Vol. 71, No. 3 Fall 2009

One Strong Voice
Mississippi Nurses Gather on Mississippi Coast for 98th Annual Convention

More than 300 registered nurses and 700 student nurses from across the state are expected to attend the 98th Mississippi Annual Nurses Association Convention Tuesday, Oct. 20-Friday, Oct. 23, at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi. The speaker and entertainment lineup at the 2009 Mississippi Nurses Association’s Annual Convention, Oct. 20-23 in Biloxi at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center, is absolutely nothing to sneeze at, says Communication Doctor Susanne Gaddis, and when they say Mississippi nurses and student nurses—across all generations—move to the beat of a different drummer, they don’t know just how right they are!

Susanne Gaddis, Ph.D., known as the Communications Doctor, will be the keynote speaker, at 12:15 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 21. Gaddis recognizes there is an epidemic of unhealthy interactions in today’s society. The good news is that she shares prescriptions: easy and engaging tips and techniques that help foster a climate for positive, diplomatic and motivational communications.

MNA’s traditional party for members of the Mississippi Student Nurses Association, this year dubbed “Through the Generations” is set from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 22 in the coliseum and will feature the incredible soulful sounds of The One Strong Voice continued on page 9

Nurses Benefit from Another Successful Legislative Session

The Mississippi Nurses Association has just completed another successful legislative session with the assistance of our lobbyist, Betty Dickson. This was one of the most unusual sessions in recent years with the final budget being approved only days from the beginning of the new fiscal year. Two significant pieces of legislation to come out of the session included SB 3040, a bill to protect the title ‘nurse’. This bill amended the nurse practice act to prohibit anyone from identifying themselves as nurses unless they are registered nurses, licensed practical nurses or nurse aides.

This bill is the result of a three-year attempt by the Mississippi Nurses Association and Foundation are hosting the fifth annual, Mississippi Nightingale Awards Gala on Monday, March 1, 2010, at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson. This prestigious black-tie event is the “academy award” honoring exceptional service in the nursing and healthcare industry across Mississippi. Nightingale Awards distinguish those men, women and organizations that have made a special effort to excel in the area of healthcare.

Christian Science nurse. MNA’s House of Delegates voted last October to join other states in passing legislation to protect the title ‘nurse’.

Another bill that captured attention in the nurse practitioner community was HB 1260, a bill allowing the Board of Nursing sole authority over regulation of nurse practitioners. Mississippi was one of four states with regulatory ties to the Board of Medical Licensure. Passage of HB 1260 removed joint promulgation of regulations. Effective July 1, 2009, the law will not require that the Board of Nursing and the Board of Medicine meet together to consider regulatory changes that affect NPs.

Nurses Benefit continued on page 5

Save the Date: 2010 Nightingale Awards Gala Scheduled March 1

The Mississippi Nurses Association and Foundation are hosting the fifth annual, Mississippi Nightingale Awards Gala on Monday, March 1, 2010, at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson. This prestigious black-tie event is the “academy award” honoring exceptional service in the nursing and healthcare industry across Mississippi. Nightingale Awards distinguish those men, women and organizations that have made a special effort to excel in the area of healthcare.

The Nightingale Awards will recognize the following achievements:
• Nurse of the Year
• Faculty Member of the Year
• Nursing Educator of the Year
• Clinical Practice Nurse of the Year
• Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year
• Nurse in Non-Traditional Setting of the Year
• Nursing Administrator of the Year
• Nurse Mentor of the Year

Save the Date continued on page 3
by Ricki Garrett, Ph.D.

As we complete another year at the Mississippi Nurses Association and my fifth as your executive director, I wanted to share some thoughts with you both about MNA and the profession of nursing.

First of all, it is exciting to report that membership in MNA has grown another 9% this year with a total growth of 30% over the past five years. That growth is due to a number of factors, not least of all your recognition of the value of MNA and the role it plays in enhancing and protecting your profession. It is also due to the tremendous work of a very committed group of board members who have made membership growth a priority over the past five years and who have supported the staff in efforts to make that happen. And, finally, it is due to the hard work and dedication of some very talented staff members who have worked very hard to make the activities of the Mississippi Nurses Association more relevant, fun, and valuable and in connecting us better to the nurses that we serve. I hope that each of you will continue to see that relevance and encourage those nurses who are not members to join.

There is enormous strength in numbers and in a uniform message, and the more members we have and the stronger the collaboration with our fellow health care organizations, the greater influence we will have. That influence will also impact our place in national decision-making as well. Because of our membership growth, MNA is now the number one non-union state nursing association in percentage of nurses who are members and number thirteen out of all state nursing associations.

I have been so impressed over the past five years with the level of leadership in the nursing community and the strong friendships and collaborations that have made some significant progress possible. By bringing together all specialties of nursing, educational backgrounds, and other health care providers and by keeping nursing issues before the policy makers and the public, we will continue to make a difference in the profession and in the health of the public. I hope you will join us in those efforts by becoming a member of MNA.
Mississippi Nurses Foundation’s Surviving with Style Honors Nurses, Cancer Survivors

The Mississippi Nurses Foundation partnered with the American Cancer Society and Dillard’s to host a Surviving with Style luncheon and fashion show on June 12, 2009. Nearly 200 nurses and friends of nurses were present to honor cancer survivors and pay tribute to nurses and the care they provide. “The event was successful in providing our friends, both businesses and individuals, an opportunity to develop further a community of those interested in assisting the Nurses Foundation with its vision of improving the quality of life for our citizens,” said MNF Executive Director Rosalyn Howard.

The luncheon and fashion show, designed to bring awareness to different kinds of cancers and the care that nurses provide to cancer patients, reunites nurses with cancer survivors to tell the story of how nurses care for patients from diagnosis to treatment and it will provide continuous hope and awareness to cancer.

Howard explained that Surviving with Style is a fundraiser for the Mississippi Nurses Foundation and the American Cancer Society. A portion of the proceeds will support the American Cancer Society in research and advocacy and the Mississippi Nurses Foundation in developing health and wellness prevention programs for citizens of Mississippi.

For more information on participating in or become a sponsor of the 2010 Surviving with Style, contact the Mississippi Nurses Foundation at (601) 898-0850 or email foundation@msnurses.org.

The Nurses and Survivors honored during this event are as follows:

Central Mississippi Medical Center
Nurse Renida Dee
Survivor Georgia Branson

St. Dominic Health Services
Nurse Karen Walker
Survivor Sheryl Slaughter

Sonny G. Montgomery Veteran Memorial Hospital
Nurse Karen Ingram
Survivor Fred Anglin
Nurse Cathy Landry
Survivor Tolly Payne

University of Mississippi Health Care
Nurse Wendy Mosier
Survivor Ava Welborn
Nurse Sarah Elizabeth Stames
Survivor Felicia “FeFe” Briggs
Nurse Michelle Pollaska
Survivor Adam Whitely
Nurse April Wogoman
Survivor Jayln Tillman

A special thank you to the Surviving with Style 2009 Committee for your dedication and commitment

Nurse Sherry Allen, Central Mississippi Medical Center
Jean Ann Bull, American Cancer Society
Nurse Michelle Burns, University of Mississippi Health Care
Beth Dixon, American Cancer Society
Nurse Tonja Hart, University of Mississippi Health Care
Nurse Karen Ingram, Sonny G. Montgomery Veterans Memorial Hospital
Jean Jones, Mississippi Nurses Foundation
Nurse Wendy Mosier, University of Mississippi Health Care
Nurse Amy Sharpe, St. Dominic Health Services
Nurse Stacy Spencer, Central Mississippi Medical Center
Peggy Stansell, St. Dominic Health Services
Jimmie Wells, University of Mississippi Health Care

Thank you to all our sponsors for making Surviving with Style a success.

