

Hand Hygiene Guidelines

- Improved adherence to hand hygiene (i.e. hand washing or use of alcohol-based hand rubs) has been shown to terminate outbreaks in healthcare facilities, to reduce transmission of antimicrobial resistant organisms (e.g. methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus) and reduce overall infection rates.
- The CDC is releasing guidelines to improve adherence to hand hygiene in healthcare settings. In addition to traditional handwashing with soap and water, CDC is recommending the use of alcohol-based handrubs by healthcare



Leslie Homsted

personnel for patient care because they address some of the obstacles that healthcare professionals face when taking care of patients.

- Handwashing with soap and water remains a sensible strategy for hand hygiene in non-health care settings and is recommended by CDC and other experts.
- When healthcare personnel's hands are visibly soiled, they should wash with soap and water.
- The use of gloves does not eliminate the need for hand hygiene. Likewise, the use of hand hygiene does not eliminate the need for gloves. Gloves reduce hand contamination by 70 percent to 80 percent, prevent cross-contamination and protect patients and healthcare personnel from infection. Handrubs should be used before and after each patient just as gloves should be changed before and after each patient.
- When using an alcohol-based handrub, apply product to palm of one hand and rub hands together, covering all surfaces of hands and fingers, until hands are dry. Note that the volume needed to reduce the number of bacteria on hands varies by product.
- Alcohol-based handrubs significantly reduce the number of microorganisms on skin, are fast acting and cause less skin irritation.
- Healthcare personnel should avoid wearing artificial nails and keep natural nails less than one quarter of an inch long if they care for patients at high risk of acquiring infections (e.g. - patients in intensive care units or in transplant units).
- When evaluating hand hygiene products for potential use in healthcare facilities, administrators or product selection committees should consider the relative efficacy of antiseptic agents against various pathogens and the acceptability of hand hygiene products by personnel. Characteristics of a product that can affect acceptance and therefore usage include its smell, consistency, color and the effect of dryness on hands.
- As part of these recommendations, CDC is asking healthcare facilities to develop and implement a system for measuring improvements in adherence to these hand hygiene recommendations. Some of the suggested performance indicators include: periodic monitoring of hand hygiene adherence and providing feedback to personnel regarding their performance, monitoring the volume of alcohol-based handrub used/1000 patient days, monitoring adherence to policies dealing with wearing artificial nails and focused assessment of the adequacy of healthcare personnel hand hygiene when outbreaks of infection occur.
- Allergic contact dermatitis due to alcohol hand rubs is very uncommon. However, with increasing use of such products by healthcare personnel, it is likely that true allergic reactions to such products will occasionally be encountered.
- Alcohol-based hand rubs take less time to use than traditional hand washing. In an eight-hour shift, an estimated one hour of an ICU nurse's time will be saved by using an alcohol-based handrub.
- These guidelines should not be construed to legalize product claims that are not allowed by an FDA product approval by FDA's Over-the-Counter Drug Review. The recommendations are not intended to apply to consumer use of the products discussed.

The CDC protects people's health and safety by preventing and controlling diseases and injuries; enhances health decisions by providing credible information on critical health issues; and promotes healthy living through strong partnerships with local, national and international organizations.



The Mature Minor Exception and the Provision of Medical Treatment The American Association of Nurse Attorneys Tampa Bay Chapter

by **Christa M. Carpenter, RN; BSN, BS**

The information presented by the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Association of Nurse Attorneys is intended as an overview of selected legal topics and should not be construed as legal advice. The information generally reflects the views of the particular author rather than the organization.

A Landmark Case/In 2008, a patient from West Virginia made worldwide news for a decision that would not ordinarily garner much attention: He refused medical treatment. Remarkable about this refusal, however, was the fact that the patient was seventeen and had disobeyed the advice of his physician and the directive of the state in executing a decision few seventeen year olds before him had been legally permitted to make. In fact, his defiance led to the creation of a new law in Virginia named after him—"Abraham's Law"—enabling a minor of fourteen or older to refuse lifesaving medical treatment if the minor was sufficiently mature, had considered all treatment options and the parents likewise believed that the refusal was in the child's best interests.

This recent Virginia law creating a "mature minors" exception to the otherwise settled role of parents as sole arbiters of their children's medical treatment is noteworthy, but not entirely unique. Though nebulous, the boundaries of a minor's autonomy related to medical decisions are predicted to expand, both nationally and within the state of Florida. In states that have incorporated some form of a mature minor exception in the provision of medical care, courts and legislatures alike have taken a holistic approach in determining whether to permit or deny a minor's assertion of autonomy in medical decision-making.

Of course, diverse scenarios give rise to myriad ethical dilemmas, precluding a single approach to determining when a minor can refuse, or consent, to his own medical treatment. In the above case, for example, parents battled alongside their child against the common "enemy" of the state. A different and more contentious dynamic emerges, though, when a child, in opposition to his parents, wishes to refuse or consent to medical treatment. In addition to discussing emergent medical situations involving minors, it is these cases of "parent versus child" that will be primarily addressed.

National Trends/Nationally, all states have recognized a mature minor exception for the purpose of procuring abortions. In *Bellotti v. Baird*, the Supreme Court of the United States in 1979 granted minor women the right to choose to have an abortion, even in contravention of parental wishes, "(i)f she satisfies the court that she is mature and well-informed enough to make intelligently the abortion decision on her own." However, the Court also recognized that "[t]he abortion decision differs in important ways from other decisions that may be made during minority." Understandably, then, this autonomy has not seamlessly translated to other areas of medical decision-making by children.

In medical treatment issues outside the abortion context, at least nine states—namely, Kansas, Tennessee, West Virginia, New York, Ohio, Mississippi, Arkansas, Idaho and Nevada—have recognized some form of the mature minor exception. The District of Columbia has also recognized a mature minor exception in medical treatment for a child close to maturity. To determine sufficient maturity, courts tend to look at the facts of each case in granting an exception. In West Virginia, for instance, the relevant factors in allowing a child's autonomy to trump a parent's authority in a medical decision include age, experience, ability, education and/or

training, degree of judgment exhibited, conduct and demeanor and capacity to appreciate the consequences of the medical decision.

Florida and the Mature Minor Exception/In Florida, there is no law creating an all-inclusive mature minor exception for the provision of medical services. Florida law recognizes a minor as anyone under the age of eighteen who is not emancipated. As a general rule, a minor cannot consent to his own medical treatment. In fact, if a physician treats a child without the parent's consent, the physician could be liable for battery. However, in Florida, a minor's protected right to consent is generated in certain medical scenarios. For instance, a minor may consent to treatment in an outpatient crisis intervention clinic, voluntary substance abuse services, or treatment of sexually transmitted diseases. Additionally, unwed, pregnant minors may give consent to medical services for themselves and their children. Recently, a Florida court recognized the mature minor exception in keeping a fourteen year old girl's mental health records confidential. Though the ruling did not govern the provision of medical treatment, it represented the creation of a right not previously extended to Florida minors in the realm of medical privilege.

Clinical Application/So what does all of this mean for a nurse caring for minor patients? Consider, for example, a registered nurse working in an emergency room with pediatric patients. Does the law of parental consent apply to every medical procedure on a minor?

