by Mike Harkreader, MS, RN, CARN

I am a Registered Nurse and currently the Executive Director of the Tennessee Professional Assistance Program, the Tennessee Board of Nursing’s approved alternative to discipline program for impaired nurses. TnPAP is a wonderful organization to be associated with. The staff feels like family and the atmosphere is always a positive one.

I have been an RN since 1976 and have been a mental health and addiction nurse my entire career. I have had the fortune of working at a variety of hospitals including Parthenon Pavilion, Donelson Hospital (now Summit Medical Center), Vanderbilt Medical Center and Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute.

I have been lucky to have had several mentors along the way who have greatly impacted and shaped my career and philosophy. These individuals include nurses Janice Porter, Ann Cross, Ann Duncan and Cathy Gracey, to name a few, physicians John Griffin, Peter Martin and Reid Finlayson, and former TNA Executive Director Louise Browning, who taught me about the politics of nursing and the need to get involved in my professional organization as a tool to effect change. And, recently I have had the pleasure of working alongside Elaine Eaton, the Administrative Director of TnPAP, who is the epitome of a loyal, competent and dedicated civil servant.

The aforementioned nurses who were instrumental in shaping my career had high ethical standards and role modeled a commitment to good patient care and personal responsibility. They supported and encouraged me when I returned to school to improve my skills and knowledge base and when I accepted the position at TnPAP. The physicians mentioned all had one thing in common that they respected nursing as a profession and an equal partner in delivering first rate care. All of these individuals had one thing in common—

they gave more than they took.

I also have the fortune to be married to an outstanding nurse, and TNA member, Ruth Harkreader, MSN. I met my wife in nursing school as a matter of fact. She helped me navigate the University of Tennessee at Nashville’s Associate Degree nursing program at a time when my study habits were suspect to say the least. I have always admired my soul mate’s commitment to the nursing profession and to the fact that she truly values and respects the nurses she works with side by side every day at Summit Medical Center.

My membership in TNA over the years has been an important component of my personal image of the nursing profession. I have been exposed through TNA to some outstanding nurses who are passionately committed to the profession. Frankly, just “hanging out” with these movers and shakers is inspiring. I have known TNA’s current Executive Director, Sharon Adkins, for years, and when she was appointed I knew the Board had made a wise choice, as Sharon’s passion for TNA is obvious.

The TNA annual convention is a real boost to my professional motivation. It’s a time for learning about nursing research on a variety of topics, new trends, the state of nursing legislation, and the long range vision of our national nurse leaders. It seems every year I hear a student nurse come before the convention and share a story that inevitably reduces me to tears. It’s so refreshing to experience the enthusiasm of a young person embarking on their career. Plus the convention is a bunch of fun. Besides the social events, it’s always a pleasure to see what kind of outfit Francis Edwards will wear as she hits you up for a contribution to the Political Action Committee. If you have never attended a TNA annual convention, you are missing out on a great opportunity.

As our country faces a health care crisis, and as a nation we embark on a debate about health care reform, membership in the Tennessee Nurses Association is crucial so that all nurses will have their voices heard. Get involved and join us. You will not regret it.

My name is Mike Harkreader, RN. I am TNA—and I approve this message.

Mike Harkreader
MS, RN, CARN

Being a Nursing Leader: A Student’s Perspective

by Sarah Sexton, Breakthrough to Nursing/Legislative Director, Tennessee Association of Student Nurses

The Tennessee Association of Student Nurses Board of Directors works closely with the Tennessee Nurses Association to promote nursing and political advocacy. Pictured above are, from front row, from left, Rachel Curnett, TASN Vice President; Sarah Sexton, TASN BTN/ Legislative Director; Lacey Mangum, TASN President; back row, from left, Caden Austin, TASN Secretary; Eric Howard, TASN Treasurer; Ellen Morris, RN, TNA Liaison; Kyndall Parks, TASN Middle TN Regional Director; Sharon Adkins, MSN, RN, TNA Executive Director; and Blake Jeffries, TASN West TN Regional Director. Not pictured is Raycene Brewer, RN, TNA Liaison.

Tennessee Department of Health Initiatives Working to Improve Overall Health Outcomes

by Cathy R. Taylor, DrPH, MSN, RN, Assistant Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Health and Susan R. Cooper, MSN, RN, Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Health

Compared to other states, Tennessee currently ranks fourth for overall health outcomes—a poor showing and completely unacceptable to the state’s public health leadership. Armed with strong evidence that better lifestyle and behavior choices are critical to improving

(continued on page 2)

TNA Legislative Summit

By Cathy R. Taylor, DrPH, MSN, RN, Assistant Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Health and Susan R. Cooper, MSN, RN, Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Health

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(continued on page 4)
this ranking, two statewide initiatives are taking aim at major contributors--our poor dietary choices and sedentary lifestyles.

Governor Phil Bredesen launched GetFitTN in the fall of 2006. GetFitTN is a public health awareness program targeting the rising epidemic of type 2 diabetes and obesity. An alarming 28.8% of Tennesseans are obese. Obesity is a known precursor for diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and many other chronic illnesses. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, adults need a total of 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity on most, preferably all, days of the week, yet in Tennessee, only about 36% of adults get the recommended amount of activity, while about one-third are not active at all. Perhaps even more alarming, 80% of Tennesseans who have diabetes and more than twice as many as older adults have diabetes and its complications in our state. Diabetes and associated complications (vision loss, kidney failure, lower extremity amputation, cardiovascular disease, premature death, and many others) can be prevented or postponed with healthy lifestyle choices and standard therapies, yet Tennessee suffers a notably high diabetes burden. More than 50,000 Tennesseans have diabetes and many more than twice as many are at risk for developing diabetes. To date, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 5th Vital Sign and recent data indicate an alarming 28.8% of Tennesseans have diabetes and more than twice as many are at risk for developing diabetes due to obesity. The State of Tennessee has identified obesity and diabetes as leading public health problems and has developed the Tennessee Diabetes Action Plan as a blueprint to address the rising diabetes epidemic.

Tennessee has committed to improving diabetes self-care in an underserved rural area of the state by implementing diabetes education centers in rural areas, under served areas of the state, and increasing access to diabetes care in rural and underserved areas of the state.

Successful applicants targeted high risk population groups in rural and underserved areas of the state and increased access to diabetes care in rural and underserved areas of the state.

Tennessee has committed to improving diabetes self-care in an underserved rural area of the state by implementing diabetes education centers in rural areas, under served areas of the state, and increasing access to diabetes care in rural and underserved areas of the state.

About the Authors

Cathy R. Taylor, DrPH, MSN, RN, was appointed the Assistant Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health in early 2007 to serve as the first Tennessee Commissioner of Health who is a registered nurse. Cathy joined state government in September 2005 as a health advisor and was instrumental in developing Tennessee’s Health Care Safety Net. She later assumed leadership of Project Diabetes, a program Governor Phil Bredesen created to curb the Type II Diabetes threat facing young Tennesseans. Cathy also helped facilitate GetFitTN, the public awareness portion of Bredesen’s campaign to promote healthier lifestyles and habits among Tennesseans. Before joining state government, Cathy served as a community health nurse in delivery, and was a public health nurse in family planning.