SILVER SPONSORS
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, LP
Central Mississippi Medical Center
St. Dominic Health Services
University of Mississippi Health Care

BRONZE SPONSORS
Capitol Resources, LLC
MNA District 13
Mississippi Hospital Association
Oncology Nursing Society

COPPER SPONSORS
Eliza Pillars Registered Nurses Association of Mississippi
Theta Beta Chapter–Sigma Theta Tau International

FRIENDS OF NURSING SPONSORS
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Sterling Photography

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Donna Williams, Mary Walden and Earnest Ruth Agnew graduated with a DNP recently from Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. The three graduates are employed at Itawamba Community College in Tupelo.
One Journey with Many Destinations

When I was elected president of MNA in October, 2005, I did not realize the depth of the impact our association makes on the nursing profession statewide and nationally. It has been an awesome experience and the nurses in the state of Mississippi have an asset that many do not know about. There have been many positive changes in nursing because of MNA, and it is a direct reflection on the MNA staff that is led by Dr. Ricki Garrett. Some of the things I am most proud of are:

1. Nursing education's $12,000 pay raise, plus additional educator positions at the schools of nursing.
2. An increase in school nurses and an increase on the cap on reimbursement for national certification from 26 to 32 school nurses.
3. Hurricane Katrina relief which is still ongoing today. Also, Katherine Krause's seminars, “Pathways to healing: exploring the resiliency of the MS Gulf Coast nurses following Katrina”.
4. The creation of the Nightingale Awards Gala, which has increased from 325 participants to over 600 and brought significant attention to the profession.
5. Johnson and Johnson Gala which raised approximately $250,000 for nursing scholarships and hurricane Katrina relief.
6. Instituting the administering of the CCHT examinations of the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission for the certification of Dialysis Technicians.
7. Nursing faculty shortage media campaign, “Saving Nurses Saves Lives” that has been a model for similar initiatives in other states.
8. Increased MNA's budget to almost one million dollars along with a significant investment portfolio over the past five years, even during the economic crisis.
9. Added the Director of Advanced Nursing Practice to MNA's Board of Directors.
10. Increased advocacy of advanced practice nurses and all nurses, as well as passage of a bill to eliminate joint promulgation of nurse practitioner regulations.
11. Strengthened relationships with the Board of Nursing, the Mississippi Hospital Association, legislators, and other constituencies.
12. Passage of the law protecting the title of nurse. This law prevents those who have not completed nursing school to be referred to as “nurse”.

At the national level, the Mississippi Nurses Association has set a precedent as being one of the best state associations in the American Nurses Association. We have set a high standard that the other state associations strive to achieve.

Dr. Garrett and the MNA staff will continue to strive for excellence and in doing so will continue to promote and improve the nursing profession. The one thing we have to accomplish is to continue the membership growth of MNA. Since 2005 our membership has increased 30%, with a 9% increase just this year. With approximately 37,000 nurses and only 2091 members, we still have work to do.

My hope for the future of MNA is to continue the growth we have begun during my tenure with focusing on the relationships we have built with others that support the profession of nursing. Through Dr. Ricki Garrett, our executive director, the MNA staff and our lobbyist, Betty Dickson, we will continue to surpass all expectations.

I thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve as Mississippi Nurses Association's President.

Pam
Gail Pittman Pottery Inc. has closed its production line of pottery and will no longer produce hand-painted pottery. The MNA logo pottery commissioned in April 2008 will no longer be produced.

The 8-inch salad plate is available for $35 plus $8.95 shipping while the supply lasts.

MNA Pittman Pottery Order Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
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Billing Address

City
State
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Email Address

□ VISA □ MASTERCARD □ AMEX
Name on Card

Card No.
Exp. Date
Signature

Shipping Address

City
State
Zip
Email Address

Mississippi Nurses Association
Nurse Practitioners’ 2010 Spring Convention

Join us for a five-day cruise on Carnival Fantasy
April 15-19, 2010 for the NP Spring Convention.
We will depart from the Port of Mobile and sail to Cozumel.

make your reservation today!
The Mississippi Nurses Foundation awarded $48,000 in stipends through the Nurses Car Tag Program—Nurses Touch Lives.

Recipients are required to sign a contract with the Mississippi Nurses Foundation to work as a full-time nurse in Mississippi within the first two years following completion of the program.

Stipend recipients for 2009–2010 include in the associate program—LaPorshia McBeth, East Central Community College and Daniel Munn, Mississippi University for Women; in the baccalaureate program—Nancy Ogendo and Anna Johnson, both from Mississippi University for Women; master’s program—Catherine Peters, Susan Rayner and Tonja Hart, all from University of Mississippi Medical Center; and in the doctoral program—Juanita Graham, University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Georgia B. Hall Award of Excellence—$500.00
Criteria:
• Currently enrolled and in good academic standing in a Mississippi public university BSN program at the junior or senior level;
• African American student;
• Member of the Mississippi Students Nurses Association;
• Application and essay submitted by the deadline date—October 1, 2009

Essay Requirements:
• Addresses the topic: “My Role Model of Excellence”;
• Demonstrates how one person impacted your life and decision to become a nurse;
• Previously unpublished essay;
• Limited to 3 pages—typed and double-spaced on letter-sized paper;
• Signature authorizing permission to publish the essay.

Complete Application Must Include:
Student information form;
Essay;

Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship—$1,000
Criteria:
• Admitted to a registered nursing program in Mississippi;
• Member of the Mississippi Association of Student Nurses;
• Possess strong academic performance;
• Demonstrate leadership ability;
• Write a 500–1000 word essay beginning with the following sentence: The nursing profession will be better in the next decade, because my goals and ambitions include…
• Application and essay submitted by the deadline date—October 1, 2009 (up to four will be awarded)

Complete application must include:
• student information form (contact the Nurses Foundation);
• essay;
• official transcript (no copies);

• three (3) letters of support from faculty providing specific examples of:
  a) leadership potential
  b) involvement in professional activities
  c) academic performance

Scholarly Writing Scholarship—$1,000
Criteria:
• Registered Nurse
• Mississippi resident
• Member of the Mississippi Nurses Association
• Enrolled in a doctoral program in nursing or a related area
• Manuscript is publishable as submitted
• Application and essay submitted by the deadline date—Nov. 2.