Medical emergencies are an exception to the rule of parental consent for a minor's medical and/or surgical treatment. Florida law specifically delineates cases in which it would be reasonable for a healthcare provider to render medical care to a minor without procuring parental consent. In general, these scenarios involve accidents or acute illnesses, diseases or conditions in which the delay of treatment would endanger the health or physical wellbeing of the minor. In an emergency, when the minor is unable to reveal the parent's identity, and the parent's identity or whereabouts cannot otherwise be ascertained (e.g., the parent

is unable to be reached by telephone at his work or residence), it is permissible for a physician and hospital staff to treat the child without parental consent. Physicians and hospitals have a duty to attempt to contact a parent, and, if unsuccessful, must document the efforts made to identify and locate the parent.

Consider a second scenario. A seventeen year old minor desires elective surgery, and her parents oppose this decision. As a healthcare professional caring for such a patient, whose wishes govern? If this patient was in a state that already recognized a mature minor exception, or if the patient was an emancipated minor, she would most likely be the ultimate decision-maker in her own medical care. In Florida, however, parental consent is still the abiding norm, and an elective surgery not otherwise covered specifically by law could leave the healthcare provider vulnerable to liability should parents pursue legal action.

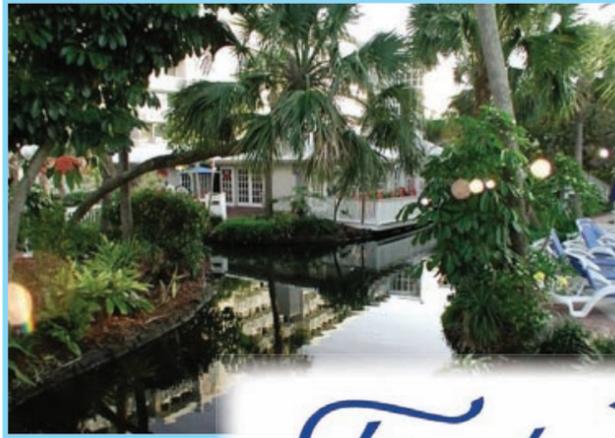
In protecting a minor's right to consent in certain medical situations, the Florida legislature sought to enable minors to seek treatment they would otherwise avoid if such treatment implicated notification of their parents. Perhaps this vision will drive the future expansion of children's autonomy in the provision of medical treatment. As one expert has observed, "[n]o area of the law will have a greater direct and long-term effect on children than laws that will allow them to receive needed medical care."

Christa M. Carpenter is a student member of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Association of Nurse Attorneys. She is a second year law student at Stetson University College of Law. Bellotti v. Baird, 433 U.S. 622 (1979). Id. Belcher v. CAMC, 422 S.E.2d 827 (W.V. 1992). Fla. Stat. § 743.07 (2005). Bittinger, A. Legal Hurdles to Leap to Get Medical Treatment for Children, 80-Jan. Fla. B. J. 24 (January 2006). Fla. Stat. § 394.4784 (2001). Fla. Stat. § 397.601(4)(a) (2001). Fla. Stat. § 384.30 (2000). Fla. Stat. § 743.065 (1999). Fla. Stat. § 743.064 (2005). Id. Ann Bittinger, Vice Chair of the American Health Lawyers Association's Physician Organizations Committee, in her article, Legal Hurdles to Leap to Get Medical Treatment for Children, 80-Jan Fla. B.J. 24 (January 2006).

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2009 marks FNA's 100th year in existence! FNA is commemorating this landmark year with a special Centennial Celebration. The theme for the Centennial Celebration is 100 Years of Advocacy and will be held at the TradeWinds Beach Resort and Conference Center in St. Pete Beach, September 22-26. Please mark your calendars now and plan on making the celebration... families and even dogs are welcome to stay with you at the hotel! For more information on the TradeWinds Beach Resort and Conference Center, please visit tradewindsresort.com.



CALL FOR SPEAKERS

Do you have a topic that you'd like to speak about at the Centennial Celebration? It is a great opportunity to spotlight your issue or learning opportunity to FNA members. If you are interested in speaking at the Centennial Celebration, please fill out the speaker call for proposal, found here. Proposals will be collected and reviewed. If you are selected as a speaker, FNA staff will contact you this summer. The deadline for proposals is April 30, 2009.



TradeWinds
ISLAND RESORTS ON ST. PETE BEACH



Call for Proposals: 2009 FNA Centennial Convention

Please use this form to submit your proposal to speak at the 2009 Centennial Convention. Presentations will be one hour of CE credit from FNA and will also be submitted for ANCC accreditation. The dates of the program are September 22-26, 2009 and it will be held at the TradeWinds Beach Resort & Conference Center in St. Pete Beach, FL. **Speakers must be members of the Florida Nurses Association or another state association.** If your presentation is chosen, your registration will be complimentary for the day of your presentation.

Name _____

Title and Credentials _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

Work Email _____ Home email _____

Please describe your presentation:

Title: _____

Category of presentation:(Please check one)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Practice | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Practice | <input type="checkbox"/> Research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Policy/Legislative | <input type="checkbox"/> Humor | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Therapies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Wellness & Prevention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational performance presentation(e.g. Nightingale) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify below: | |

Please select your preferred speaking times:

- | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, September 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, September 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> Morning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday September 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, September 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon |

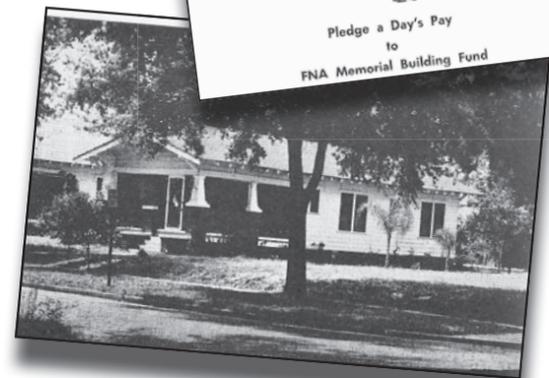
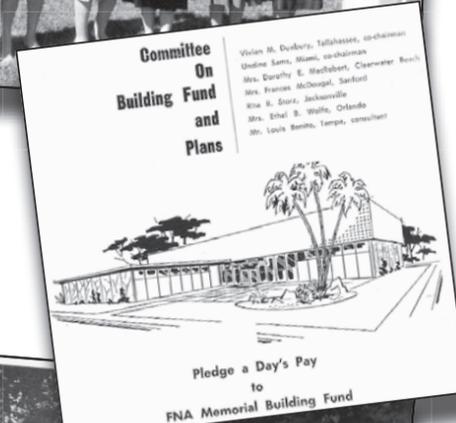
Brief description of the presentation:

Special considerations (e.g. A team of speakers/panel, unusual format, etc.)

Please submit this form to FNA at P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL. 32853-6985 or fax to 407.896.9042, Attn: Jaclyn Spencer. Please feel free to call 407.896.3261 with any questions.

Historical Photos Needed

FNA is looking for historical photos for a presentation at the Centennial Celebration. If you have photos that you'd like to add, please scan them in and send them to conferences@floridanurse.org. If you have hard copies of photos, mail them to FNA at P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853. Photos will be returned, upon request.



ARE YOU A FNA LEADER?

