I Am TNA
by Edna Mason, RN

It was 1946 when a 14-year-old girl felt the call to become a nurse. I had never been inside a hospital until I was 13. A neighbor had fallen off of a ladder and broken his neck. When I visited him, the sight of that dear man gasping for breath inside a giant O2 tent did not frighten me.

I was monitor in my physics class at Knoxville High School, when my teacher asked me if I had plans to attend college. I told him I wanted to attend Carson-Newman, or Baptist Hospital Nursing School, but we did not have the finances. He leaned back in his chair and asked, “have you heard of Berea College in Berea, Ky., where everyone works their way through school?”

So, with his help, I applied and was accepted in the 1950 class. I graduated with a diploma in 1953. Because I was active in the Kentucky Student Nurses Association, I knew that I wanted a BSN in Nursing, so I attended some extra classes. It was in Kentucky that I attended some extra classes. It was in Kentucky that I

The Nurses’ Apron Partnership
by Ginger Manley, MSN, RN, CS

What ties together 50 vintage domestic Tennessee aprons, 50 RNs in the U.S.A., and 70 Kenyan nurses? The Nurses Apron Partnership, a grassroots organization of RNs who have adopted the vintage aprons, authored a book, and are helping fund continuing and graduate education for the Kenyan nurses through micro-credit loans administered by Burning Bush, Inc., a non-profit organization started by a registered nurse in Nashville.

Our Story
In 1989, when I left my secure job at Vanderbilt and started a private practice as a nurse-psychotherapist, I could not get a bank to consider loaning me the $5,000 I really needed was a micro-loan—a small enough amount that most folks might have been able to draw from savings to finance themselves. But I had two children in college and there was no money left in savings for such a venture. Thankfully, my mother stepped in and loaned me $5000 of her savings, which I paid back with interest over a five-year period. I never had to borrow any more money during the next 15 years of my business.

I did not know at the time that I was a beneficiary of micro-credit, a financial revolution which began in the early 1970s in Bangladesh and elsewhere. In 2006, Dr. Muhammad Yunus, an economist, won the Nobel Prize for his work in Bangladesh developing the Grameen Bank, one of the world’s best known micro-credit organizations.

Nurses now have their own specialty nurse license plate! Be one of the first 1,000 and order yours today!

Thanks for making it happen! Proceeds from the sale of the Nurses Change Lives license plate will go to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, to help support its programs. Visit www.tnafound.org for information on the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, its programs and activities.

Our next step is to sell 1,000 plates, and we have sold more than one-third of that total!

Before the license plate can be sent for production, you will receive a letter from the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, a current resident or

TNA Annual Convention Highlights

The 2009-2010 TNA Board of Directors, including newly-elected officers and District Presidents, were installed October 18 at the TNA Annual Convention. Front row, from left, Janice Harris, District 15; Ruby Black, District 10; Kathleen McCoy, District 9; Lena Patterson, District 4; Mimi Bowling, District 6; Sharon Bailey, Treasurer; Keesha Reid, Secretary; La-Kenya Kellum, District 1; Margie Gale, District 3; Billie Stills, District 5; Laura Beth Brown, Immediate Past President; and Tommie Norris, Vice President. On stage from left, Beth Smith, President; and Susan Sanders, Past President. Not shown in photo are Susie Compton, District 8 President; and Doris Glosson, District 12 President.