Manuscript Requirements
• Should be written on (1) one of the following topics:
  a. report of nursing project/research
  b. description of an innovative practice in nursing
  c. scholarly essay related to nursing
• Must not have been previously published
• Limited to 3,600 words, typed, double-spaced on 8-1/2 x 11 bond paper (12-15 pages, not including references)

A complete application must include:
• student information form
• manuscript;
• letter from the university verifying enrollment as a doctoral student
The Mississippi Nurses Association presented a once-in-a-lifetime training opportunity for nurses to be trained by experts from the Center for Domestic Preparedness July 10 and 11 at the Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa in Florence, Ala.

“This was an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for disaster responders,” said Mississippi Nurses Association Executive Director Ricki Garrett, Ph.D. “The CDP is the nation’s leader in disaster preparedness training. The conference offered eight hours of continuing education credit and focuses on four areas of training–decontamination, mass casualty response, survey and monitoring, and scene safety.”

The MNA Board of Directors provided the conference free of charge to MNA members and active members of out-of-state nursing associations or other professional associations such as EMTs, firefighters, and other emergency responders. MNA used hurricane relief funds to offset the cost for its members and members of other professional response associations.

“The stories and experiences of Mississippi nurses as first responders are chilling and inspiring,” said Garrett. “The state’s reliance on nurses in emergencies or disasters continues to grow. Each time there is a call, Mississippi nurses are among the first to answer. Preparation is the best defense we have in meeting the demands of a disaster.”

Course Manager John Moran and instructors Cathy Hinners, Dan O’Connor, Matt Lowery, Ricky Carroll and Pete Zekoff along with logistics staffers Bill Wooten and Josh Cofield brought the two-day, intensive, hands-on workshop for disaster responders, sponsored by Homeland Security’s Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP). Participation was limited to 60.

The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), located in Anniston, Ala., is a federal training facility for delivery of high-quality, comprehensive preparedness training programs for the nation’s emergency responders. The CDP opened its doors as a training center for the nation’s emergency responders in June of 1998. Since that time, more than 390,000 emergency responders have participated in the multi-disciplinary training courses offered by the training center. CDP instructors each have a minimum of 10 years of required emergency responder experience before they are even considered for a position. Each instructor is carefully selected, based on experience, knowledge of the national response elements, and ability to teach.

“We wanted to make sure our nurse responders have an opportunity to train with some of the nation’s best teachers and have all they need to protect their communities and feel confident and prepared,” said Garrett.

To learn more about the Center for Domestic Preparedness, visit http://cdp.dhs.gov or call 866-213-9553.
Mississippi Nurses Association Convention 2009

EXPO '09 Grand Prize: Be sure to register for the Expo Grand Prize to be given away at 10:40 a.m. You must be present to win.

One Strong Voice continued from page 1

Two dynamic Pre-Convention Workshops:
The pre-convention workshops, each providing 3.5 contact hours, will be offered simultaneously at the Beau Rivage conference area from 1-5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 20. The first, Practice Issues and Legal Aspects of Nursing in Mississippi was presented by Mississippi State Board of Nursing Executive Director Melinda Rush, DNS, FNP, Ann Ricks, RN, BSN; Brett Thompson, RN, and Latrina McClenton, RN, BSN, MPH. Rush and her team will focus on the legal aspects for nurses in today's litigious environment. The second workshop, Nurse Training for Disaster Managers, will be presented by Rayloni Branch, MSN, CNOR; and Lisa Byrd, Ph.D. The session will focus on Red Cross' protocols in establishing and maintaining shelters during disasters.

House of Delegates: The MNA House of Delegates will convene their one-day session at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21. Delegates will vote on the MNA Board position for president, vice-president, director, Council on Nursing Education, director, Council on Organizational Affairs and three members of the Committee on Nominations. From 9 to 10 a.m., for one contact hour of continuing education, Melessa Phillips, M.D., will address the House and convention attendees wishing to participate. Her topic will be Evidence-Based Medicine.

Keynote Luncheon: Susanne Gaddis, Ph.D., known as the Communications Doctor will officially kickoff the 98th Mississippi Nurses Association's annual convention with her high-energy keynote address. How to Communicate with Compassion will take place from 12:30 until noon Wednesday, Oct. 21 in the Mississippi Coast Convention Center. Gaddis recognizes there is an epidemic of unhealthy interactions in today's society. The good news is she shares prescriptions—easy and engaging tips and techniques that help foster a climate for positive, diplomatic and motivational communications.

Two Great Receptions: Both the University of Mississippi and the University of Southern Mississippi schools of nursing will once again host receptions from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, in the Beau Rivage Conference Area. All attendees are invited to join the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s School of Nursing at their reception in Magnolia D and The University of Southern Mississippi reception in Magnolia B.

Dr. Robert Galli, M.D., will conduct the 2-hour Nurse Practitioner Controlled Substance Workshop from 3 to 5 p.m. Galli is a professor and department chair and executive director of the Mississippi Center for Addiction Treatment located in the Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine. He is medical director of AirCare Helicopter Transport.

How to Communicate with Compassion

Susanne Gaddis, Ph.D., known as the Communications Doctor will officially kickoff the 98th Mississippi Nurses Association's annual convention with a high-energy keynote address at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21 in the Mississippi Coast Convention Center.

Gaddis recognizes there is an epidemic of unhealthy interactions in today's society. The good news is she shares prescriptions—easy and engaging tips and techniques that help foster a climate for positive, diplomatic and motivational communications.

"We are totally excited about Susanne being with us for the keynote lunch on Wednesday," said Ann Barnes, BSN, RN, director of MNA's Council on Organizational Affairs.

As a communications professor, motivational speaker, author and member of the National Speaker's Association, Gaddis has taught the art of successful communication since 1989. A recognized communications expert, Susanne has appeared on nationally syndicated radio, TV and video programming and has authored articles appearing in The Journal of Training and Development, The Whole American Nurse, The Healthcare Career Guide, Shape Magazine, The Handbook of Public Relations, Corporate Meeting Planner, Quick and Simple Magazine, and on Microsoft's Small Business Online.

Current clients, benefiting from Susanne’s solution-oriented tips, and techniques include NASA Johnson Space Center, The American Nurses Association, Oracle, SAS, Blue Cross & Blue Shield, Shell Oil and Bayer.

One Strong Voice: MNA 98th Annual Convention

Mississippi Nurses Association Convention 2009

The Communications Doctor on Keynote Call

MNA MarketPlace 2009: Pick up a gift for someone special (like yourself) at the MNA MarketPlace 2009! There will be new items and new ideas just for MNA nurses. Stop by and see what we have on hand.

Expo '09: One of the major highlights of the convention will be the 2009 Expo Thursday, Oct. 22 at the MNA MarketPlace. The grand opening ceremonies begin at 9 a.m. Exhibitors will be on hand to bring you the best the industry has to offer.