Do you have great ideas, enthusiasm and a healthy appetite for learning new things? FNA leadership may just be for you! FNA leadership positions include: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Directors at Large (8). Contact info@floridanurse.org

for more information or fill out a Consent To Serve form, found here. Elections will be held at the Centennial Celebration House of Delegates in September 2009. **Consent To Serve forms are due by April 10, 2009.**

Florida Nurses Association
Biographical Data and Consent To Serve
Biennial Elections

You are encouraged to review the general information about the offices. If you would like more specific details, contact FNA or members who currently hold these positions. Contact FNA Headquarters for addresses and phone numbers. **Only consent-to-serve forms that are mailed to FNA Headquarters will be accepted. Faxes and other electronic transmissions will not be accepted.**

Please print legibly:

(Please list specific FNA office sought and/or ANA Delegates)

1. **Nomination for Office(s) of:** _____

I would also like to be run for ANA delegate: ____ yes ____ no

Name: _____ Local District: _____

Address: _____
street city/state zip

Phone: (____) _____ Business: (____) _____

FAX: _____ Email: _____

Please describe in 25 words or less why you want this position (what you would like to do while holding this office):

2. **Education (List all nursing degrees you have earned):** _____

List nursing education: Generic _____
Additional _____

School(s) of Nursing: _____

Additional Degrees: _____

3. **Place of Employment and present position held:** _____

Past positions held: _____

4. **Current Area of Practice:** _____

5. **Professional organization activities (list offices and committees on national, state or local level for the last five years), to include collective bargaining activities, and local unit leadership.**

- a. District/Unit: _____
- b. State: _____
- c. National: _____
- d. International: _____

7. **Present Office(s):** _____

8. **Other Professional Organizations:** _____

9. **Other community activities:** _____

10. **Current ANA member District** _____

11. **Are you currently or have you ever been a member of a collective bargaining unit?**

____ Yes ____ No If yes, when and where _____

I have read the FNA Bylaws and understand the duties and responsibilities of the office for which I am submitting my name. If elected, I agree to fulfill the duties of office to the best of my ability.

Signature _____

Please return to FNA, P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853-6985 by April 10, 2009.

CALL FOR POSTER ABSTRACTS

FNA invites members to submit abstracts for poster presentation at the FNA Centennial Celebration. Posters will be peer reviewed by volunteer members. Members will be notified by August 31, 2009, of acceptance for presentation at convention. **Submissions are due by June 30, 2009:** Please submit four hard copies to FNA at P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853-6985 OR submit one version to conferences@floridanurse.org.

Guidelines for submission:

Abstracts should be 2-3 double spaced pages in length and should represent completed research, research in progress, or of research design.

- Abstracts should include:
- Clearly defined problem statement;
- Significance to Nursing;
- Description of methodology;
- Sample Size;
- Sampling method;
- Research design;
- Description of setting identification of instruments used;
- Data Collection procedures;
- Assurance of protection of human subjects' rights;
- Results for completed research or proposed data;
- Analysis if research is in progress;
- Interpretation of findings;
- Recommendations, or future research if appropriate; and
- Abstracts focusing on research implementation.
- Programs should include a description of the purpose of the project, its implementation and other suggestions for its implementation in other settings.

FNA needs three volunteer researchers to review the abstracts for the Annual Poster Session held at the 2009 Convention. If you are interested in doing this, please contact conferences@floridanurse.org or call the Members Only Toll Free Phone Line.

Call for Reference Proposals

If you'd like to submit a reference proposal to be heard at the Centennial Celebration, please send your proposal to FNA by April 30, 2009. Your proposal will be reviewed by the Reference Committee. Your proposal should include:

- Title;
- Contact Person;
- Statement of Concern;
- Background (limit to 500 words);
- Statement of Position;
- Recommendations for Action;
- Reference;
- Past ANA House Actions (if applicable); and
- Past FNA House Actions (if applicable).

FNA Fun Fact:
FNPAC was established
in 1981 and the
Foundation was
incorporated in 1983.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Centennial Celebration Sponsors

If your organization would like to sponsor the FNA Centennial Celebration or if you know of a potential sponsor, please email the name of this organization to conferences@floridanurse.org.

The Centennial Celebration is the perfect way to get in touch with nurses from all over the state! Opportunities include exposure at the Centennial Celebration, in *The Florida Nurse* (circulation 200,000), in *Members Only*, in *FNA QuickNews*, the FNA website and other opportunities.

100 Years?!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2009

September 22 - 26



**Centennial Celebration
100 Years of Advocacy**

TradeWinds Island Resorts ~ St. Pete Beach

Art Auction Items Still Needed

Art auction items are still needed for the Florida Nurses Foundation (FNF) Centennial Celebration auction. You may submit auction items now to FNF or you may let us know if you are planning on submitting an item by emailing foundation@floridanurse.org now. Don't forget, your item can be an art item or one of historical value, such as the cape donated by District 40 seen here! Proceeds will benefit the Florida Nurses Foundation.



Proceeds will benefit the Florida Nurses Foundation.

Worried That You Won't Make the Centennial Celebration? START SAVING NOW!

Here is a breakdown of some Centennial Celebration costs (estimated):

Single Attendee:	
• Registration*	\$ 300
<small>*FNA Member Price</small>	
• Hotel (3 Nights @ \$154)	\$ 465
• Travel	\$ 150
	\$915

Save by traveling with a colleague!	
• Registration*	\$300
<small>*FNA Member Price</small>	
• Hotel (3 Nights @ \$154)	\$ 233
• Travel	\$ 75
	\$608

Really on a budget? Split it 4 ways!	
• Registration*	\$300
<small>*FNA Member Price</small>	
• Hotel (3 Nights @ \$154)	\$116
• Travel	\$ 38
	\$454



FNA Wants Your Input!

More than anything, the Centennial Celebration is about YOU! FNA is looking for suggestions on fun activities for the convention. Plans are in progress for activities such as country line dancing and karaoke. What would you like to see at the Centennial Celebration? Email your ideas to conferences@floridanurse.org today!

FNF Centennial Cookbook

The Florida Nurses Foundation is looking for recipes to include in a special Centennial Cookbook. Send your favorite recipe and story about the recipe to foundation@floridanurse.org by July 3, 2009 to be included in the cookbook. The Centennial Cookbook orders will be taken online and at the Centennial Celebration. Proceeds will benefit the Florida Nurses Foundation.

GREAT 100 RECOGNITION

Since this is the Centennial Celebration, FNA is celebrating 100 nurses with a Great 100 ceremony! The Great 100 ceremony will replace the traditional awards that are given out at Convention. Do you know nurses that you believe should be recognized in this special event? Categories include: Clinical Nursing, Administrative Nursing, Community Nursing, Advocacy, Research, Education, Role Model and Entrepreneur. Nominate someone for this incredible honor by submitting the nomination form found on the following page.

Great 100 Ceremony continued on page 17

Great 100 Ceremony continued from page 16

The Great 100 Nurses Centennial Celebration

FNA is seeking nominations for *Great 100 Nurses* for the Centennial Celebration in 2009 to recognize the contribution of outstanding nurses who live and practice in Florida. These nurses will be recognized at a special event at the Centennial Celebration in September 2009.

Nominee Nurse Information (all fields must be completed)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Address: _____

Employer Phone: _____

Nominator Information

Nominator Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Please return all Nominations to:
Florida Nurses Association, P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853-6985
Fax: 407.896.9042
Email: conferences@floridanurse.org

Deadline for Submission is May 31, 2009.
Thank you for your nomination!



Please indicate the category of nomination & submit the information requested:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Nursing | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Nursing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Nursing | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research in Nursing | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Role Model | <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneur |

Indicate the way the nurse demonstrates/exhibits the behaviors that define the category nominated (as indicated in the criteria described for each category). Please attach behaviors that define the category in a separate document with a maximum of 500 words.