Susan R. Cooper, MSN, RN, was appointed the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health in early 2007 to serve as the first Tennessee Commissioner of Health who is a registered nurse. Cathy joined state government in September 2005 as a health advisor and was instrumental in developing Tennessee’s Health Care Safety Net. She later assumed leadership of Project Diabetes, a program Governor Phil Bredesen created to curb the Type II Diabetes threat facing young Tennesseans. Cathy also helped facilitate GetFitTN, the public awareness portion of Bredesen’s campaign to promote healthier lifestyles and habits among Tennesseans. Before joining state government, Cathy served as a community health nurse in delivery, and was a public health nurse in family planning.

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One of the roles and responsibilities as President of the Tennessee Nurses Association is to ensure achievement of mission, values and vision. In 2006 at the House of Delegates meeting, a directive was given to initiate an investment in the future of the professional nursing association by way of purchasing a building. On the surface this seemed to me a nice gesture, but I have to admit I sat there and questioned the long term validity of this effort, and I seemed to only be able to reflect on the financial impact of this resolution.

I am writing to you today to talk about why the resolution to purchase a building is in fact so important. This is not just a building, it is the face of nursing in Tennessee. Nurses are the face of health care and serve the community in many ways and in many diverse locations. From hospitals to elementary schools, from home settings to clinics, caring for the newly born, the young, the aging, the dying, nurses touch the lives of all citizens in our community. The Tennessee Nurses Association is the voice and advocate for nurses...a strong professional association means a strong nursing profession and strong compassionate care for our community.

A healthy, thriving community requires a robust, educated nursing workforce with a strong voice and a vital presence. The Tennessee Nurses Association is the voice for nurses in Tennessee, representing them in the practice and legislative arenas. Now, more than 100 years old, TNA is committed to strengthening its financial future and raising its visibility in the health care community by purchasing a building for the nurses of the state, creating A TENNESSEE CENTER FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE.

This building will be the beacon for nursing excellence in Tennessee. This building will give nurses a place to seek ways to alleviate the impending nursing shortage and a place to serve the nurses of Tennessee and citizens of our state. A strong nursing presence benefits a healthy community and provides a better business environment. A strong nursing presence helps to focus on health and wellness issues. A strong nursing presence benefits all. At some point in life, a nurse touches everyone.

An investment in the future of the professional nursing association is an investment in the health and vitality of the state. An investment in nursing is an investment in access to health care and quality of life for every individual. The future of any association is closely tied to its financial stability. TNA believes that the purchase of this building will allow the organization to build equity and increase assets to ensure a strong future. This highly visible Tennessee Center for Nursing Excellence will have a positive impact on TNA initiatives to support nursing practice and quality patient care, not only in the Nashville area, but statewide.

The new building will provide space for the Tennessee Nurses Association, Tennessee Nurses Foundation, Tennessee Professional Assistance Program, student nurses and other nursing entities to become a “Center for Nursing Excellence.” It will be a place to gather, a place to work, a place to plan, a place to bring together creative minds to promote the profession of nursing and seek ways to alleviate the impending nursing shortage, and a place to serve the nurses of Nashville, the state, and the citizens of our communities.

Please join our supporters in helping us raise the $1.7 million needed for purchase of the building and furnishing and equipping our space. We hope to be in our new home by the summer of 2009.

Our Mission
To promote and protect the registered nurse and advance the practice of nursing in order to assure a healthier Tennessee.

Laura Beth Brown
MSN, RN
TNA President

TNA Works to Build a Center for Nursing Excellence
by Laura Beth Brown, MSN, RN
TNA President

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Each year, nurses continue to make strides in being an integral part of the collaborative effort to care for all patients. Through the use of evidence-based practice, nurses are able to stay at the forefront in improving patient outcomes. The Tennessee Nurses Association serves as a major voice in advocating for increased success in providing safe and appropriate care for all patients and defining the nurse’s role as a part of the healthcare team.

It was this effort by TNA and other professional associations that inspired me to pursue nursing as a career. During my senior year of high school, I was elected to serve as a state officer in HOA, a high school health science student organization geared towards giving students an introduction to the healthcare field. I was able to gain my first experience in witnessing the power of TNA at a gala sponsored by Johnson & Johnson, TNA and other professional associations honoring nursing and nurses across the state. I listened to messages and presentations at the gala and the stories from the attendees that completely reshaped my view of nursing and inspired me to join this effort and set a goal to become a registered nurse.

Seeing the effects and positive outcomes of this experience has led to my continued involvement with related organizations throughout my undergraduate study, most recently through the Tennessee Association of Student Nurses (TASN) which I currently serve as the Breakthrough to Nursing/Legislative Director. Working in this position has even further shown me the importance for increased involvement from members and supporters to become active participants in aiding the efforts made by TNA.

Sitting on the TASN Board of Directors has allowed me to work collaboratively with students from across the state on improving leadership, educational, and professional opportunities for all Tennessee nursing students. The hard work put in by TASN and other professional organizations translates into positive outcomes for nurses across the state.

Florence Nightingale made a powerful statement when she said “Unless we are making progress in our nursing every year, every month, every week, take my word for it we are going back.” This statement holds true whether it is in the classroom, practice, or in legislation. We are going back.” This statement holds true whether it is in the classroom, practice, or in legislation.

I realized that although they are extremely busy, our event would not be a success without the support of the School of Nursing’s faculty and staff, so I wrote them an email to encourage as many of them to attend our event as possible. Several faculty said they would try their best to attend – others promised a monetary donation. A few days later, I was CC’d on an email sent out by Dr. Zoila Sanchez, Tennessee Nurses Association District 6 President, who fervently wrote members to support our chapter of SNA by sending monetary donations. Dr. Sanchez wrote, “To this end, District 6 has offered assistance and support to Union’s SNA and pleads with you (if you are able) to also extend your support. These students are undergoing a traumatic experience, and in spite of this, they continue to act with courage, love, and selflessness. They are truly an inspiration to the nursing profession.” She attached the original letter I had sent to the entire nursing faculty. I was shocked that TNA would not only support us, but encouraged its members to individually do so!

When Union University’s Student Nurses Association had our elections this past April, I imagined my job would come with the responsibilities of planning meetings and various events for our chapter. Never did I think I would be scooping ice cream to support my fellow nursing students who lost their belongings in the devastating February 5 tornado. Working closely with SNA Fundraising Co-Coordinators, Leah Stout and Allison Trellet, we were able to change our “Maggie Moo’s Celebrity Scoop Night” into just that! Since many nursing students had already been forced to evacuate and go home, I worked with the SNA members who were still in Jackson to fill shifts for this event. I am so thankful that many of them were willing and excited to work for their fellow students! I recruited several members to scoop ice cream and make yummy treats. Others held signs outside to publicize our good cause. I even convinced three of them to dress up as Maggie Moo, a close to 7 feet tall cow to encourage more business!