Post-Session: Also, on Thursday, Oct. 22, The MNA Council on Nursing Research, the MNA Provider Unit, and the Mississippi Nurses Foundation’s Research Committee will present the winners of the award. The Expo will be open until 10:30 a.m.!
It’s the musical equivalent of comfort food. Sometimes, you just want to hear it. You need to hear it. You have to hear it! Soulful sounds and those unforgettable songs that you know by heart. We’re talking about music through the generations and no one does it better than The Record Players! The Record Players are stirring up quite a “heat wave” among partygoers with the fabulous tunes that defined Motown Records and those “stepping in the name of love” and partying to their unique sound from the first note to the last. With a song list that spans music selections from the 50’s to the 2000’s, everyone will have a great time. Flexibility, versatility, experience and above all, a trip through the generations! More specifically—to get ya’ll on the dance floor, The Record Players will “make you wanna shout” through a generation of celebration. And, don’t be a minute late or you’ll miss the brilliant, one-of-a-kind light show extravaganza to get things rolling.

**Mississippi Nurses Association Convention 2009**

**MNA/MAST Joint Session Speaker**

**THE RECORD PLAYERS**

*From left to right: Cedrick Eubanks (saxophone and flute); Akami Graham (background and lead vocals); Terrence Evans (keyboard); Dexter Allen (lead vocals and lead guitar); Fred Robinson (bass guitarist); Cherita Sade Brent (band leader and drummer); and Lorenzo Gayden (trombone)*

The Record Players will “make you wanna shout” through a generation of celebration. And, don’t be a minute late or you’ll miss the brilliant, one-of-a-kind light show extravaganza to get things rolling.

**Mississippi Nurses Association Convention 2009**

**MNA/MAST Joint Session Speaker**

**Drum Circle Facilitator—John Scalici**

Stepping up the beat for the MNA/MAST joint session at 8 a.m., in the Mississippi Coast Convention Center will be internationally recognized drum set facilitator John Scalici of Birmingham, Ala. Scalici is a speaker, musician, clinician, and master teaching artist. He has brought his dynamic, uplifting programs to Asia as well as the United States. His powerful message, Unity through Rhythm, has been featured at college campuses, churches, corporate events, classrooms and throughout the health care industry. His work with special needs groups has been featured nationally on the Hallmark Channel, and premiered on the Smithsonian Channel.

In 2000, John founded Get Rhythm®, a company which combines his passion for drumming with his background in communications. His company has presented dynamic rhythm-based programs for the Alabama School for the Deaf and Blind Children’s Health Services, United Cerebral Palsy, the National Association of Music Merchants, Children’s Health Services, Knowledge Learning Corporation, University of Alabama, Lynn University, Birmingham Museum of Art, Allstate Insurance, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Big Brothers Big Sisters, American Cancer Society, United Way, and many others.


**APPROACHING LIFE ON THE UPBEAT**

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Print and television media featuring John Scalici’s work includes: Making Music magazine, DRUM! magazine, The Hallmark Channel, and southeastern Performer.
Agenda continued from page 10

Charlotte Gore, Ph.D. (c); and Wendy Buenzli, Ph.D. (c)—Clinical Track

12:15–2 p.m. (1.0 c/h)
- Keynote Luncheon: How to Communicate with Compassion, The Communication Doctor—Suzanne Gaddis, Ph.D.

2:15–5 p.m.
- House of Delegates Reconvenes

2:15–3:30 p.m. (1.25 c/h)
- Alternative Therapies, Jenni Gallagher, RN, MSN, FNP—Clinical Track

3:45–5 p.m. (1.25 c/h)
- Women Who Kill, Diane Blanchard, PhD, RN, CNS—Psych Track
- Leadership Styles and Prepared Leaders, Peggy Church, RN, BSN—General Track
- Mississippi Infant Mortality: Reduction Strategies for Nurses, Juanita Graham, RN, BSN—General Track

5:30–7:30 p.m.
- University of Mississippi Medical School of Nursing Alumni Reception, Magnolia Room D, Beau Rivage
- University of Southern Mississippi School of Nursing Reception, Magnolia Room B, Beau Rivage

Thursday, Oct. 22

7–8 a.m., District Presidents’ Breakfast the Mississippi Coast Convention Center

7:30 a.m.—5 p.m. Registration, the Mississippi Coast Convention Center

8–9 a.m (1.0 c/h)
- Leadership, Evadna Lyons, Ph.D., RN—Leadership Track
- Nursing Simulation, Russell King, MSN—Education/Clinical Track
- Mitochondrial Disease, Julie Manley, M.A.T.—Educational Track

9–11 a.m. Expo Hall Opens

11–Noon (1.0 c/h)
- Council on Nursing Research Poster Session—Research Track

Noon–1:15 p.m. (1.0 c/h)
- Sigma Theta Tau Luncheon, featuring Carol Kneidl, RN, sponsored by Upsilon Theta William Carey University, Tickets: $30 (May be purchased at the door)

Noon–3 p.m.
- Expo Hall Open

Noon–4 p.m. (1.0 c/h limited to 24 participants per hour)
- Virtual Dementia Tour, Kathy Van Cleave, LMSW, LCMHT and Cindy Luther, DSN, FNP

11:15–12:15 p.m. (2.0 c/h)
- Developing Nurse Leader Program, Tonya Moore, MSN, RN—Leadership Track

1:30–2:30 p.m. (1.0 c/h)
- Having a Green Practice, Patsy Smyth, DSN, FNP—Clinical Track
- The Seven Core Principles for Achieving Financial Independence, Carl Snell, BS, CFP—General Track

1:30–3:30 p.m. (2.0 c/h)
- Nursing Research, Michael Schenk, MSMI, CMIF (and Laura Schenk, Ph.D., RN, BC—NP—Research Track

2:45–3:45 (1.0 c/h)
- Resources for Uninsured, Christina Nunally, RN, MSN, FNP—BC—General Track

3–4 p.m. (1.0 c/h)
- Consult vs. Referral and Incidents-to, What You Need to Know, Jill Shaw RN, MSN, CPC, CCS-P—General Track
- The Nurses Role in Health Information Technology, Mary Helen Connor, BSN, MPH, CHES—Education Track

4 p.m.–5 p.m. (1.0 c/h)
- Rude Behavior Management, Chris Lewis—Clinical Track
- HPV, James Moore, M.D.
- Sponsored Roundtable—Pick One
  (Wine and popcorn served to create a relaxed atmosphere)
  - Carl Snell, BS, CFP—Financial Planning
  - Lisa Byrd, Ph.D.—Entrepreneurship & Contracting
  - Elizabeth Duncan, RN, NP—A Piece of Peace: From Stress to Success
  - LaDonna Northington, DNS, RN, BC—Developing Expert Clinical Preceptors
  - Jan Cooper, Ph.D., RN—Horizontal Violence, Incivility, Bullying, and Joy Stealing—Just Say NO
  - Barbara Ross, Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC, APN-BC—The Low Down on the DNP

5 p.m.–5:30 p.m.
- Adult Refreshing Beverages (No one under 21 years of age will be served)

5:30–9:30 p.m. (1 c/h)
- Council on Advanced Practice Meeting

5:30–7:30 p.m.
- The Generations, MNA/MASN Party featuring the Jackson's soulful cover band, The Record Players

Friday, Oct. 23

7–8 a.m., Nurse Practitioners General Assembly

7–8 a.m., Continental Breakfast

8–10 a.m., MNA/MASN Joint Session (2.0 c/h)
- Get Rhythm, John Scalici
- H1N1: What Can We Do For Our Patients, James Moore, M.D.—Clinical Track
- HPV, James Moore, M.D.