Clinical Nursing - Nurse exhibits excellent clinical skills, mentors students/staff, serves on work-related professional activities, problem-solves, innovates patient care and promotes interdisciplinary collaboration.

Administrative Nursing - Nurse demonstrates excellent team building skills, demonstrates excellent management skills, maintains a stable work force, enhances work environment for nurses.

Community Nursing - Nurse is recognized as a community leader in health-related activities, leads health-related community projects, problem solves/innovates community based care, provides care over life continuum.

Advocacy - Nurse staunchly defends patient safety, actively participates in promoting consumer awareness, consistently exceeds expectations in advocating for patients and families and serves on community committees as a advocate for nursing.

Research - Nurse been awarded funding for research, has published in peer-reviewed journals and other periodicals/books, mentors research (serves on theses/dissertation committees), participates in research presentations at local, state, national and/or international level.

Education - Nurse is employed as an experienced faculty in a nursing program or as an experience nurse educator/clinical nurse specialist in a clinical setting, is recognized as an excellent teacher, has received grants for teaching and applies innovative teaching methods in the educator role.

Role Model - Nurse demonstrates excellence in two or more categories. Please indicate the two areas in which you believe the nurse demonstrates excellence and then complete those areas on the nomination form.

- _____ Clinical Nursing _____ Community Nursing _____ Administrative Nursing
 _____ Advocacy _____ Research _____ Education _____ Entrepreneur

Entrepreneur - Nurse owns a successful healthcare-related business, serves as officer/manager in a successful healthcare-related business and provides valuable consultation to agencies, institutions or firms.

Executive Director continued from page 2

by the groups. Preliminary work would be done by "Exploration Teams" who would look work together to propose models for leadership and governance.

At the February meeting, members of the Futures Task Force presented the model to District Presidents for their input and to the members of the bylaws committee to aid them in forging the proposed changes. The leaders expressed some of the expected hesitance by some local members and leaders, but most said after some discussion, members were receptive to the overall concept of the regional model. Of course, there are many factors to be addressed, such as leadership and governance, funding for regional activities, the need for social/networking gatherings among members, but overall the group expressed their support for moving forward with the proposal.

Some members also expressed a desire to form special interest groups both locally and globally to address issues when needed. These groups could

be "permanent" or short-term and could apply for funding for specific projects should that structure and process be put in place.

When the Task Force began discussion, they used the regional model used by the Workforce Centers in Florida, but during the discussion of the group, it was felt that these regions may be too large and unwieldy and asked that smaller divisions be considered. One suggestion was to use the current Florida legislative districts as a guide to structuring the new model. This would result in ten smaller regions, rather than the 6 larger geographic areas in the Workforce Model. Members felt this would be easier to manage and decrease the travel distance for meetings and functions.

Structure of the Board of Directors was also discussed and it was suggested that Directors be elected to represent each Region. All members would continue to vote for these positions as they do now.

This model will be brought before the 2009 House of Delegates for discussion and vote in September. The FNA Board and staff welcomes your input, suggestions and concerns.



Leadership Group deep in discussion.



Claydell Horne, Bylaws Committee taking notes.



Barbara Lumpkin and Bonnie Sklaren confer.



Mary Lou Brunell discusses possible regional designations.



President Andrea Gregg serves as scribe.



Mary Tittle, Chair of the Futures Task Force.



District 9 President Jessie Quick ponders the changes.



District 9 member Judy Brustad discusses the proposed changes.



Mavra Kear, Task Force Member leads discussion.



District 5 President and Task Force Member, Jill Tahmooressi.

FNA Pilots New Membership Category-Direct State Membership

FNA is pleased to offer a new membership category- direct membership in the Florida Nurses Association. This provides nurses the opportunity to explore membership in their professional association at the state level by only paying dues to the state association. This membership category does not include the benefit related to belong to ANA such as discounts on certifications and the opportunity to represent the state at ANA conventions as a delegate and other benefits. The member does have full membership benefits at the state level, including discounts on FNA programs, and the opportunity to participate at the local and state level. Dues for this new category is \$190.00 for the full payment or \$16.93 per month if you choose the monthly automatic deduction from your checking account.

We are hoping this alternative will allow a greater number of nurses to take advantage of this opportunity for involvement in their professional advocacy. Please see the application in this issue or go online at www.floridanurse.org and click on the red "Join or Renew" button. It is most important to have strong nursing voices with us as we have to fight even harder for nurses' and patients rights'.



SAVE THE DATE
www.centerforamericannurses.org

LEAD 2009
SUMMIT
CENTER for American Nurses

JUNE 11-13, 2009 | DISNEY CONTEMPORARY | ORLANDO, FLORIDA
RESORT



Seasoned Nurse

Hello:

I read The Florida Nurse and saw your black box ad to relate my experience.

I had 32 years of nursing in a teaching hospital and clinic setting when I relocated to the Port St. Lucie area. I was not ready to retire but I have been very disappointed with the whole process of trying to return to work here. Frankly, I am now at the point of trying to decide if my career in nursing is over. This is not an easy thing to do.

I have found that there are very few options for part time unless you want to work 12 hours at the bedside. Been there, done that--no more. There is no such thing as job sharing or flex scheduling or an 8 hour shift anymore. What happened???

I could not even get a job for which I was over qualified because I was told they would never hire a nurse for it because I would leave--go figure that one out.

I find that with full time positions there is no consideration for job sharing. And forget trying to even talk to a person live about any positions-not possible. Inquiry calls are not returned. Everything is all online. Unless some changes are made soon--the shortage of nurses will only increase.

Sincerely, Bernadette Golbesky, RN, BSN
bernig@comcast.net

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

FIU College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Dean Divina Grossman Named Chair of the Florida Association of Colleges of Nursing



Divina Grossman, PhD, RN, ARNP, FAAN has been elected Chair of the Florida Association of Colleges of Nursing for a two-year term. Grossman is Dean of the Florida International University (FIU) College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS) in Miami, Florida.



Divina Grossman

The Florida Association of Colleges of Nursing (FACN) is comprised of deans and directors of some 50 baccalaureate and higher

degree nursing programs, public and private, in Florida. Together these educators serve as a voice for higher education in nursing in the state of Florida, often working in collaboration with other health care organizations as advocates on nursing education and practice issues.

FIU's New CNHS Building Receives \$625K in Gifts

FIU of Nursing & Health Sciences (CNHS) has announced the receipt of three gifts totaling \$625,000 towards the College's new building, which will open December 2009 on the University Park campus in South Miami-Dade. Gifts from Joan K. Stout, RN and the Hugoton Foundation, Gaumard Scientific and Sheridan Healthcorp will be applied towards teaching equipment and facilities in the new building.

Construction on the new CNHS building began in August 2008, with completion slated for December 2009. Designed by renowned global architecture firm HOK (architects of the recently opened Frost Museum at FIU), the 5-story, 2-wing, 103,000 sq. ft. structure will become the literal gateway to the University's Academic Health Sciences Complex, home of the future FIU College of Medicine.



Seminole Community College

SCC's Nursing Program holds 29th annual pinning ceremony



Seminole Community College's (SCC) Nursing Program graduated 41 practical nursing students during a ceremony at the Sanford/Lake Mary Campus on Wednesday, Dec. 10. Many of the graduates plan to pursue their RN training, including (from left) Jeff Obrart, of Longwood; Teresa Cohen, of Lake Mary; Renae Lee, of Deltona; and Lee MacPherson, of Casselberry. SCC graduated nearly 1,200 students in ceremonies held during the week of Dec. 12.