I realized that although they are extremely busy, our event would not be a success without the support of the School of Nursing’s faculty and staff, so I wrote them an email to encourage as many of them to attend our event as possible. Several faculty said they would try their best to attend – others promised a monetary donation. A few days later, I was CC’d on an email sent out by Dr. Zoila Sanchez, Tennessee Nurses Association District 6 President, who fervently wrote members to support our chapter of SNA by sending monetary donations. Dr. Sanchez wrote, “To this end, District 6 has offered assistance and support to Union’s SNA and pleads with you (if you are able) to also extend your support. These students are undergoing a traumatic experience, and in spite of this, they continue to act with courage, love, and selflessness. They are truly an inspiration to the nursing profession.” She attached the original letter I had sent to the entire nursing faculty. I was shocked that TNA would not only support us, but encouraged its members to individually do so!

On February 11, I had the great privilege of meeting Dr. Sanchez. A passionate and lovely woman, she attended our Celebrity Scoop Night with her son and Celia Skelsey, TNA District 6 Treasurer. Dr. Sanchez and Ms. Skelsey found me scooping ice cream and hugged me. They spoke to me about the tragedy and how much they wanted to help Union’s student nurses. She then handed me a check from TNA District 6 for $1,000 made out to our nursing students in need. If I had tears left to cry, I surely would have bawled! The generosity, warmth and sincere concern and love of TNA amazed me–and through both women, I truly felt the presence of God. On top of that, both ordered ice cream and sat with SNA members to talk and encourage them! What a testimony to the grace and power of God during this difficult and tragic time for our campus.

Overall, between faculty donations, our tips and our gift from TNA District 6, we made nearly $1,500 in one night for our student nurses in need. I am so thankful to be part of my senior class, SNA, the Union community, Jackson, and to soon be part of a profession that takes care of its own. We are so blessed!”

SNA and District 6 Help Nursing . . .

by Bethany Kossick, Events Coordinator, Union University Student Nurses Association

The Tennessee Professional Assistance Program (TnPAP) is now offering its “Basics of Addiction” presentation online at no cost for employers, instructors and students.

The advantages include:

• Time Flexibility—no more having to spend hours checking calendars and planning a gathering of people.
• Geographic flexibility—Employees and students no longer have to be in any particular location to hear someone speak.
• Documentation of Completion—at the conclusion of the course, a certificate of completion may be printed.

The online presentation promotes understanding of chemical addiction, the recovery process, identification and treatment of chemical, psychological, and physiological impairments and the role of TnPAP.

After a simple registration process you will have access to the TnPAP interactive course. The course will take approximately 50 minutes to complete, based upon the person’s understanding of the training material and reading ability. A knowledge retention test is offered at the conclusion of the materials.

There is no cost to utilize this online training program for your agency. Visit https://www.aosintl.com/tnpap, use the Click Here button in the blue box under Training to create an account and register for the course. If you have questions or need assistance, please call TnPAP at 888-776-0786.

TnPAP Offers One Day Workshop April 25

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About the Author

Sarah Sexton is a senior nursing student at Austin Peay State University.
**LEGISLATION**

The Tennessee Nurses Association recently hired Meredith Sullivan to serve as lobbyist. She and Robert Gowan are partners in Southern Strategy Group, a well respected lobbying firm, and they will be monitoring legislation for TNA during the current General Assembly.

Meredith Sullivan brings a unique political background to Southern Strategy Group, having worked for Democratic Governor Phil Bredesen and Republican Senator Fred Thompson.

For five years, Meredith served in Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen's administration, after working in his successful 2002 campaign as Scheduling and Advance Director. Following her work on the Governor's transition team, Meredith was appointed as a Legislative Liaison for the Department of Commerce and Insurance, where she eventually became the Policy Director and then Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Regulatory Boards.

As Legislative Liaison, Meredith lobbied 300-400 bills annually for the Governor and the Department. Meredith designed and executed strategies for passing the Governor's annual budget and administration legislation on the lottery, worker's compensation, TennCare, and ethics. As Policy Director, she managed the Fire Mortality Prevention Task Force, executing statewide, grassroots programs that reduced fire death incidences by 99%.

In 2006, Governor Bredesen appointed Meredith Assistant Commissioner, serving as the chief executive officer of 27 non-health related professional licensing programs, including accountants, architects and engineers, barbers and cosmetologists, contractors, car dealers, security guards, and real estate agents.

Robert Gowan joined the Southern Strategy Group's Tennessee office after serving as Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen's Senior Advisor for Policy and Legislation. In his role as Senior Advisor to the Governor, Robert gained insight and developed expertise in a wide variety of issues including a special emphasis on areas that have become the primary focus of Governor Bredesen's administration including: education, health care, state budgeting, tax policy, and economic development. In addition to being responsible for developing and coordinating Governor Bredesen's legislative initiatives with the Tennessee General Assembly, Robert was responsible for coordinating the legislative packages of more than 20 state departments.

Prior to his appointment as Senior Advisor to the Governor, Robert served as the Assistant Commissioner for Regulatory Boards for the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance. Robert gained a great deal of insight and expertise in the area of government regulation in this role. As Assistant Commissioner, Robert was responsible for the oversight of the regulation of over 30 different state-regulated professions, including: accounting, architecture, engineering, real estate sales, motor vehicle sales and private security firms.

Gowan is a licensed attorney and, following his time in the Mayor's office, he was a lobbyist for several corporations, associations and individuals while a member of the government relations practice group at the Nashville law firm of Stokes & Barholomew (now Adams & Reese).

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LEGISLATION

Legislative Report
by Meredith Sullivan, TNA Lobbyist

The Tennessee Nurses Association has worked diligently this session to advance the practice of nursing and improve health care in Tennessee. Session highlights this year include a public policy forum sponsored by the University of Memphis on the nursing shortage in Tennessee, testimony in the Senate General Welfare Committee about physician supervision and walk-in clinics, and Governor Phil Bredesen funding the Graduate Nursing Loan Forgiveness program in the proposed budget.

At this point, TNA leadership has met with most members of the General Assembly to discuss these and other issues of importance to nurses across the state.

This year’s legislative goals include the following:
1. Amend the statute to allow advance practice nurses to own an LLC with a physician
2. Pass a joint resolution creating a legislative committee to study nursing faculty salaries
3. Acquire funding for the Graduate Nursing Loan Forgiveness program
4. Expand scholarship opportunities for nurses, particularly if they commit to serve in rural areas or have an associate’s degree and seek a bachelor’s degree
5. Increase the ratio of school nurses to students.

We need your help to ensure TNA’s success in accomplishing these objectives. The relationships you have with your own state representative and senator are crucial. We will call upon you through Legislative Alerts to contact your respective legislators when their support is needed to pass or defeat a bill. If your legislator knows who you are prior to this call, it maximizes our ability to fulfill TNA’s mission. Please take the time to meet with your legislator in your district to guarantee they know you when you call and request their support of TNA. To find contact information for your legislator, please visit www.legislature.state.tn.us and select Members under either Senate or House. The legislative website also allows you to track the status of legislation.