9 a.m.–Noon (1.0 c/h)
- Developing Domains of Nursing, Lindy Sils, BSN, RN and Janie Butts, DSN, RN—Clinical Track

10:45–Noon (1.25 c/h)
- Alternative Therapies, Jenni Gallagher, RN, MSN, FNP—Clinical Track
- Allergic Rhinitis, Michael Blaisse, M.D.—Clinical Track
- They’re Back: Resurgence of Vaccine Preventable Diseases, Linda Sullivan, DSN—Peds Track

12:15–1:30 p.m. (1.25 c/h)
- Litigation for Nurses, Mike Brand, Esq.

1:45–2:45 p.m. (1.0)
- Managing Anxiety & Stress Across the Life Span, Elizabeth Duncan, RN, NP—Psych Track
- CAD, W. Lane Edwards, MS, ARNP—Clinical Track
- Botox, Mike Smith, M.D.—Clinical Track

3:00–5:00 p.m. (2.0 c/h)
- Nurse Practitioners Controlled Substance Update, Robert Galli, M.D.—Nurse Practitioner Track

Experience Dementia Through a Virtual Tour

The Virtual Dementia Tour presented by the Division of Alzheimer’s Disease and other Dementia, Department of Mental Health and the Alzheimer’s Association will offer a rare glimpse into the world of those living with dementia. The tour, led by Kathy Van Cleave, LMSW, LCMHT, Division Director Mississippi Department of Mental Health Boswell Regional Center Magoe and Cindy Luther, DSN, FNP, assistant professor and director, Geriatric and Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track at the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing, will be conducted from Noon–4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22 and from 9 a.m.—Noon, Friday, Oct. 23. Each one-hour session is limited to 24 participants.

The Division of Alzheimer’s Disease and other Dementia, established in 1998, is responsible for the development and maintenance of programs and counseling for those with Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia.

Health Screening Available for the First Time at Convention

SafeHeart Health Screens, sponsored by the Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, offers the power of prevention to those who wish to be proactive about their cardiovascular health. One out of every two heart attack victims and four out of every five stroke victims has no apparent warning signs or symptoms. SafeHeart Health Screens can help change these statistics.

SafeHeart will offer high-quality, fast and painless cardiovascular disease screening tests during the MNA Convention for only $99 that assess for risk of heart attack, stroke and aneurysm. This information can be life-saving. If the screening tests show the presence of advanced disease, or the presence of early vascular disease, those tested will have the opportunity to manage more aggressively the risk.

Go to www.safehearthealthscreens.com to set up a screening during the MNA convention.
Running for office

The House of Delegates from the 98th Mississippi Nurses Annual Convention will elect four officers and three appointees to the Committee on Nominations during their one-day session Wednesday, Oct. 21. The delegates will elect a president, vice president, directors, and an alternate director for the councils for Nursing Education and Organizational Affairs. Five candidates have declared for office. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

The following have announced their candidacies for the listed offices:

- **President**
  - Gayle Harrell, NP, C, CWN
  - Laura Schenk, Ph.D., RN, NNP-BC
  - Marilyn Ellis, MSN, CANP

- **Vice President**
  - Carl Mangum, RN, MSN, PhD(c), CHS, CVFF
  - Laura Schenk, PhD., RN, NNP-BC

- **Director of the Council on Organizing Affairs**
  - Bettye Logan, BSN, MSN
  - Cindy Luther, DSN, FNP

- **Director of the Council on Organizing Affairs**
  - Ann Barnes, BSN, RN

- **Director of the Council on Organizing Affairs**
  - Amy Forsythe, RNC

The MNA Board of Directors is comprised of 10 positions. Members who serve two-year terms. The president, vice president, directors of the Council on Nursing Education, Council on Organizational Affairs, and three members of the Committee on Nominations shall be elected at each odd year convention. The secretary, treasurer, directors of the Councils on Nursing Research, Health Affairs, and Membership practice shall be elected at each even-year convention.

There shall be a Committee on Nominations comprised of three (3) members who shall be elected as provided for in these bylaws, and two (2) members appointed by the Board of Directors. The member receiving the highest number of votes in the election will be the chairperson.

Candidates who have qualified include:

**Position of President**

- **Gayle Harrell, NP, C, CWN**
  
  **Bio:** Gayle Harrell, NP, C, CWN, is a Family Nurse Practitioner and Wound Specialist. She received her BSN and MSN from the University of Mississippi School of Nursing. She is an active MNA member and presently sits on the MNA Board of Trustees. She was the MNA Treasurer for five years, has been an ANA and MNA delegate, has been a presenter at the convention many times, and has served on many other committees. She has served on the Health Affairs Committee for thirteen years and join others in working with our lobbyist and legislators to promote and resolve nursing and health care issues at the Capitol. She has recently joined the Wound Management Group of Mississippi and is working at the Wound Care Clinic at River Oaks in Jackson.

  **Statement:** Over the last 15 years, I have had the opportunity to work with MNA on the local and state level, and have seen the difference MNA has made in the nursing profession, individual nurses’ lives, and the health care of Mississippi. I am an active member of District 15, I have served as Treasurer for MNA for five years, have been an active member of the Advanced Practice Council, served as President of the Nurse Practitioner and Wound and ANA; and am presently as a board member of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation. The rapidly changing health care system will present many challenges and opportunities for the nurses of this state and I am confident my experiences provide me the qualifications to be the voice for you.

- **Laura Schenk, PhD., RN, NNP-BC**
  
  **Bio:** Laura Schenk serves as an Associate Professor with an Associate Graduate Appointment at the University of Mississippi School of Nursing, where she has been employed since 1992. Laura was educated at the College of Saint Teresa (BS), the University of Mississippi School of Nursing (MSN, CNNP) and the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing (PhD). She has served on the Public Affairs Committee for the Mississippi Academy of Nurse Practitioners and is currently serving on the Closing the Gap Initiative on Infant Mortality with the Mississippi State Health Department. Laura has presented her research on national and international levels. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the National Association of Neonatal Nurses, as well as MNA. She has served MNA in the past on the Council of Nursing Research and as District 13 Legislative Chair.

  **Statement:** My name is Laura K. Schenk. I am thrilled to be running as the President of MNA this year. I presently serve as an Associate Professor with Graduate Appointment at the University Of Mississippi School Of Nursing where I have been employed since 1992. I received my BS in nursing at the College Of St. Teresa in Winona, MN, a MSN at the University Of Mississippi School Of Nursing, a PhD in nursing education and post masters as a neonatal nurse clinician in 1992 and 1994. I received a PHD from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in 2005, was the recipient of the Rene Reeb Research Award in 2003-2004 and The Gilfoy Doctoral Candidate Scholarship in 2005. I am listed in the Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. My research focus has been mothers of extremely low birth weight infants.