University of Florida College of Nursing



UF Paves Way for BSN Nurses to Receive Practice Doctorate

This fall, the University of Florida (UF) College of Nursing will begin offering a post baccalaureate doctor of nursing practice program, allowing people who have a bachelor's degree in nursing to enter directly into study for the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. UF is the first school in the state to begin accepting applications for the program and the first to receive approval from the Florida Board of Governors.

The BSN-to-DNP program complements the college's post-master's DNP program started in 2006. Students with bachelor's degrees in nursing will be able to prepare for advanced practice careers in family, pediatric, adult or acute-care nursing.

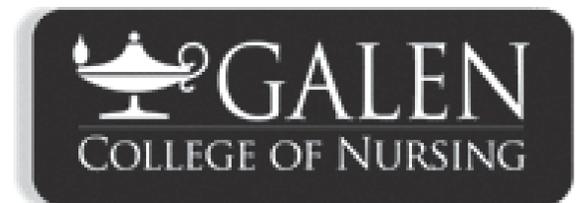
Until now, students in Florida who wished to obtain a DNP credential had to already hold a master's degree in nursing. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing has recommended that DNP status replace the Master of Science in Nursing degree as the entry level for advanced practice by 2015. Certification boards for advanced nursing practice are also expected to require nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse midwives and nurse anesthetists to hold a DNP credential in the future. UF is one of 63 programs nationwide that offers a DNP program; however, most require candidates to have a master's degree before entering DNP study.

Because of the growing complexity of healthcare, new scientific advances and increasingly sophisticated technology, master's degree programs in nursing now have credit hours far beyond those in other fields. The DNP degree follows a trend toward clinical doctorates in other fields, including pharmacy and physical therapy.

UF will continue to offer its master's degree program in several specialties, including neonatal nursing, nurse midwifery, psychiatric-mental health nursing and public health nursing, contingent on grant funding, for a transitional period. By 2012, these specialties will also move to the DNP level. In keeping with national standards, the advanced generalist Clinical Nurse Leader program will continue as a master's degree offering.

During the national transition period from the MSN to the DNP for advanced specialized practice, the college will offer post-BSN students the option to exit after earning the MSN and return as a post-master's student to complete the DNP at a later time.

The BSN-to-DNP program consists of 93 credits and lasts four-and-a-half to five years for part-time students, and two-and-a-half years for full-time students. The deadline for first review of applications is March 15. Applications will continue to be accepted until May 31 on a space-available basis. Those interested in applying should visit the college's Web site, www.nursing.ufl.edu.



Educating Nurses Who Make a Difference.

Galen School of Nursing

Faculty Selected For Health Information Technology Scholars Program

Dr. Susan Garbutt and Ms. Bobbie Martin of Galen School of Nursing have been chosen for the National League for Nursing's (NLN) Health Information Technology Scholars (HITS) program.

The purpose of this highly competitive program is to support faculty in their endeavor to implement a technology integrated project into the curriculum. Dr. Garbutt, Tampa Bay RN Program Director and Ms. Martin, Tampa Bay PN Program Director were selected based on their proposal to develop a virtual electronic medical record program to augment simulation in the clinical learning lab. As a result of this project, Galen students will be able to reference data and manage documentation before, during, and after various patient simulations.

The scholars project, a collaborative faculty development initiative to produce a cadre of faculty scholars with the knowledge and skills in applied informatics and technology-supported education, will better prepare nurses for clinical practice by helping them develop the competencies required in an information- and technology-driven complex health care system. The NLN will disseminate project processes, products and outcomes so that the learning models are sustainable and replicable in other academic settings.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



COLLEGE OF NURSING

University of South Florida

USF awarded \$100,000 for RWJF New Careers in Nursing Program

The University of South Florida (USF) College of Nursing is among the first institutions in the nation to receive funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) through the RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program. Grants provided through this competitive program will be used for scholarships to increase the number of students enrolled in USF College of Nursing's accelerated baccalaureate nursing program.

This groundbreaking national initiative, launched by RWJF and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), aims to help alleviate the nation's nursing shortage by dramatically expanding the pipeline of students in accelerated nursing programs. The USF College of Nursing was awarded \$100,000 to provide 10 student scholarships for 2008/2009.

Scholarship applications were distributed to the incoming class of Accelerated Second Degree students from the VA Nursing Academy (VANA) cohort, and 8 eligible students were awarded the scholarships on Sept. 22. The VA Nursing Academy is a collaboration between The Department of Veterans Affairs and the USF College of Nursing aimed at boosting care for veterans and job opportunities for nurses.

By bringing more nurses into the profession at the baccalaureate and master's degree levels, the new scholarship program also helps to address the nation's nurse faculty shortage. Data from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration show that nurses entering the profession at the baccalaureate level are four times more likely than other nurses to pursue a graduate degree in nursing, which is the required credential to teach.

Additionally, the program targets the need to recruit students from groups underrepresented in nursing or disadvantaged backgrounds. According to the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice, diversifying the nursing profession is essential to meeting the health care needs of the nation and reducing health disparities that exist among many underserved populations.

USF's Charter CRNA's Land Jobs Before Graduation

At the December 13 commencement ceremony, 100 percent of USF's charter class of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, or CRNAs, graduated with a job lined up—proof that the demand for this specialized health professional remains strong even in a slow economy. The 12 graduates, who received Master of Science degrees, are working in hospitals across the greater Tampa Bay area including Tampa General Hospital, Morton Plant Mease Hospital, University Community Hospital in Carrollwood and Lakeland Regional Medical Center.



L to R: USF CRNA students LaSonya Malbrough, Latanya Lawrence, Anita Lee-Newkirk, Tae Garrison, and Georgia Vong at a clinical rotation.



University of Central Florida College of Nursing

New Forensic Nursing Course for BSN Students: For the first time starting this summer, the College of Nursing will offer an introductory course in forensic nursing. Covering one of the many specialties within the field of nursing, this course will offer students a glimpse into the realities of forensic nursing, as opposed to what's seen on the average episode of CSI. It will explore the dynamic relationship between nursing and law, showing how today's forensic nurse can best interface with the legal system. The course will also give a broad overview of several areas within forensic nursing, such as sexual assault examinations, correctional nursing, child abuse examinations and domestic violence investigations. Using guidelines and recommendations from the International Association of Forensic Nursing, it will serve as an interesting elective that will broaden horizons for many UCF nursing students.

Nursing Instructor Receives LIFE Grant for Electronic Documentation System:

With funding from UCF's Learning Institute for Elders (LIFE) Grant, nursing instructor Mary Harper, PhD, RN-BC and others will be able to support the use of an electronic health record documentation system in six courses offered through the College's BSN program. According to Harper, it is crucial that students are competent in the use of electronic documentation because of its large role in today's clinical nursing environments. Hospitals and other health care agencies are increasingly using electronic health records to record and navigate admissions, assessments, order entries, medication administration, diagnostic study results and nursing care plans. Once systems are in place, professors and instructors will be able to build custom case scenarios for their courses so that students can gain hands-on experience to prepare them for their future careers and ease the transition from an educational to a fast-paced professional environment.