Each week, TNA distributes a written summary of major happenings on the Hill during the week and the bills calendars for the upcoming week. A list of all active bills and their status is provided. Additionally, Legislative Alerts will be sent to all TNA members to rally support for or against bills of significance to the TNA membership.

Please mark your calendar now for the TNA Legislative Summit and “Nurses Day on the Hill” scheduled for Wednesday, April 2, at the War Memorial Auditorium. For more information on this event, contact TNA at tnaonline.org.

I look forward to meeting you then and continuing to work on your behalf. If you have any questions or concerns, then please feel free to contact me.

Total of 4.0 Contact Hours

2008 TNA Legislative Summit
April 2, 2008
War Memorial Auditorium
Nashville, Tennessee

Make plans now to attend this special event designed for nurses and nursing students to become more involved in the legislative process!

Visit www.tnaonline.org for details.

The Tennessee Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.
APN Conference
April 25, 2008
Hilton Nashville Downtown

Schedule of Events
(subject to change)

7:30 a.m. Registration
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Keynote Address
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. General Session
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
11:15 a.m. – Noon General Session
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Lunch and Exhibits
2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Break with Exhibitors
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Clinical Session
3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Break with Exhibitors
3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Clinical Session
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Exhibitor Reception

7:30 a.m. Contact Hours
1.00
75
0.75
1.50
6.0 Contact Hours

For more information on the 2008 APN Conference, call TNA at 615-254-0350 or 800-467-1350.

Continuing Education
The Tennessee Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. Nurses who attend the entire program will be awarded 5.75 contact hours. In order to receive CE credit, you must attend the entire session and complete and sign the Attendance Verification Form listing each session you attended. A copy must be turned in at the close of the meeting.

Disclaimer
TNA will make every effort to ensure information herein is accurate at time of publication. TNA will not be held liable for misprints, omissions, changes or alterations.

IRS Statement
Registration fees are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Generally, registration fees can be deducted as an ordinary and necessary business expense.

ADA Compliance
The Hilton Nashville Downtown will comply, to the best of its abilities, with the Americans With Disabilities Act in order to offer this program to all interested parties. Please indicate any special needs you may have on the registration form.

Ways to Register
Visit the TNA website at www.tnaonline.org to register securely online or by mail using the print version of the registration form. Or, you may use the APN Conference registration form included on page 8. If you choose to pay by check or money order, your registration will not be processed until payment is received.

Registration Fees
Registration includes attendance at all educational activities, Breaks, Luncheon, Exhibit Hall and Exhibitor Reception.

Regular Registrations
TNA Member: $195   Non-Member $295
On-Site Registration only after April 14.
TNA Member: $220   Non-Member $320

APN Conference Information
Registration
Regular registration will be available through April 14, 2008. You must register on-site after April 14 if space is available. A $40 service fee will be charged for returned checks.

Meeting Attendance
Only paid registrants, displaying an official TNA name badge, will be allowed entrance to program events.

Cancellations
A refund of registration fees, less a $45 processing fee, will be made upon receipt of a written cancellation request postmarked no later than April 4, 2008. No refunds will be made after that date.

Meeting Location:
Hilton Nashville Downtown
121 Fourth Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37201
(615) 620-1000

Hotel Reservations
The Tennessee Nurses Association has reserved a block of rooms at the Hilton Nashville Downtown. Room rates for single/double occupancy are $169 (triple is $179 and quad is $189) for the night of April 24, 2008 only. To make reservations, call 615-620-2150 and identify yourself as a TNA attendee or you may visit http://www.nashvillehilton.com. Be sure to use the group/convention code TNU. If you request a non-smoking room but the hotel website states that there are none available, please put “REQUEST NON-SMOKING ROOM” in the comments section. The room block cut-off date is March 25, 2008. TNA cannot guarantee that rooms and discounted rate will be available after that date as the Country Music Marathon will be held the day following the APN conference. Hotel check-in begins at 3:00 p.m. and check-out time is Noon.

Hotel Parking
The Hilton Nashville Downtown offers valet parking for $20 per day and self-parking is $14 per day.

Attire
Attire at educational/business sessions is business casual. Please note that temperatures in the hotel can vary so please dress accordingly.

For more information, visit the TNA website at www.tnaonline.org.
The need for doctorally prepared practitioners and clinical faculty would be met if nursing could develop a new nonresearch clinical doctorate, similar to the MD and Pharm D in Medicine and Pharmacy, respectively. Several trends in health professional education and health care delivery support the development of doctoral education for nurses: (1) Increased numbers of graduate programs in nursing offer preparation for certification in advanced practice specialty roles such as nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists; (2) other health professions such as pharmacy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and audiology have moved to the practice doctorate for professional entry; and, (4) many master’s programs have expanded their credit requirements which has led to programs of study that are closer to the expectations for doctoral rather than master’s programs (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2004). From 2000 through 2006, leaders in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) developed and implemented a new clinically focused doctoral degree: The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). AACN recommends that by 2015 academic institutions that prepare nurses for advanced practice prepare them at the doctoral level. In October 2004, AACN member institutions voted to recognize the doctor of nursing practice degree (DNP) as the desired credential for future nurses prepared for specialty practice, including, but not limited to, nurse anesthetists, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and nurse midwives. This decision came in response to discussions with stakeholders inside and outside of nursing who called for a transformation in health professions education. The recommendation that nurses practicing at the highest level should receive doctoral level preparation originated from multiple factors including the expansion of scientific knowledge required for safe nursing practice and growing concerns regarding the quality of patient care delivery and outcomes (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2004). The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) has endorsed competencies for DNP graduates that build on foundational competencies for advanced practice and include the following essential elements: • Scientific underpinnings for practice • Organizational and systems leadership for quality improvement and systems thinking • Clinical scholarship and analytical methods for evidence-based practice • Technology and information for the improvement and transformation of patient-centered healthcare • Health care policy for advocacy in health care • Interprofessional collaboration for improving patient and population health outcomes • Clinical prevention and population health for improving the nation’s health • Advanced nursing practice for improving the delivery of patient care

DNP curricula will differ based on specialties that are offered and there will not necessarily be separate courses for each of the essentials. DNP graduates possess a wide array of scientific knowledge and have the ability to translate that knowledge quickly and effectively to benefit patients in the daily demands of practice environments (Porter O’Grady, 2003). Initial concerns that DNP programs will affect the number of students enrolling in PhD programs seem to be unfounded. PhD enrollment has been flat for 10 years nationwide (AACN, 2004). At institutions with both PhD and DNP programs, enrollment in PhD programs has increased.

The DNP provides an option for those individuals who do not want to become researchers, but instead want to attain the highest level of clinical expertise. The AACN website lists the following 58 universities that are currently accepting students into Doctor of Nursing Practice programs. This list was updated on January 28, 2008. New programs are added... (continued on page 9)
when schools begin accepting students. In addition to those mentioned above, more than 140 additional nursing schools are considering starting DNP programs nationwide. Arizona State University Case Western Reserve University (OH) Catholic University of America Chatham University (PA) College of St. Scholastica (MN) Columbia University (NY) Drexel University (PA)

A hybrid program combining the professional practice doctorate and the academic research doctorate.