  While at the Mississippi Medical Center, I have served on many school and campus wide committees. I am currently involved with the UMMC Research and Quality Council and serve on the Pediatric sub committee and am a member in Evidence Based Nursing and the translation of research to practice. Currently I teach nursing research on the undergraduate level. I have presented my research on both the national and international levels. I am a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the National Association of Neonatal Nurses and serve on their national scholarship committee, as well as a member of MNA and NLN. I have served MNA in the past on the Council on Nursing Research, and as the District 13 Legislative Chair, and currently I am serving a second term as Director of the Council on Nursing Research. I am a resident of Madison, Miss., a wife and mother of three grandsons, along with being a nursing educator at the UMMC School of Nursing.

  I have been a member of the MNA Board of Directors these past three years. MNA has lofty goals and the Board is moving forward with the momentum and be the president that will continue to serve the MNA organization and anxious to be there as MNA and enact the changes that values professional development and responsibility and still have money in the bank. These are just a few of the good news stories. I also want to keep the appearance of a large business. An open door policy is the best way to do that business.

  Again, thanks for the opportunity to serve the nurses of Mississippi. I appreciate the trust you have in me.

- **Marilyn Ellis, MSN, CANP**
  
  **Bio:** Marilyn Ellis is a Family Nurse Practitioner. She is employed by the Gulf Coast Veterans Healthcare System in Biloxi. She is a member of the American and Mississippi Nurse Practitioner and has served MNA as Chair of the Provider Unit for several years. She has been a member of the Mississippi State Nurses Association since 1992 and as a part of the National Nurses Organized for Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and as a member of the Mississippi State Citizen Corps Advisory Council. She is a trainer for Mississippi Field Corps.
education agenda for both the annual convention and the spring NP Convention were enlarged, and the NP Convention itself was expanded to a two day event.

I have been able to witness the selflessness, generosity and determination to nursing that makes nurses deserve to be publicly recognized for these characteristics, and one of my goals is to collaborate with the Nightingale Awards Committee to make sure that the event continues to be successful. My second goal is to continue contributing with the CPC members who work so hard to enhance each nurse's convention. Third, I will work closely with the Resolutions Committee to help make each nurse's voice heard. In addition, I will utilize my experience and knowledge in bylaws to assist the MNA Bylaws Committee. I would be honored if you would consider me for your next director, Council on Organizational Affairs.

For the first time this year, the MNA convention will present a continuing education session featuring the experience and opinions of the participants in a roundtable format. Roundtables are sponsored by MORA—Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency. Popcorn and wine will be served to create a relaxed atmosphere.

Topics include:
- Financial Planning, Carl Snell, BS, CFP
- Entrepreneurship & Contracting, Lisa Byrd, Ph.D.
- Joy Stealing—Just Say NO, Jan Cooper, Ph.D., APRN, FNP
- Amy Forsythe, RNC
- Bio: Amy is currently employed at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in the Children's Cancer Clinic. Previously, she worked in the UMC Bone Marrow Transplant Unit as an educator and staff nurse in the UMC Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Unit as an inpatient nurse. Before joining UMC in 1998, Amy worked at Methodist Hospital in medical/surgical as an inpatient nurse. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi School of Nursing and the University Medical Center School of Nursing. She is a member of the Mississippi Nurses Association and the American Nurses Association, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the Oncology Nursing Society and NMAE-Nurse Make a Difference Everyday. In spring 2005, she was listed in Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges. She received the National Collegiate Nursing Award in February 2005. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Theta Tau honor societies. She received the MNA Celebrating Nursing Award in October 2001. She will be serving as the Central Mississippi Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society.

Statement: I have loved participating for several years as a member of the MNA Convention Planning Committee as CPC chairman and have indeed been able to witness the selflessness, generosity and determined commitment to nursing that makes nurses deserve to be publicly recognized for these characteristics, and one of my goals is to collaborate with the Nightingale Awards Committee to make sure that the event continues to be successful. My second goal is to continue contributing with the CPC members who work so hard to enhance each nurse's convention. Third, I will work closely with the Resolutions Committee to help make each nurse's voice heard. In addition, I will utilize my experience and knowledge in bylaws to assist the MNA Bylaws Committee. I would be honored if you would consider me for your next director, Council on Organizational Affairs.
Thanks to Our 2009 Convention Sponsors

PLATINUM SPONSOR; TOTE BAG SPONSOR; ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION SPONSOR
• Mississippi Organ Recovery
• The Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency (MORA) is again a proud sponsor of the Mississippi Nurses Association. MORA serves the greater part of the state of Mississippi providing organ and tissue donation options to families through our working relationship with hospitals we serve. With the support of nurses throughout the state, we have continued to see an increase in organ and tissue donation.

PLATINUM SPONSOR; BADGE SPONSOR
• The Delta State University
• Delta State University Robert E. Smith School of Nursing is proud to support MNA—the “ALL STAR” team for nurses in Mississippi, cheering together in ONE STRONG VOICE for better healthcare! Visit our website at www.deltastate.edu.

PLATINUM SPONSOR; MASN/MNA RECEPTION STAGE SPONSOR
• Delta State University
• Delta State University: The Delta State University School of Nursing is continuing its 41 years of providing excellent nursing programs at the baccalaureate, masters and doctoral level of education. For more information, please contact Linda Baldwin (BSN information) at 601-984.6262 (local) or 1-866-842-7575 (toll free).

STAGE SPONSOR
• South Mississippi Surgical Weight Loss Center
• At South Mississippi Surgical Weight Loss Center, the weight loss process does not begin or end with bariatric surgery. We work closely with our patients to assess their unique needs and develop approaches that are specifically tailored to work for them. We are located at 1124 Oakleigh Road in Ocean Springs, MS. For more information, please call us at (228) 872-7277.

• University Medical Center Nurse Recruitment
• Recently named one of the “2009 Top Hospitals to Work For” by Nursing Professionals magazine, University of Mississippi Health Care offers a perfect balance for your career. As a nurse at UMHC, enjoy our commitment to patients, respect for learning, and empowerment to teach others. Experience the honor of being a valued member of our health care team. Learn. Care. Grow. It's all waiting for you at UMHC. Visit our website at www.nurses.umc.edu or call a recruiter today at 601-815-7004.

• University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing
• The University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing welcomes you to the 2009 Mississippi Nurses Association Expo! The School of Nursing is excited to offer a variety of nursing programs, to include the baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degree, in addition to continuing education courses. We invite you to explore information about our three-campuses-Jackson, Oxford, and South Mississippi (Dixie Center). For any questions, or for more information about The University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing programs, please check out our website at http://son.umc.edu, or contact the Student Recruiter either by e-mail at nrecruiter@son.umc.edu, or by phone at 601-984.6262 (local) or 1-866-842-7575 (toll free).

• William Carey University
• The Joseph and Nancy Fail School of Nursing is housed on the three campuses of William Carey University. The generic, RN-BSN, and MSN in Adult Health Nursing Education programs are offered in Hattiesburg, Biloxi and New Orleans. Call 1-800-562-5991 for more information.