(continued on page 9)
Oklahoma. I was privileged to attend the world premiere of the movie Janette (who now is a critical care RN), I was privileged to be in attendance. In 1956, when I was pregnant with our first child, I was initiated into the real world of going from student nurse to RN. In 1956, we moved back to Berea, where I again worked in Berea College Hospital—much smaller than Good Samaritan. In 1956, when I was pregnant with our first child, I was able to stay close to home. I went home to Berea to give birth. We moved back to Berea, where I again worked in Berea College Hospital. In 1956, I was asked to be Head Nurse on one of the units. I stayed on orthopedics for seven years. I continued active in the local TNA District 2, as I had joined in 1962. I was Chair of the General Duty Section for several terms. Later, I was District 2 Treasurer for about eight years. Attending the TNA convention as a State delegate showed me the need to support our association, even though I did not agree with all of the policies. TNA keeps me updated on important legislation that affects all nurses. During the early 60s, I attended UT classes to get a degree in Industrial Education. I was a Junior, when events in my life prevented my obtaining my desired degree. When the neuroscience unit opened, I chose to work on that unit as a staff nurse. The head nurse positions were eliminated. I stayed on Neuro until 2007, when I retired fulltime. I have been nominated and gratefully honored with numerous awards over the years including Employee of the Month, TNA Staff Nurse of the Year (1992) and TNA District 2 Hall of Fame (2007). In 1992, I was nominated and chosen to receive the First Kellifer Award for an RN given by the Medical Staff. When I retired, a position opened in NSY EDU to teach new hires phlebotomy. I was delighted to accept. I also do audits and help teach as needed. I work 4-hour shifts occasionally at St. Mary's Residential Hospice. It has been my privilege to pray with many patients, families, and employees over the years. When I remarried in 1979, I married a man that loves TNA/ANA. I am TNA. The ANA Convention gave me a delightful taste of desire to support staff nurses. In 1956, we moved to Mt. Vernon, Ky., where I worked in Rockcastle County Baptist Hospital. We only had about 23 beds, but we did everything. It was before I-75 was completed, and we were like an emergency center, until we could send patients on to the larger hospitals. I continued to be active in KNA. Our other two children, Vanessa and Doug, were born there. In December of 1961, we moved back to my hometown, Knoxville. In January 1962, I began working at Fort Sanders Presbyterian Hospital (now FSRMC). I started on the medical unit, later worked ER for five years, then the surgery unit. When two orthopedic units were opened, I was asked to be Head Nurse on one of the units. I stayed on orthopedics for seven years. I continued active in the local TNA District 2, as I had joined in 1962. I was Chair of the General Duty Section. (Continued from page 1)
We all make choices in our lives. I am glad I made the choice to pursue a career in nursing and became a registered nurse. With this choice came many responsibilities, not the least of which was my choice to commit to this profession by becoming actively involved in my professional association. As I said in my remarks to the House of Delegates when I was inducted as TNA President on Sunday, October 17, I am humbled and awed by the history and tradition of strong leadership we have enjoyed since 1905 in this organization that has been and still is the voice for nursing in Tennessee.

From Lena Warner to Laura Beth Brown, our Immediate Past President, 55 individuals have gone before me in this role. Each of these nurse leaders knew the truth of Florence Nightingale’s warning that “unless we are making progress in nursing every day, every week, every year, we are going backwards.” Each of these remarkable nurse leaders, in turn, made choices to make sure our profession made progress and that the citizens in our keeping were safeguarded.

According to Florence Nightingale, “There are two classes of people in the world—those who take the best and enjoy it and those who wish for something better and try to create it. The world needs the appreciation of the first and the discontent of the second.” The progress of nursing and improved patient/client care services could not occur without the many difficult choices nurses have made while invisibly leading the way for progressive change and reforms.

Progressive leadership in nursing in our great state of Tennessee has not been limited to the presidents of our professional nursing association. The progress made in this state has also been due to the commitment and dedicated work of the members of TNA. Each of the elected nurse delegates in our TNA House of Delegates continues to thoughtfully deliberate and to make difficult choices that are often required to progressively develop nursing and safeguard those placed in our care. Continuing this legacy of leadership and responsibility is no small task, and I want to thank those who have gone before us and all of you who continue to address the challenges generated by seeking to make progress and improve client/patient care services.