Duke University (NC) Fairleigh Dickinson University (NJ) George Washington University Georgia Southern University Governors State University (IL) Johns Hopkins University (MD) Medical College of Georgia MGH Institute for Health Professions (MA) Oakland University (MI) Oregon Health & Science University Purdue University (IN) Regis College (MA) Robert Morris University (PA) Rush University (IL) Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey Samford University (AL) Texas Christian University Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center The University of Iowa Thomas Jefferson University (PA) Towson University (NV) Tri-County University Nursing Consortium (ND University of Arizona University of Central Florida University of Colorado at Colorado Springs University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center University of Florida University of Illinois at Chicago University of Kentucky University of Maryland University of Massachusetts Amherst University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey University of Minnesota University of Missouri-Kansas City University of North Florida University of Pittsburgh (PA) University of Portland University of Rochester (NY) University of San Francisco University of South Alabama University of South Carolina University of South Florida University of Tennessee Health Science Center University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston University of Utah University of Virginia University of Washington Wayne State University (PA) West Virginia University Western University of Health Sciences (CA) Winona State University (MN)

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) in Memphis has offered the practice doctorate since 1999. UTHSC College of Nursing currently offers the following DNP specialties: Acute and Critical Care, Primary Care, Forensic Nursing, Psychiatric/Family Nurse Practitioner, Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, and Public Health. For more information on DNP programs, read AACN’s Position Statement on the Practice Doctorate in Nursing and the updated Frequently Asked Questions reference at www.aacn.nche.edu/asn/faq/index.htm.

About the Authors
Susan R. Jacob, PhD, RN, is Executive Associate Dean and Professor in the College of Nursing at UTHSC, Memphis. She received her BSN from West Virginia University, her MSN from San Jose State University, and her PhD from the University of Tennessee. Her academic, clinical, and research experience has been focused in the community health arena, specifically home health and hospice. She has been a nurse educator, actively involved in professional nursing organizations, for more than 20 years. Jacob co-authors and co-edits Contemporary Nursing: Issues, Leadership and Management a nursing textbook in its 4th edition.

Cheryl Cummings Stegbauer, PhD, FNP-BC, is a Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Director of the DNP program at the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis. Stegbauer earned her bachelor's and PhD degrees from UT's Health Science Center and her master's degree from Texas Woman's University, Houston. She first joined the faculty of UTHSC in 1976 as one of the original faculty members of the College of Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner graduate program. She is nationally certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner and has practiced in this role for over 30 years. During this time, she has been active at both state and national levels with professional groups concerned with the legal and collaborative aspects of practice. She was an invited participant in the 2000 Annapolis NP Think-Tank and was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Nurse Practitioner PR Campaign. She received the 2000 Outstanding Advance Nurse Practitioner Award from the Tennessee Nurses Association. Stegbauer is Chair of the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

References
The Clinical Nurse Leader: Transforming Care in the Microsystem

by Tommie L. Norris, DNS, RN, and Leslie McKeon, PhD, RN

The Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) report, To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System, (2000) describes a failing healthcare system: “tens of thousands of Americans die each year from errors in their care and hundreds of thousands suffer or barely escape from nonfatal injuries that a truly high-quality care system would largely prevent.” The IOM estimates costs related to preventable medical errors as high as $29 billion, due in part to a fragmented healthcare system. In response to the need for patient safety and to improve the practice environment, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) partnered with practice leaders across the nation to create a new nursing role, the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) (2007).

The CNL is a master’s prepared advanced generalist RN who provides and coordinates care to individuals and patient cohorts in the clinical microsystem (e.g., medical surgical unit). It is in the microsystem “where patients and providers meet” (Nelson et al., 2002, p. 473) and where the CNL integrates care services within and across settings to achieve optimal clinical and financial outcomes. The CNL is not a manager, though s/he assumes a horizontal leadership role within the healthcare team, overseeing care coordination of a group of patients. A key role of the CNL is collaborating with the interdisciplinary team to identify risk analysis strategies and resources needed to ensure the safe delivery of care (Begun et al., 2006). Patient-centered, evidence-based practice and performance data drive both CNL practice and decision-making.

CNLs are educated to meet the six aims of healthcare described in the IOM report, Crossing the Quality Chasm (Institute of Medicine, 2001): safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered care. CNL educational preparation builds on the Essentials of Baccalaureate Education and the competencies set forth by the IOM follow-up report, Health Professions Education: A Bridge to Quality (Greiner & Knebel, 2003). Education competencies include working in interdisciplinary groups; employing evidence-based care; directing quality improvement; providing patient-centered care; and utilizing informatics. Clinical outcomes management, care environment management, and nursing leadership guide the CNL curriculum to achieve CNL competencies.

Clinical outcomes management is achieved through graduate level content in health assessment, pharmacology, and pathophysiology, and topics in epidemiology and evidence-based practice. Knowledge related to health policy, finance, quality improvement, and informatics guide the CNL in care environment management—including fiscal accountability and healthcare systems complexity. Complexity science provides the foundation to assimilate leadership and the role of change agent (Bartels & Bednash, 2005). Principles of horizontal leadership are taught throughout the curriculum and not limited to one capstone course or clinical experience. Although the CNL’s rigorous curriculum culminates in a clinical immersion (300-400 hours) and acquisition of advanced knowledge, they do not meet the criteria for Advanced Practice Nursing scope of practice (American Nurses Association, 2006). CNL graduates are eligible for certification under the sponsorship of AACN.

How do we know if this new team member is effective? AACN suggests that success be measured by improved clinical and cost outcomes of patients and the microsystem. Early outcome measures have focused on financial measures (important readmission, nursing hours per patient day, average length of stay, nursing care hours, patient days); patient satisfaction; quality/internal process (patient falls, pressure ulcers acquisition, surgical infection, surgical site infection, ventilator associated pneumonia); and innovations from CNL pilots based on qualitative data (Harris et al., 2006).

In summary, it is the expectation that CNLs will apply the full scope of their educations and their abilities to create and manage microsystems of care that are responsive to the health care needs of individuals and families (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2007). They will also improve recruitment and retention of a new generation of nurses by working with RNs, nurse managers, clinical nurse specialists and the entire healthcare team to transform the care environment. For more information about the CNL and their outcomes, visit AACN CNL home page at http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNL.

References


The Department of Veterans Affairs—A Leader in Health Information Network Technology

by Kathleen Kelley, MSN, RN, APRNC

The Department of Veterans Affairs is providing better coordinated medical care for veterans due, in part, to the development of a comprehensive medical information network. At VA, health care providers can access layers of information including patient problem lists, clinic notes, diagnostic tests, patient medications, allergies, hospitalizations, and discharges. With a click, actual tests such as X-rays, CAT scans, MRIs, and EKGs can be examined at any VA facility. Amazingly, VA clinics can transmit photographs via telephone lines for screening of diabetic retinopathy or even skin cancer. Once transmitted, VA specialists, located miles away, can make a diagnosis. Through VA's nationwide access, this system can also be utilized as an early warning mechanism for medical disasters, such as the appearance of avian flu or anthrax.