CE Calendar

Hypnosis Training
Six (6) Sessions beginning November, 2008 thru October, 2010
Alpha University
Conrad Adams at 225-315-3001

Neonatal Resuscitation Provider Course Update
(Dates of courses are pending. A letter will be sent with actual dates.)
Magnolia Regional Health Center
Donna Dean at 662-293-1205 or lchurch@mrhc.org

The Surveyor’s Approach to Care Planning
(Future dates to be finalized)
The Healthcare Communicators, Inc.
Rebecca Lynn White at 601-856-8775 or HealthcareComm@aol.com

Hypnosis Training
September 9, 2009
PPS Plus Software
Jennifer Warfield at 228-594-9660 or jennifer@ppsplus.com

Oct 8, Dec 16, 2009
Regency Hospital of Jackson
Charlotte Dyess at 601-364-6269 or cbranch@regencyhospital.com

Introduction to OASIS-c
October 21, 2009
PPS Plus Software
Jennifer Warfield at 228-594-9660 or jennifer@ppsplus.com

Paediatric Advances Life Support
October 24th, December 5th, 2009
Regency Hospital of Jackson
Charlotte Dyess at 601-364-6269 or dbranch@regencyhospital.com

OASIS-C: New Process Items
November 12, 2009
PPS Plus Software
Jennifer Warfield at 228-594-9660 or jennifer@ppsplus.com

Thanks to Our 2009 Convention Sponsors

Convention Sponsors continued from page 13

SAFHEART SPONSOR
• Alzheimer’s Association

VIRTUAL TOUR OF DEMENTIA
• Alzheimer’s Association

EXHIBITORS
• AbbVie Pharmaceuticals
• Assessment Technologies Institute
• Baptist Health Systems
• Delmar Cengage Learning
• Eliza Pillar
• Emory University School of Nursing
• EZ Way, Inc.
• Garden Park Medical Center
• Gideons International
• Glitz & Glamour
• Kare In Home Health Services
• Larken Laboratories, Inc.
• Mississippi State Hospital
• Mississippi Nurses Association
• Mississippi Nurses Foundation
• Nurses Preferred Auto Insurance Plan
• PrescriptFit
• Prime Care Nursing
• Regency Hospital of Jackson
• Samford University
• Southern Healthcare Agency, Inc.
• U. S. Army Health Care
• U. S. Navy
• University of South Alabama—College of Nursing
Health Information Security and Privacy Collaboration Provider Education Toolkit

by Mary Helen Conner, MPH, BSN, CHES, Laura Cole, MBA, and Charlotte A. Krebs, MA, CAE

From President Barack Obama to everyone across the country concerned about quality medical care, it appears that there is an increasing demand for the healthcare industry to go electronic. As nurses, we represent a large influential group to help with the transformation to health information technology nationwide. Although most industries including banks and even grocery stores have transitioned to electronic records, the medical community, for a variety of reasons, has been somewhat slower to move in that direction. Numerous efforts are underway to improve a system far too reliant on paper records. One such initiative aims to remove some of the barriers to participation in electronic health information exchange (HIE) technology by providing information and educational tools healthcare providers need to get connected electronically.

The Health Information Security & Privacy Collaboration (HSIPSC) Provider Education Toolkit (PET), launched in January 2009, focuses on safe, private and secure health information exchange technology for healthcare providers. The Provider Education Toolkit is the result of work completed by HSIPSC, a multi-year project launched in 2006 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The PET collaborative addresses issues pertinent to electronic health information exchange through multi-state collaboration. Participating states include Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, and Tennessee. The collaborative is working with medical and nursing associations, societies, and consumer-oriented organizations. The Web-based toolkit found at www.secure4health.org provides information on electronic health information exchange (HIE), health information technology and related privacy and security implications as well as tools and resources to help healthcare providers get connected electronically.

Ricki Garrett, PhD, executive director of the Mississippi Nurses Association (MNA), stated at a recent nurse practitioner conference in Olive Branch, “I am very interested in making sure that nurse practitioners and nurses are included in educational initiatives related to health information technology. Nurses are in a strategic position to support the move to and benefit from the electronic exchange of health information.”

Nurse practitioners and nurses can take advantage of free continuing medical education (CME) credits while learning more about privacy related to electronic health information technology and electronic health record systems. The two CME courses offered have been designated for ANA PRA Category 1 Credits®10. The boards of nursing in many states recognize Category 1 continuing medical education courses as acceptable activities for the renewal of licenses to practice. Nurses and other healthcare providers interested in receiving CME credits with the Board of Nursing in their state concerning state specific regulations.

The Provider Education Toolkit is designed to:
• Introduce healthcare providers to the benefits of electronic health information exchange (HIE);
• Increase provider awareness of the privacy and security benefits and challenges of electronic HIE;
• Motivate providers to understand the advantages of electronic HIE;
• Identify the steps to HIE implementation; and
• Encourage participation in HIE.

David C. Kibbe, MD, serves as senior advisor for the Medical Directors of Physicians’ Centers for Health Information Technology. “As a long-time advocate, I know health information technology has the potential to offer real-time information at the point of care and greater privacy and security protections,” said Dr. Kibbe. “After years of commitment to health information technology, I firmly believe that it offers healthcare providers the opportunity to make better clinical decisions, avoid duplication and medical errors, and aid in the prevention of certain diseases and conditions.”

Kentucky Lt. Governor Daniel Mongiardo is a practicing surgeon and a strong proponent of secure health information exchange and electronic health record systems. He joins Dr. Kibbe in encouraging healthcare providers, especially those in rural areas, to engage in health information exchange, “Health information technology is the foundation that will provide the tools to help achieve excellence in the delivery of nursing care in all settings—patient’s home, physician office, or at the bedside in a hospital. Health information technology promises to decrease medication errors, which are common in a paper-based system.”

Educational elements from the PET toolkit garnered a great deal of interest from registrants at Missouri’s 19th Annual Coming Together in Advanced Practice Conference held in Columbia in April 2009. “We have a number of advanced practice and other nurses in our state who have pursued training in health informatics,” noted Jill Kliethermes, APRN, BC, FNP, chief executive officer of Missouri Nurses Association (MoNA). “These professionals are often tasked by health systems, large and small, with the process of customizing EHR to meet the clinical and operational needs of the practice. We believe nurses are central to the effective implementation and utilization of health information technology.”


Deadline Approaches for ANA 2009 National Awards

It is time to recognize nurses who have made significant contributions to the profession of nursing. The Committee on Honorary Awards is seeking nominees for the ANA National Awards Program, which will bestow 14 national awards to be celebrated during the June 2010 House of Delegates in Washington, DC. Please take a moment to think about your colleagues who exemplify the special qualities recognized by these awards.

A copy of the 2009 ANA National Awards Program Call for Awards Nominations brochure can be downloaded from the ANA Web site, www.nursingworld.org/awards.

The brochure provides awards criteria nomination forms, a checklist nomination packet, information on what constitutes a complete nominee packet, who can nominate individuals for the awards, contact information for questions and submissions. Please share this brochure with those who request information about the awards.

The deadline for receipt of complete nominee packets is Sept. 18.

If you have any questions about the awards program, please contact Debra Evans, Senior Governance Specialist in the Leadership Services department at (301) 628-5037 (E-mail: debra.evans@ana.org).