Mary Harper

UCF Nursing Faculty and Students Selected to Present at SNRS Conference: UCF nursing faculty and doctoral students presented their nursing research at the 23rd annual Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) conference held February 11-14, 2009 in Baltimore, Maryland. Four FNA members made presentations on the following topics:

- Assistant Professor **Diane Andrews, PhD, RN:** "Analysis of Serendipitous Qualitative Data Related to Job Strain";
- **Leslee D'Amato-Kubiet, MSN, RN, ARNP:** "Individualism: Implications for the Genomic and Tailored-therapy Era"—poster



Diane Andrews

- **Sandra Knapp, MSN, RN:** "The Effects of an Evidence-based Intervention on Stress and Coping of Families of Critically Ill Trauma Patients"—poster
- **Laurie Stark, MN, RN:** "Making a Snowball in Florida: Lessons Learned During Participant Recruitment for a Community Based Phenomenological Study"—poster



Sandra Knapp

Doctoral Student Receives Competitive Nursing Grants: Sandra Knapp, a nursing PhD student, has been awarded two competitive, peer reviewed grants to support her doctoral dissertation research, "The Effects of an Evidence-based Family Intervention on Stress and Coping of Families of Critically Ill Trauma Patients." The first is a Clinical Inquiry Grant from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. The second is the Florida Nurses Foundation's Frieda Norton Research Grant.

Doctoral Student Selected to Present at AANP Conference: DNP student Clelia B. Lima, MSN, FNP, ARNP, NP-C, will present her nursing research at the 24th annual American Academy of Nurse Practitioners conference to be held June 17-21, 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee. Lima's abstract entitled, "Coping with Emotional Challenges of Breast Cancer after Mastectomy: Immediate versus Delayed Reconstructive Surgery Together," was selected for poster presentation.

PARTNERS IN NURSING

Are You the Missing Piece of the Public Health Puzzle?

Save the Date: August 4-6

The 2009 Florida Public Health Association (FPHA)/Southern Health Association Joint Annual Educational Conference will be held at the PGA National Resort & Spa Palm Beach Gardens, Florida August 4-6, 2009 in partnerships with the Florida Association of Public Nurses, Inc. (FAPHN) and the Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida (PHLI). With the Southern Health Association joining FPHA this year, you will have the opportunity to meet attendees from seven other southern states. This year's theme is *The Public Health Puzzle: Putting the Pieces Together* and you are an integral part of our completed public health puzzle. This is an opportunity to learn what other public health professionals throughout Florida and the Southeast are doing in their fields to provide services to their clients in our new economic environment. We will have speakers and exhibitors who will share information on their products and programs.

You are a valuable health professional and we hope you will plan to join us in Palm Beach Gardens. Please mark August 4-6, 2009 on your calendar. We know that this will be an exciting meeting. If you need more information, you may contact Paula Mooty, 2009 Exhibits Chair at 727.510.0276 or mootyp@aol.com, or Sandy Magyar, Executive Director (FPHA) at 904.529.1401 or floridapha@bellsouth.net. You may also find more information at the FPHA website, fpha.org.

Improving Care through the Advancement of Nursing (ICAN) Leadership Series 2009

Registration is open for the ICAN Leadership Series 2009, hosted by the Florida Hospital Association. Recommended for hospital nurse managers and manager candidates, the five-part series covers skills and techniques for effective communication, leadership and relationship-building to enhance workforce retention. Participants are eligible for up to 60 hours of continuing education credits upon completion of all five sessions. The remaining series session dates are April 23-24, June 25-26, August 20-21 and September 30.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida tuition scholarships are available for eligible participants, matching up to \$1,000 for each of the first 40 applicants. Tuition for FHA members is \$2,875, non-members \$4,950. To register or for more information, visit www.signup4.com/2009icanseries or call the FHA Education Department at 407.841.6230.



by: **Angie Ross, Assistant Director:
Workforce Programs
Florida Center for Nursing**

The Florida Center for Nursing has produced an extensive amount of data on Florida's nurse workforce, including data on the working habits and demographics of Florida's nurses, anticipated demand and acceptance rates at nursing programs. These reports mark the first time we have possessed state-specific data and our research is confirming what many already knew: Florida is facing a crippling breakdown in our healthcare infrastructure, with an expected shortage of 52,000 full-time-equivalent RNs by 2020. Our research also backs-up something else many already know—our efforts to eliminate the shortage will only be successful when we improve the working environment for nurses and, in turn, improve retention. While we must continue to push for funding for nursing programs, increasing nurse graduation rates alone isn't enough to solve the shortage.

Not only is it logistically impossible to produce enough graduates to resolve the shortage, focusing solely on increasing new graduates possesses serious ramifications for the quality of nursing care in Florida. Our research shows that the average age of the Florida RN population is 47.7 and it is imperative that employers work to retain older and experienced nurses to ensure that both patients and new graduates have access to the wealth of knowledge that only years of hands-on experience can provide.

Improving retention means making real changes in the work environment to address the key reasons for nurse turnover: safety, scheduling, understaffing and nurse-physician relations. Although salary is consistently rated lower than work environment as a reason for leaving, increasing salary or sign-on bonuses is most commonly used to fill vacancies. While this may work in the short-term, long-lasting increases

Retention as a Mission: Critical Strategy for Addressing Florida's Nurse Shortage

in retention will likely only be seen when the environment for nurses improves.

Reducing turnover is not only critical for addressing the nursing shortage, but also a smart business strategy for employers. Recent estimates calculate the cost of replacing a nurse at 50% to 200% of annual salary; the Florida Center for Nursing estimates that the combined cost of annual turnover for RNs and LPNs in Florida exceeded \$1.4 billion in fiscal year 2006-2007. High turnover rates cost more than just the employee replacement costs; lower staffing levels can result in increased medical errors, reduced efficiency rates for the entire facility and higher costs per patient discharge. Reducing nurse turnover rates could generate significant facility-level savings that could lead to higher quality, less expensive healthcare for Florida residents.

The Florida Center for Nursing estimates that if the 13,494 estimated nurse vacancies in 2007 were filled, Florida would realize an increase of over \$700 million in annual revenues from spending on goods and services alone. Furthermore, state and local governments would receive an additional \$52 million in tax revenues. Retaining nurses is also a critical aspect of building a competitive healthcare infrastructure, which is essential for recruiting high-tech and life sciences companies to Florida.

The Florida Center for Nursing, with additional funding from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida, Inc., funds a Retention and Recruitment grant program to encourage innovative solutions from the nursing community. 2009 marks the second year of this program and we are pleased to announce that we have recently selected six projects, each addressing a critical facet of Florida's nursing shortage. The Florida Center for Nursing is currently developing a comprehensive best practices web resource for nurse employers interested in retaining their current workforce. For more information on the Florida Center for Nursing, and to view a full copy of our reports and research, please visit www.FLCenterforNursing.org.

The Florida League for Nursing (FLN) Recognizes Florida's Inductees to The Academy of Nursing Education

In 2007, the Academy of Nursing Education was established by the National League for Nursing to recognize outstanding achievement and contributions of nursing educators. Throughout nursing history, educators have been the backbone and un-recognized leaders not only in education, but also, in research and practice.

Without nursing educators, who would believe in students, challenge their understanding of human beings, create environments of creativity and learning, mentor, encourage and cheer their successes and re-direct their failures? Without nursing educators, there would not be a nursing profession!!! Only through education and its completion does the profession grow, renew, endure and challenge American's health perceptions. Nursing educators are very important to the profession.