At VA, computer-generated program prompts including “Viewer Reminders” and “Viewer Alerts” are essential tools for health care providers in delivering better coordination of care. These prompts notify health care providers when certain disease screenings, tests and procedures are due, as well as medication reconciliation. They also alert providers and pharmacists of potential adverse drug reactions and indicated drug addiction issues. Through a computerized bar code system, veteran medications are tracked, and prompts are then generated. In fact, the Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) report To Err is Human revealed that between 44,000 and 98,000 Americans die each year as a result of medical errors, and that medication errors alone are estimated to cause more than 7,000 deaths annually. The “Viewer” program is one way to prevent these errors and improve patient care management by preventing reduplication and redundancy in ordering tests and medications, as well as providing less chance of medical errors for the veterans.

In addition to health care provider accessibility, the VA information system provides patient involvement. Through internet access and the “My HealthVet” program, veterans can view parts of their chart, including labs, and medications, and can refill their medications “online.”

Recently, “My HealthVet” was named a national finalist in the Consumer Empowerment and Protection Awards from URAC (formerly the Utilization Review Accreditation Commission), an independent health care accreditation commission. This best practice competition spotlights VA as a finalist due to its innovative and proven programs that enhance patient safety and gives veterans control over their health care. Veterans can also utilize the “My HealthBuddy” program. Through telephone access, veterans can transmit daily blood pressures, blood sugar readings and weights to their provider. For veterans with heart failure, hypertension or diabetes, this is an essential monitoring tool for both health care providers and for the patient.

VA’s innovative health information systems result in improved outcomes for all including better coordinated care, less redundancy in ordering tests/procedures, fewer medication errors, less adverse drug reactions, and patient involvement. These improved outcomes can add up to shorter hospital stays and potential savings in healthcare expenditures. The model in health care for today and for the future is VA’s health information network technology!

About the Author

Kathleen Kelley, MSN, RN, APRNC, has been a registered nurse for 27 years, working as a family nurse practitioner for the past 14 years. She provides both acute and primary care to veterans and is currently employed by VA Memphis where she is assisting in the opening of a VA run community based ambulatory care facility in her home town of Jackson, Tenn. As a nurse practitioner, Kelley is working to develop a Metabolic Syndrome support group clinic to address elevated blood sugars, hyperlipidemia, hypertension and obesity. This clinic will offer providers and nurses the opportunity to refer veterans and their spouses a way to achieve optimum health from a team approach.

Resources


2007-2008 TNA District Presidents

Diane Ruppel
District 1 President

Sharon Craig
District 3 President

Ardyce S. Ridolfo
District 4 President

Jennie L. Walls
District 5 President

Zoila V. Sanchez
District 6 President

Patricia Kraft
District 2 President

Donna Seely
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Billie Kennett
District 10 President

Linda J. Baker
District 12 President

Janice Harris
District 15 President

Denise Rezny
District 9 President

District News Reports

District 3
District 3 meetings scheduled for 2008 will be on March 25, June 17, September 16 and December 16, all beginning at 6:30 p.m. The District 3 Board meetings are scheduled at 4:30 p.m. on these same dates. The locations for these meetings will be announced soon and posted on the TNA website at www.tnaonline.org on the Districts page. District 3 is proud to announce that we gave a $1,000 donation to Second Harvest Food Bank during Christmas. Sharon Craig, MSN, RN, APRN, BC, COHN-S
District 3 President

District 10
District 10 held its first meeting of the year on January 8. District 10 meetings are normally held at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month at the University of Tennessee at Martin in the Nursing Department, 131 Gooch Hall. The District 10 meetings follow the local Sigma Theta Tau chapter meeting. We are meeting more frequently this quarter because we feel we must plan our events for May’s Nurses Week event far in advance, work on fundraising strategies, and becoming more visible in the community. We are also very aware of our need to revive and retain membership and recruit new members. We also like to keep everyone updated on the importance of keeping up with legislative alerts. Sharon Adkins, TNA Executive Director, and Laura Beth Brown, TNA President, will join us for the March meeting to give a legislative update and discuss other hot topics in the nursing profession.
Billie Kennett, MSN, RN, APRN, BC
District 10 President

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Billie Kennett, MSN, RN, APRN, BC
District 10 President
New/Reinstated Members, Spring 2008

District 1

District 10
Levasseur, Marcy M. Little, Joanne M. Rodriguez

District 9
Hashbarger, Judy L. Heaton, Holly A. Hula, Mildred S. David D. Davenport, Nicholas E. Greene, Peggy I.

District 6
District 5
E. Wellman, Linda S. Zajac

District 4

District 3

District 2

Member News

Virginia Trotter Betts Named President of National Association of State Mental Health Program

Virginia Trotter Betts, MSN, JD, RN, FAAN, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, was recently named President of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. Betts was elected Vice-President in July 2007 having represented the Southern region on the NASMHPD Board of Directors since 2005. NASMHPD organizes to reflect and advocate for the collective interests of state mental health authorities at the national level. The organization conducts environmental scans in the delivery and financing of mental health services and builds and disseminates knowledge and experience reflecting the integration of public mental health programming in evolving healthcare environments.

In her post as TDMHDD Commissioner, Betts serves as leader of the State's public mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities authority charged with planning for and promoting an array of services from prevention to recovery for all Tennesseans. Betts has focused the department's resources and programs on quality clinical care and on recovery through a focused commitment to bring science to service and promotion of evidence-based practices in treatment and prevention. TDMHDD provides direct services to clients at the State's five Regional Mental Health Institutes; contracts with Tennessee community providers for prevention and treatment services; and oversees the mental health and substance abuse service package, delivery, and quality of care services to TennCare enrollees.

Freida Hopkins Outlaw Inducted as Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing

Freida Hopkins Outlaw, CNM, FAAN, FACNM, is one of five individuals selected by The National Institutes of Health (NIH) to serve as members of the Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD). Since 1966, the ACD has advised the NIH Director on policy and planning issues important to the NIH mission of advancing biomedical and behavioral research, training, and translating research results for the public.

Conway-Welch has served as professor and dean of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing since 1984. She has been active in nursing practice and education for more than four decades. She has served on President Reagan's Commission on the HIV Epidemic in 1988, the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare in 1998, the Governor's Tennessee Commission on the Future of TennCare, and was appointed by then-Secretary Tommy Thompson to the Secretary's Council on Public Health Preparedness, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS). Conway-Welch was named by President Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 2006 as a member of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the premier training program for military health care providers. She is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, a charter fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science.
Call for Candidates

In 2008, TNA will elect the following positions: President-Elect, Vice-President, Treasurer, and two (2) members of the Nominating Committee. If you wish to run for office, please fill out this form and return it to the TNA office. Forms must be received in the TNA office by May 1, 2008.

Fax to (615) 254-0303 or mail to 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296.