The nurses in Tennessee are, of course, a part of the whole association of nurses who seek to continuously improve nursing and client/patient care services across the entire United States. As a large, national organization, ANA has made the choice to increase the visibility of our profession. In ANA President Rebecca Patton’s most recent address to the Constituent Members Assembly of ANA on October 31, she described how professional nursing in the United States is making progress for health care, for patients and equally importantly for nurses and nursing. As I reported earlier this year, there are now more than 7 million positive media impressions (media exposure) detailing how nurses and nursing are leading the way for health care changes and reform. This media exposure amounts to an equivalent advertisement value of more than $5 million. In addition, ANA has embraced modern technological social media tools such as the ANA website, Facebook and Twitter in order to capitalize on incorporating the added value of communicating with our diverse membership and colleagues in nursing.

As I first mentioned at the beginning of this article, we all make choices. It is also true that we each have to live with the consequences of our own individual choices.

My choice includes the profession of nursing and a commitment to my professional nursing association. My choice is to actively support the association of professional nurses who has continuously (since 1905) striven to improve the quality of client/patient care services for those entrusted to the care of nurses. My choice is to ensure that nursing continues to make progress in Tennessee through my affiliation with the Tennessee Nurses Association.

If you too have made the choice to be active in the Tennessee Nurses Association, thank you for your dedication to professional nursing. Thank you for making a choice to promote the progress of nurses and nursing. Thank you for making the choice to initiate actions visibly and invisibly that safeguard those whom we serve. If you have not made this choice, I hope you do. We need you. As Florence Nightingale said, “Let us each and all realizing the importance of our influence on others—stand shoulder to shoulder—and not alone, in good cause.”

TNA:
Gosh, this sounds like stressful work. Is it?
KD:
No, I love it! You learn as you go. I’ve learned to experience what is arising, to be with my anxiety when things do get tense. Because what you resist takes you over. It is so important to stay in the moment. I truly believe that what is going on is what needs to happen.

TNA:
You mentioned that the work of Eckert Tolle has been influential in your wellness. What are the points he emphasizes?
KD:
In The Power of Now and A New Earth, Tolle writes that we must focus on the “now.” In doing so, we are more at peace. In the present moment we can experience a freedom that helps dissipate the fears of the past and future.

TNA:
Do you have a sense of why we resist slowing down and being in the now?
KD:
I believe we are programmed, in a sense, to not believe in our own goodness. We think we have to earn it.

TNA:
I think I’m catching on. Your thinking about and practicing being in the present actually serves to reduce stress and anxiety in your nursing. It’s a wellness approach that comes on the front end, rather than something you “do” to relieve tension after the fact, so to speak. Is that correct?
KD:
That’s right. But I also think that engaging in hobbies as well as other wellness practices are important too. I quilt, do stained glass work, grow herbs, and love to cook creatively with the herbs I grow.

Sitting and talking with Kay was amazing. She had such a sense of calm and serenity about her. It doesn’t surprise me that she can do the kind of nursing she does with such comfort and ease. Her approach to wellness obviously works for her.

As we continue this series on nurse wellness we want to hear from you. How is your approach to staying well? Please send your comments to cglass@tnaonline.org and your name will be entered to receive a $50 gift card from TNA.
Holly Smith, BSN, RN, receives the first dose of H1N1 vaccine at Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center in Memphis, Tenn., were the first in the nation to receive the H1N1 vaccine on Monday, Oct. 5. The hospital received the first doses of the nasal spray version of the vaccine and began administering them to employees.

Holly Smith, who is the Patient Care Coordinator in the Infant Care Unit at LeBonheur and mother of two girls, became the first American to get a dose of swine flu vaccine in the national rollout that began in early October.

“I did this for my kids,” Smith said. And, speaking of the infants she cares for, she added that since babies are not born with fully functioning immune systems, “it’s real important for us to take that first step.”

Others among the first to receive the vaccine at Le Bonheur were doctors, nurses and respiratory therapists who work in the Emergency Department and Intensive Care Units. Pediatric and medicine-pediatric resident physicians and pediatric infectious disease attendings and fellows were also among the first group to be vaccinated. Le Bonheur Children’s, which has been on the front lines of the epidemic since it began to surge across Southern states in late August, will receive more vaccinations and will continue to immunize health care workers.