Tips for a Submitting a Strong Awards Nomination Packet
• Update and re-submit previously submitted nomination packets.
• Ensure that each nominee meets all of the appropriate award criteria.
• Ensure that letters of support and/or print validations of a nominee’s contributions and achievements accurately describe a nominee’s leadership, contributions, impact and achievements in patient care, the nursing profession, public health and/or health services, and/or advancement of gender/ethnic/racial minority groups in nursing.

Letters of support and/or print validations should be sent to the Official Submitters® of complete nominee packets.

• Look at the list of previous award winners for some idea about the kinds of persons who win the award for which you wish to make a nomination.
• Solicit letters of support from persons who are relatively senior and well known in the ANA and/or profession where applicable.
• Provide individuals offering to write letters in support of your candidate with a copy of the award criteria and the award description to help them frame their letters.
• Choose supporting materials with care so that those materials are directly relevant to the contributions for which the candidate is being nominated.
• Emphasize the quality and aptness of the nomination materials and their implicit illustration of the award criteria.
• Answer each item on the appropriate nomination form.
• Use bulleted and clearly describe how each nominee’s achievements or contributions meet a specific award criterion.
• Think carefully about the award criteria and make sure that the response presents clearly and specifically why the candidate is being nominated and that he/she has accomplished that which is outstanding.
• Check each nominee packet for completeness and accuracy. A complete nominee packet consists of the following: a completed 2010 nomination form for a specific honorary award; a current curriculum vitae (CV) which includes a nominee’s education, experience and leadership activities and contributions at the national, state and district levels. For deceased nominees, the most recent CV should be submitted, and a completed National Awards Program Checklist

Submit nominations electronically. If unable to submit electronically, use a mail service with tracking capabilities to ensure that all complete nominations are received by ANA by September 18. There are no exceptions to this deadline.

Please note that previously submitted nomination packets may be updated and re-submitted.
The Board of Directors of the American Nurses Association (ANA) takes great pride in announcing that Marla J. Weston, PhD, RN has been named chief executive officer (CEO), effective June 14, 2009. As CEO, Weston will be responsible for providing visionary, strategic, and progressive leadership for the ANA enterprise. In her new role, Weston will also serve as CEO of the American Nurses Foundation, the research, education, and charitable arm of ANA.

"In making the selection of Marla J. Weston, Ph.D., RN as ANA CEO, the board has provided ANA’s diverse membership with a proven visionary nurse leader with stellar experience as a critical care nurse, hospital administrator, educator Constituent Member Association (CMA) executive director, and—most recently—a federal government official who possesses a unique mix of in-depth knowledge both of the nursing profession and of the association," said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR. "I am confident that Weston’s impressive professional experience and dedication will be invaluable assets not only to ANA and the members we serve, but to the nursing profession as a whole."

Prior to joining ANA, Weston gained extensive senior management experience in both large and small health care organizations. Since September 2008, she has served as deputy chief officer of the Workforce Management and Consulting Office at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C. Weston brought innovative leadership to the policies, programs, and initiatives that supported the employees who provide high-quality health care to veterans in all Veterans Healthcare Administration (VHA) facilities across the country.

Additionally, Weston’s background includes being named as program director, workforce development, Office of Nursing Services, also at the Department of Veterans Affairs. In this key leadership role, she was responsible for improving the overall work environment for VA nurses, retaining and rewarding a skilled workforce, and improving the image of nursing while promoting nursing as an attractive career choice through collaboration with external partners.

"For nearly 30 years, I have had the honor of successfully working in leadership positions with boards, committees, and volunteers at the national, international, and local levels. It has been possible to build long-term, collegial relationships with many nursing leaders, government officials, and hospital, university, and community college administrators to advocate for programs and practices that support recruitment and retention, leadership development, diversity, quality improvement and program development. I look forward to bringing these skills to bear as CEO at ANA on behalf of the profession and the public we serve," said Weston.

Weston held the position of executive director at the Arizona Nurses Association, a constituent member association of ANA located in Tempe, Arizona. For over four years, she led the statewide professional association for registered nurses, with duties that included managing and coordinating staff and volunteer programs to promote and advocate for professional nursing practice on a state and national level. During her tenure, the organization’s membership and revenues dramatically increased, including increased contributions to the Arizona Nurses Foundation.

In addition to her membership in ANA, the Center for American Nurses, and the Arizona and Virginia nurses associations, Weston is a member of the American Colleges of Healthcare Executives, the American Organization for Nurse Executives, and Sigma Theta Tau.

Weston earned a bachelor of science in nursing from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a master of science in Nursing from Arizona State University, and a doctorate in Nursing from the University of Arizona.
Application for Nurses Association Membership

31 Woodgrain Place – Middletown, MD 21769 – (301) 836-0450 – Fax: (301) 836-0120
e-mail: mnaf@mnaorg – join online at www.mna.org

(Please Print)
Check one: New Application Renew/Reinstatement

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer Address</th>
<th>Graduation (Basic School of Nursing): Month, Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer City, State, Zip</th>
<th>State / RN License Number</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Practice</th>
<th>Credentials/Degree</th>
<th>Recruited by</th>
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**Select Membership Type**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FULL MEMBERSHIP DUES</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$276.00</td>
<td>$23.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REDUCED MEMBERSHIP DUES</th>
<th>$186.00</th>
<th>$15.50</th>
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Options:
- Employed Full Time
- Not employed
- New graduate from basic nursing education program within six months of graduation, first year only
- Not employed
- New graduate from basic nursing education program within six months of graduation, first year only
- Not employed
- Newly disabled
- Totally disabled

**Select Annual or Monthly Payment Preference**

- I want to make one full ANNUAL payment by Check □ Visa □ MasterCard □ AMEX □
- I want to pay MONTHLY using:
  - □ Electronic Check □ Visa □ MasterCard □ AMEX

If paying by credit card, please provide the following:

- Card number:
- Exp. date:
- Name as it appears on card:
- Address:
- City:
- State:
- ZIP:

**If paying monthly by Electronic Check:**

Please enclose a check for your first month's payment and sign below.

By signing below, you authorize MNA to draft your monthly membership dues and any additional service fees from your checking account on or after the 15th day of each month using the account designated by the enclosed check.

MNA is authorized to change the draft amount by sending notice at least 30 days prior.

Understand may cancel this authorization upon receipt by MNA of written notice twenty (20) days prior to the deduction date of the 15th of each month. MNA will charge a $10 fee for any return drafts.

**Electronic Payment Authorization Signature:**

**Mississippi Nurses Association dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes but may be deductible as a business expense. However, that percentage of dues paid to ANA for lobbying (30%) is not deductible as a business expense. $7.50 of MNA membership dues is for a subscription to The American Nurse. $14.00 is for a subscription to American Nurse Today. $18.00 is for a subscription to The Mississippi RN and MNA Members Only. Members may not deduct the subscription price from dues.**

**Cancellation of membership must be made in writing a minimum of twenty (20) days prior to next scheduled dues payment. Early termination of monthly payment plan will result in balance of yearly dues payable upon cancellation.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>PLAN</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CK #</th>
<th>Approved by</th>
<th>Date</th>
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