Name ___________________ Credentials: ____________
Home Address ___________________________________
__________________________________________________
City  State  Zip
Home Telephone _________________________________
Work Telephone _________________________________
Email __________________________________________
Current Employer  ________________________________
Position ________________________________________
Candidate for: ___________________________________
Briefly describe your qualifications and interest in serving:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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_______________________________________________

Provide a letter of endorsement for your District (Can be emailed or faxed.)

By signing this form, if you are elected, you agree to:
1. Assist TNA in implementing the goals of the organization.
2. Actively support all resolutions approved at the Annual Convention.
3. Attend meetings as required in the TNA Bylaws.
4. If elected as an ANA delegate, attend the ANA House of Delegates.
5. My membership in the Tennessee Nurses Association is current. TNA Membership #

Signature _______________________________________

If you are currently a member of TNA District # ___________

The Tennessee Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

2008 TNA Annual Convention
October 24-26, 2008
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs
Franklin, TN
Make Plans Now to Attend!
Visit www.tnaonline.org for details

TNA Achievement Awards
2008
Attention all TNA Members!

TNA is now accepting nominations for the 2008 TNA Achievement Awards. The prestigious awards ceremony will be held during the TNA Annual Convention, October 24-26, 2008, at the Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, Tenn.

Here’s your chance to nominate that special someone today into TNA’s distinguished group of nursing professionals. Nominations from Tennessee Nurses Association members are now being accepted for the following awards:
- Deans and Directors Award
- Outstanding Member Award
- Professional Promise Award
- TNA Award for Nursing Excellence
- Alma E. Gault Leadership Award
- District Newsletter and/or Website Award
- Media Award
- Outstanding Legislator Award
- Outstanding Employer Award

Please visit www.tnaonline.org for complete details and Awards Criteria. The deadline for receipt of TNA Award nominations in the TNA office is no later than August 29, 2008. Nominations must be submitted by TNA members only on the appropriate forms along with the required documentation.

The Tennessee Nurses Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the educational needs of nurses in the state of Tennessee.

Come Join Us at the Third Annual Tennessee Nurses Foundation Silent Auction!

Come join us at the Third Annual Tennessee Nurses Foundation Silent Auction! Get your bid stance in place and your markers ready as we head up another fun-filled time at this year’s silent auction. It’s a great place to do early Christmas shopping and your donations go toward helping nurses in the state of Tennessee.

The auction is held during the Tennessee Nurses Association’s Annual Convention October 24-26, 2008
Marriott Cool Springs
Franklin, Tennessee

Donations for the auction are now being accepted. Please contact Kathy Denton at KDenton@tnaonline.org for details. Or call 615-254-0350.

Nurses Needed IMMEDIATELY

Finding the perfect job has never been easier. The TNA Career Center is custom tailored to our business.

Post your Resume Today
Access Premier Job Postings
Receive Jobs via Email
Land the Perfect Job

tnaonline.org

Finding the perfect job has never been easier. The TNA Career Center is custom tailored to our business.
ANNA Gives Nursing Students Access to Members Only Section of NursingWorld.org

The American Nurses Association knows that nursing students are the key to all of our futures. ANNA wants to expose students to all that ANNA has to offer while they are in nursing by giving them access to the Members Only section of NursingWorld.org at no cost to them! This will give them access to information that they can use in school and help prepare them for their nursing career. Highlights include:

- Full ANNA Position and Policy papers on important nursing issues
- A chance to sign up for Smart Brief—our members only daily news feed that brings together nursing and healthcare news from around the country every business day
- Access to the current electronic versions of The American Nurse and the ANA columns in American Nurse Today
- Access to the OJIN—a peer reviewed electronic journal available to ANNA members on the hot issues facing nursing today
- NurseSpace—ANA's new social network just for nurses
- Discount opportunities on a variety of personal and professional products

We hope you will share this special offer with your students. To sign up as a student, visit http://nursingworld.org/students/

Students will be asked for a Promo Code which will give them free access at the bottom of the form when they sign up. The Promo Code to be used is FUTURE. Be sure to check out ANNA's new YouTube video.

FDA Moves to Electronic Tools for Accessing Information

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration encourages all nurses to take advantage of the growing number of electronic tools available for accessing important safety information on the medical products they use and prescribe. As FDA moves to an electronic-based environment, it is providing new ways to offer timely, science-based, and clinically-relevant information directly to providers and their patients at the point of care.

Electronic services from the FDA include:
- Subscribing to FDA's MedWatch list serve notification or RSS news feeds at http://www.fda.gov/medwatch/elists.htm and http://www.fda.gov/medwatch/rss.htm
- Downloading audio broadcasts (podcasts) at http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov

For more information on FDA resources, contact Dr. Norman Marks at safetyinformation@fda.hhs.gov or 301-827-1512.

TNA Calendar of Events

April 2, 2008
TNA Legislative Summit
War Memorial Auditorium
Nashville, Tennessee

April 25, 2008
TNA APN Conference
Hilton Downtown Nashville
Nashville, Tennessee

October 24-26, 2008
2008 TNA Annual Convention
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs
Franklin, Tennessee

The Tennessee Nurse—March, April, May 2008—Page 15
TENNESSEE NURSES ASSOCIATION
BUILDING A CENTER FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE

Capital Campaign Contributions

The Tennessee Nurses Foundation Board of Directors is very excited to report that we have had several requests for funding over the last few months. These requests have been to support continued education and leadership opportunities for TNA members. Through generous support of our fundraising activities by the TNA membership, we hope to be able to fund many more in the future! Please see a separate article planned Third Annual Silent Auction to be held October 24-26, 2008 at the TNA Annual Convention.

Don’t forget that the Tennessee Nurses Foundation is listed on the www.GivingMatters.com website, which is sponsored by The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. Enter “Tennessee Nurses Foundation” in the Organization Name box, click on Search and then Click on Tennessee Nurses Foundation. This will take you to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation Profile, which provides information needed by potential donors. I would like to thank everyone that has made this such a great year for TNF. Whether it was through monetary support or hard work, know your contributions and labor are appreciated and will be used to meet the goals of the Foundation.

TENNESSEE NURSES FOUNDATION

Leadership Circle $500 - $999
Teresa Martin
Rick Rickard
Susan Sanders
Carolyn Smelzter
Sandra Thomas
District 8

Friend of Nursing $25 - $249
Adrienne Ames
Patricia Arangie
Susan Bailey
Diana Baker
Jean Bigger
Ruby Black
Bonnie Black
Ed Blackman
Marion Bogen
Gerry Bosworth
Mimi Bowling
Janet Brown
Martha Butterfield
Judy Carson
Shelley Caowell-Moore
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Donna Clement
Misty Collins
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Joan Creasia
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Susan Jacob
Patricia Johnson
La-Kenya Kellum
Sharon Kirk
Margaret Lanning
Donna Latham
Trena Lawson
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Mary Levy
Shandra Lewis
Laura Long
Sam Maceri
Mary Maynard
Polly McArthur
Mike Morel
Judy Norton
Anita Norwood
Lena Patterson
Frances Phillips
Patricia Pitman
Cynthia Powers
Mary Rhodes

Tennessee Nurses Foundation Initiatives

Promotion of Nursing Image Program
The Tennessee Nurses Foundation partners with other organizations to accurately portray the professionalism of nursing and to promote a positive image of the profession and nursing.