Individuals inducted into the Academy of Nursing Education as "...inspiring leaders are lauded for innovative teaching and learning strategies, nursing education research, faculty development, academic leadership, promotion of public policy that advances nursing education and collaborative educational practice with community partners. They have contributed above and beyond the responsibilities associated with their employment, made contributions to nursing education that have been broad in scope and

not limited to their own classrooms or schools, and disseminated their work in ways that have influenced and advanced nursing education." (*Academy of Nursing Education Induction Ceremony*. NLN. 2008)

Those individuals honored in the inaugural year included one Floridian—**Georgie LaBadie**, EdD, RN, professor emeritus of the University of Miami. In 2008, three from Florida were recognized—**Rosalinda Alfaro-LeFevre**, MSN, RN, international author of teaching/learning strategies (translated into six languages); **Deborah Raines**, PhD, RN of Florida Atlantic University renowned for an innovative accelerated second-degree curriculum; and, **Diane Whitehead** of Nova Southeastern University, who has lead the development of innovative nursing programs from associate degree to doctorate level and is a national leader through a variety of NLN related activities.

As a professional nursing colleague, take a brief moment to send an email or make a personal phone call of congratulations. We can all be glad that these nurse educators live in Florida and influence our State.

Remember, the Florida League for Nursing is newly "re-organized." Another review course for the Certified Nursing Educator (CNE) will be offered this spring. Watch for an announcement through the schools of nursing or contact Diane Whitehead, FLN President at dwhitehe@nova.edu.



The Florida Organization of Nurse Executives Invites You!

SAVE THE DATES

The Florida Organization of Nurse Executives and the Nursing Shortage Consortium of South Florida Present a Nursing Leadership Conference
March 20, 2009
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Hard Rock Hotel & Casino
Hollywood, FL
Registration Fee is: \$100.00 (checks payable to NCSF)

Please RSVP by Friday March 13, 2009 at www.nursingshortage.org.

(Due to limited seating, registration deadline will be strictly enforced.)

You may pay online through the website or mail payment to:
 Nursing Consortium of South Florida
 5751 SW 58th Court,
 Miami, FL 33143

See www.fonexo.com for more information, including sponsorship opportunities. Feel free to share this information with all your colleagues and everyone you know will benefit from attending this excellent conference!!

The Florida Organization of Nurse Executives promotes excellence in leadership to shape the future of healthcare delivery, education and health policy in Florida. FONE invites nurse leaders and aspiring nurse leaders to join. FONE members benefit from:

- The latest information about “hot” nursing topics;
- Knowledge of legislative issues impacting professional nursing practice;
- Statewide professional networking;
- Shared best practices and nursing research;
- Educational opportunities;
- Career opportunities;
- Scholarship opportunities;
- Nursing leadership development; and
- Local meetings.

For more information visit FONE’s new website www.fonexo.com or email FONEXO@aol.com. Become a FONE member and lead the way for professional nursing practice and patient care in Florida.

FONE will host another superb conference ***Evidence-Based Innovations in Patient and Staff Safety*** on **May 28 & 29, 2009** in Gainesville. You will have an opportunity to hear about important issues concerning nursing in Florida. What more can you ask for? The registration cost is extremely affordable, CE’s will be provided and the location is excellent. For more information, please call 407.277.5515 or visit the FONE website at www.fonexo.com. Don’t forget... Mark you calendar!!

Exploring Quality of Life in the Nursing Home

Spotlight on Annette Kelly, PhD, ARNP

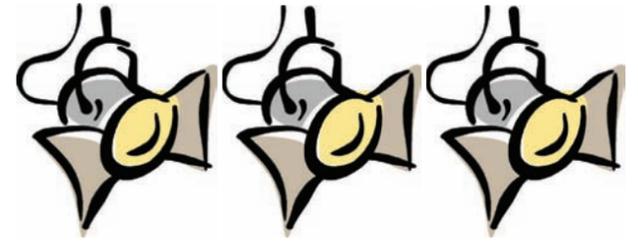
What is quality of life for a nursing home resident and does it change in relation to the way care is delivered? Annette Kelly, PhD, ARNP, is asking that question right now in several central Florida nursing homes. Dr. Kelly is volunteer chair of the Florida Pioneer Network (FPN), modeled after the national Pioneer Network, an organization dedicated to making fundamental changes in values and practices to create a culture of aging that is life-affirming, satisfying, humane and meaningful. Pioneer Network advocates for culture change in eldercare models from long-term nursing home care to short-term transitional care to community-based care to create homes that are consumer-driven and person-directed (www.pioneernetwork.net). As Graduate Coordinator and Assistant Professor of Nursing at Florida Southern College, Dr. Kelly strives to help nursing students embrace these values. As graduate students are guided through their course of study there are conversations about the opportunity to build connections between practice and research. Infusing nursing research findings regarding health care of older adults is an important one for an aging population, particular in Florida where 16.8% of the population is 65 or older, a statistic that is even higher than the nation (12.4%) (<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/12/12105.html>).

FPN has been funded by a central Florida foundation to conduct an intervention project titled "Creating Home in the Nursing Home through Culture Change Training Focused on Enhancing the Dining Experience." As a nurse researcher specializing in older adult care and knowledgeable about nursing home residential care, Dr. Kelly is conducting an ongoing evaluation of the project, a component of which is structured interviews with nursing home residents at selected intervals in the course of the intervention. The goal is to explore and measure any changes in quality of life among

residents during the project implementation. Other project evaluation elements include nutrition indicators and several organization elements such as staff retention. This project is a perfect fit for a nursing professor in an area of the country where the older adult demographic is a critical component of health care.

Dr. Kelly's previous work with dining in residential care settings was called "Dining at Home" and was a project she developed through the Teaching Nursing Home, a program of the Stein Gerontological Institute in Miami. This state-funded geriatric training initiative was defunded in 2008 but the lessons learned through its pilot work have become an avenue for other nursing home culture change initiatives like this local project.

The Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) program at Florida Southern College prepares Clinical Nurse Specialists in Adult Health and Nurse Educators, with plans to open an Adult Health Nurse Practitioner program in fall 2009. Dr. Kelly's research experience and passion for older adults and long-term care particularly, has contributed to students' interests in these areas of nursing practice. MSN students complete a scholarly work as part of the degree requirement. Collaboration between faculty nurse researchers and graduate students with similar interests is highly valued and of great benefit to the healthcare community. Dr. Kelly's program of research has enticed several students to choose a new and fascinating focus on a variety of older adult health issues including topics like the development of a wellness program with independent seniors, the problem of sleep deprivation in hospitalized elders, the enhancement of gerontological nurse experts in the hospital setting, the promotion of flu vaccination in the community, and the meaning of person-centered care in the nursing home setting. For information about the MSN program at Florida Southern College see <http://www.flsouthern.edu/academics/nursing/index.htm>



Member Spotlight

- Jessie Quick, RN, BSN, MS received her Master of Science in Nursing Administration from Florida Atlantic University in December 2008.

If you are a member of FNA and would like to be spotlighted, please email your recent accomplishments to lnash@floridanurse.org. For submission to the June issue of The Florida Nurse, you must submit your information by April 17, 2009.

NLN Education Summit



FNA Member, Deborah Brabham, at the National League of Nursing Conference with Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN, Chief Executive Officer/ Executive Director.

Umbilical Cord Blood Storage for the Public Good.

by Carol Petrozella, RN, EdD

Should healthcare providers promote the public storage of umbilical cord blood through the National Donor Marrow Program? Do nurses and other healthcare providers have a public responsibility to educate women of childbearing age and pregnant women about the benefits of public storage of their babies' cord blood? Should informed consent be obtained as part of the pre-natal record? Should all hospitals and birthing centers have personnel trained to collect cord blood? What about birthing centers and home deliveries, should those sites also participate in public cord blood storage? Should there be a charge to collect the blood and the maternal labs that are required? Should the family be able to store the blood at public expense, just in case? Should in vitro fertilization become a way to guarantee a donor? Should healthcare providers charge for the collection process? These are a few of the ethical issues that confront healthcare providers and healthcare institutions currently.

In 2005, Congress passed the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005. Public Law 109-129 (December 20, 2005) states, "An act to provide for the collection and maintenance of human cord and blood stem cells for the treatment of patients and research, and to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program." Cord blood collected is available to transplantation centers. The Act also makes cord blood that is "not appropriate for clinical use, available for peer-reviewed research" and "for the collection and storage of cord blood units for a family where a first-degree relative has been diagnosed with a condition that will benefit from transplantation." The family may elect to transfer the blood from the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program.

The original Act provided use by the family. As of 2007, contracts of the largest cord blood banks do not explicitly state that the cord blood belongs to the donors and child (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cord_blood_bank).

The National Marrow Donor Program makes the following statements regarding public storage (http://www.arrp/prg/DONOR/FAQs?Cord_Blood_FAWS/index.html):

- It is available to any patient in need of a transplant;
- If it does not meet the criteria for transplant, it may be used by researchers in the search for new and more effective medical uses for cord blood cells;
- It is not reserved for your family's private use; and
- There is no cost to you. Public cord blood banks cover the cost of processing and storing your baby's donated cord blood.

Private storing of cord blood is not recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics unless the family has a current need or very high potential risk. Private companies' term refer to non-risk families as having "biological insurance." A child's own cord blood is rarely suitable. Private storage costs are in the thousands (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cord_blood_bank & http://www.nationalcordbloodprogram.org/donation/public_vs_provat_donation.html).

To date the number of Florida hospitals participating in collecting cord blood for the National Bone Marrow Program is limited to nine. Nationally, the number is nineteen. There are no hospitals participating in the South Florida area. A list of participating hospitals for the National Marrow Donor Program can be found at www.marrow.org.

Cyrobanks International participates in the National Bone Marrow Program and other international registries. It accepts donations from anywhere within the continental United States. Donors must register directly with Cryobanks International between their 28th and 35th week of pregnancy. The informed consent form for donation of cord blood is published online with all pertinent information. Training materials are available free of charge to the healthcare provider. The collection kit is sent to the mother. The kit must be picked up by Cyrobanks within two hours after the birth of the newborn (http://www.cryo-intl.com/enroll_donate.html).

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, recently awarded funds [2006] totaling \$12 million to the first group of umbilical cord blood banks to begin collections for the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI). An additional \$50 million was awarded to improve and promote transplantation (this includes other forms of transplantation not just cord blood use). The NCBI will collect and maintain high-quality cord blood units and make them available for transplantation through the newly created C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program (<http://newroom.hrsa.gov/releases/2006/blood-units.htm>).

Indiana has provided a program for the statewide collection of cord blood from pregnant women upon delivery of a newborn. In a recent House Enrolled Act, No. 1348, Indiana is asking that before September 1, 2007 their Medicaid plan be amended or waived to provide for reimbursement of healthcare providers "from a pregnant Medicaid recipient upon the birth of a newborn." In addition, a report must be made before November 1, 2007 describing progress made toward "developing a program for the statewide collection of cord blood from pregnant women upon delivery of a newborn."

The expansion of the National Marrow Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory Programs are necessary. Healthcare providers must strive to increase the storage of genetically diverse

units of cord blood. Private storage is very costly and does not often meet the needs of individual families unless they have specific high risk factors. A national registry, which participates internationally, is open to all and increases the chance for a donor match. It is important to continue to study umbilical cord blood through peer-reviewed research.

Education must be available. Healthcare providers should be educated regarding the benefits and research being conducted. Training in the proper collection of umbilical cord blood should be included in in-service workshops and orientation to Labor and Delivery areas. A process for educating providers in birthing centers and home deliveries must be developed. Fees for collection of the cord blood should be waived for the public good. Maternity hospitals should be encouraged to actively participate in the National Marrow Donor Program. Literature should be available in all settings providing pre-natal care. Pre-natal care providers should be encouraged to discuss donation with their clients during prenatal visits and have consent forms available. Informed consents should be part of the pre-natal record.

Carol Petrozella is the Director of the Miami Dade College Institute for Ethics in Health Care. The web site can be accessed at <http://www.mdc.edu/medical/Bioethics/default.asp>.

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RNFORMATION YOU CAN USE

Two Florida Hospitals Receive Magnet Designation

The Chair of the Commission on Magnet has announced Magnet designation for the following organizations:

- Alegent Health Lakeside Hospital, Omaha, NE
- Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Richmond, VA
- Good Samaritan Hospital, Vincennes, IN
- OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, Bloomington, IL
- Sarasota Memorial Healthcare System, Sarasota, FL—Redesignation
- Trinity Medical Center—7th Street Campus, Moline, IL
- Trinity Medical Center—Terrace Park Campus, Rock Island, IL
- Trinity Medical Center—West Campus, Bettendorf, IA
- Winter Haven Hospital, Winter Haven, FL

Congratulations to Sarasota Memorial Healthcare System and Winter Haven Hospital! The Magnet Recognition Program, administered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center since 1994, is the highest level of national or international recognition achievable by healthcare facilities that demonstrate sustained excellence in nursing and quality patient care.



FNA, the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), the American Nurses Association (ANA) and other nursing certification stakeholders will celebrate March 19 as Certified Nurses Day® (CND). This is a non-commercial day of recognition, for certified nurses and others to celebrate through service to patients, colleagues and the public. Any incidental revenues generated by Certified Nurses Day will be allocated to support nursing certification research through the *Margretta Madden Styles Credentialing Scholars Grants Program of the American Nurses Foundation*.

Why March 19? When looking for a nursing leader who was a true pioneer in developing the modern nursing certification system, it became clear that no figure played a more seminal role than Margretta “Gretta” Madden Styles, who led the first comprehensive study of credentialing in the 1970’s and was a key figure in both national and international nursing organizations. A former president of the International Council of Nurses (ICN), Gretta earned an international stature and following. So March 19th, Gretta’s birthday, is the ideal day. Please join FNA, ANCC, ANA and other nursing certification stakeholders recognize certified nurses around the world and in honoring a founding mother of nursing certification.

Some ways healthcare facilities can recognize their board certified nurses on March 19 include:

Certified Nurses Day® to be Celebrated March 19

- Recognition Tea for Certified Nurses;
- Certified Nurses Awards Gala;
- Professional Development Fair;
- Listing the names of certified nurses on staff in the organizational newsletter or local newspaper;
- Certification luncheon;
- Placing a sign, poster, or balloons at building entrance honoring certified nurses on staff; and/or
- Disseminating information about the value of nursing certification.

Please visit the Certified Nurses Day website at www.certifiednursesday.org for more information.

HELP KEEP THE WILLA CARSON RESOURCE CENTER OPEN!

3rd Annual Charity Benefit 5K and 10K Run/Walk for Willa. **April 25 at 8 am.** Call 727.467.9411 for more information. The mission of the Willa Carson Resource Center is to provide culturally sensitive quality healthcare to the uninsured and underserved residents of the North Greenwood community in Pinellas County. Runners, walkers, sponsors and donations welcome!