Memorial Educational Scholarship Program
The Tennessee Nurses Foundation supports the education of nurses who are members of the Tennessee Nurses Association by providing scholarships for those nurses seeking higher education.

Nursing Research Grants
The Tennessee Nurses Foundation provides grants to registered nurses engaging in scientific and other research projects focusing on nursing practice.

Leadership Nursing Program
The Tennessee Nurses Foundation provides scholarship opportunities for members of the Tennessee Nurses Association to participate in a variety of leadership development programs, including the Leadership Institute for Nursing Excellence, to prepare nurses for an enhanced role in nursing and community involvement.

In addition, scholarships for nursing students to attend the TNA and ANA Annual Convention/House of Delegates may be provided.

Tennessee Professional Assistance Program (TNPAP)
The Tennessee Professional Assistance Program provides advocacy, referral, and monitoring services for chemically dependent, psychologically or physically impaired health care professionals, who are licensed or eligible for licensure in the State of Tennessee; and for students in health professional programs.
The Tennessee Nurses Association's Bank of America card provides an easy way to make the purchases you need. You will enjoy the benefits of the Bank of America card and also help with the work of TNA.

Go to www.tnaonline.org and click on the card, or call 1-800-932-2775 and mention priority code L7D9.

Tennessee Nurses Foundation presents
A 100 Year History of the Tennessee Nurses Association
by E. Dianne Greenhill, EdD, RN, and Louise Browning, CAE

A Profession and A Passion: Nursing in Tennessee
Nursing Documentary DVD Order Form

A 100 Year History of the Tennessee Nurses Association

Purchase your special keepsake book, rich with the fascinating story of the history of the Tennessee Nurses Association for the past 100 years and filled with many priceless photographs.

Excerpts from book:

"With our superintendent of nurses...we sat at sewing machines in the hospital dining room. And what were we doing? We were making obstetric gowns, hemming sheets and curtains, making drapes and other linens for surgery..." Page 13

"The bill [to remove the site approval process for nurse practitioners' prescribing privileges] passed the House in 1994... Immediately after the bill passed, the sponsor, with a smile of relief, raised his arms toward the ceiling and loudly proclaimed: 'Free at last, free at last...thank God Almighty, the nurse practitioners are free at last'..." Page 71

Please see order form for special pricing. Shipping and Handling is included with all proceeds going to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation to help support its programs.

Make checks payable to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation.

Use history book order form on this page or visit the Market Place at www.tnaonline.org.

TNA Credit Card

The Tennessee Nurses Association’s Bank of America card provides an easy way to make the purchases you need. You will enjoy the benefits of the Bank of America card and also help with the work of TNA.

Go to www.tnaonline.org and click on the card, or call 1-800-932-2775 and mention priority code L7D9.
American Nurses Association/Tennessee Nurses Association Membership—It’s Your Privilege!

Tennessee Nurses Association Application

545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405 • Nashville, TN 37228-1296 • Phone: 615-254-0350 • Fax: 615-254-0303

Please type or print clearly. Please mail your completed application with payment to TNA, 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405, Nashville, TN 37228-1296.

Last Name __________________________ First Name __________________________ Middle Initial __________

Street or PO Box __________________________

City __________________________ State ______ Zip ______ County __________

Last Four Digits of Social Security Number __________ Email __________________________

Home Phone __________________________ Work Phone __________________________ Cell Phone __________________________

Home Fax __________________________ Work Fax __________________________ Pager __________

Employed at __________________________ as __________________________

Employer’s Address __________________________

Academic Degree(s) __________________________ Certification(s) __________________________

Graduation from basic nursing program (Month/Year) __________ RN License # State __________________________ Date of Birth __________ / __________

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Membership Categories (please choose one category)

☒ ANA/TNA Full Membership Dues

Employed full or part-time $23.34 per month or $274.00 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the American Nurses Association, Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

☒ ANA/TNA Reduced Membership Dues

Not employed, RNs who are full-time students, newly-licensed graduates, or age 62+ and not earning more than Social Security allows $11.92 per month or $137 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the American Nurses Association, Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

☒ ANA/TNA Special Membership Dues

62+ and not employed, or totally disabled $6.20 per month or $68.50 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the American Nurses Association, Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

☒ TNA Individual Membership Dues

Any licensed registered nurse living and/or working in Tennessee $16.34 per month or $190.00 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

American Nurses Association Direct Membership is also available. For more information, visit www.nursingworld.org.

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The Center for American Nurses (The Center) Membership

The Center is a professional association whose mission is to create a community of nursing organizations that serves individual, non-union nurses by providing programs, tools and policies that address their workplace concerns. Membership in The Center is included in all dues categories except TNA Individual Membership.

☐ If you DO NOT wish to be a member of The Center, check the box at left.

Communications Consent

I understand that by providing my mailing address, email address, telephone number and/or fax numbers, I consent to receive communications sent by or on behalf of the Tennessee Nurses Association (and its subsidiaries and affiliates, including its Foundation, Districts and Political Action Committee) via regular mail, email, telephone, and/or fax.

Signature __________________________ Date __________

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To Be Completed by TNA Staff

State: __________________________ District: __________________________

Expiration Month: __________ Year: __________

Membership Status: __________________________ Membership Type: __________________________

☐ 1. New

☐ 2. Renewal

☐ 3. Reinstated

☐ 4. TNA Individual

Spring 08 __________________________

Bill Method: __________________________ Amount Enclosed: __________

☐ 1. A

☐ 2. EFT

☐ 3. CCM

☐ 4. PD

Approval By __________________________ Amount Discounted: __________

☐ The Center Membership: Yes ☐ No

☐ Today’s Date: __________

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Dues Payment Options (please choose one)

☐ Automatic Monthly Payment Options

☐ Automatic Annual Credit/Debit Card Payment

☐ Authorization to Bill My Employer

☐ Payroll Deduction

SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW

☐ Automatic Annual Credit/Debit Card Payment

☐ Authorization to Bill My Employer

☐ Payroll Deduction

Make check payable to TNA or fill out credit card information below:

☐ Annual Payment

☐ Authorization to Bill My Employer

☐ Payroll Deduction

Automatic Monthly Payment Authorization Signature

Automatic Annual Credit/Debit Card Payment Authorization Signature

Charge to My Credit/Debit Card

☐ VISA (Available for Annual or Monthly Draft Payments)

☐ MasterCard (Available for Annual or Monthly Draft Payments)

Number __________________________

Exp. date __________________________ Verification Code __________________________

Signature __________________________

Automatic Monthly Payment Authorization Signature

Automatic Annual Credit/Debit Card Payment Authorization Signature

Charge to My Credit/Debit Card

☐ VISA (Available for Annual or Monthly Draft Payments)

☐ MasterCard (Available for Annual or Monthly Draft Payments)

Number __________________________

Exp. date __________________________ Verification Code __________________________

Signature __________________________