ANA Urges Registered Nurses to Get the H1N1 Vaccine

ANA Maintains Long-Standing Policy Opposing Mandatory Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Policies for RNs, Though Considers Vaccines a Critical Public Health Measure

SILVER SPRING, MD—Recognizing that the H1N1 virus is a pandemic and a public health emergency, the American Nurses Association (ANA) is urging all registered nurses to get the H1N1 vaccine to protect themselves, their families, and the patients they serve.

Though ANA continues to oppose mandatory seasonal influenza vaccine policies, it also acknowledges that the public health threat posed by the novel H1N1 virus will spur employers to enact mandatory H1N1 vaccination policies for health care workers as a safety measure. ANA does not support such policies unless they adhere to certain guidelines to ensure they are fair, equitable, and not enforced as a condition of employment.

“ANA understands the potential need for a mandatory vaccination policy during a pandemic, but we are committed to ensuring that such policies are not discriminatory or punitive and contain appropriate exemptions,” said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR. “The bottom line is no registered nurse should be fired for not being vaccinated. That said, we should all be vaccinated, since no one has immunity to this new H1N1 strain. While some groups may be more vulnerable to severe illness and death, we are all susceptible.”

ANA believes mandatory H1N1 vaccination policies should only be implemented under these conditions:

• The mandatory policy comes from the highest level of legal authority, ideally state government
• Suitable exemptions, such as for those allergic to components of the vaccine
• Discriminating against or disciplining nurses who choose not to participate is prohibited
• The policy is part of a comprehensive infection control program that includes personal protective equipment, such as N95 respirators, to increase safety
• Vaccinations are free and provided at convenient times and locations to foster compliance
• The employer negotiates with worker union representatives to resolve any differences when the policy is implemented at a health care facility

ANA’s protection of nurses’ workplace rights should not be confused with the message ANA is delivering to nurses Get the H1N1 vaccine. To promote vaccination, ANA is sending a letter to its members and to affiliated specialty nursing organizations encouraging immunization for H1N1 and seasonal influenza.

Noting that the seasonal influenza vaccination rate for nurses and all health care workers consistently remains below 50 percent, ANA President Patton said, “As nurses, we have an ethical obligation to protect ourselves, our patients and our families from illness. Vaccination is one simple step we can take to do that, and it’s even more crucial during this H1N1 pandemic. We strongly encourage nurses to lead the way to increasing vaccination rates among health care workers.”

Specialty Nurse License Plate Order Form

To order a specialty nurse license plate, you must be a licensed driver and have a vehicle that is registered in your name in the State of Tennessee. Please note that a separate order form is required for each plate purchased.

You must complete all fields on the order form which contains information required by the state for pre-sale of the plate. For legibility, please print your name and contact information. The cost of the specialty plate is $35. If you wish to also personalize your license plate for an additional cost of $35, please email tnf@tnaonline.org for the details.

To order, please send your completed order form with your payment to:

Tennessee Nurses Foundation • 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405 • Nashville, TN 37228-1296
Phone 615/254-0350 • Fax 615/254-0303

Name __________________________
Address __________________________
City __________________________
State __________ Zip __________________________
Phone __________________________
County of Residence __________________________
Email __________________________

Please check the appropriate box:
❑ RN ❑ LPN ❑ Other

Total amount due: $35

PAYMENT METHOD
❑ Check or Credit Card ❑ MasterCard
❑ Visa ❑ American Express

Name of Card Holder __________________________
Address of Card Holder __________________________
City __________________________
State __________ Zip __________________________
Credit Card Number __________________________
Expiration Date __________

3-Digit Authorization Code (Located on back of card) ______
4-Digit American Express (Located on front of card)
Signature __________________________

Tennessee Nurses Foundation • 545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405 • Nashville, TN 37228-1296
Phone 615/254-0350 • Fax 615/254-0303
Email tnf@tnaonline.org
TNA Annual Convention Highlights

Attendees at the 2009 TNA Annual Convention, held October 16-18 in Chattanooga, Tenn., were energized and motivated by presentations on issues of current importance to the nursing profession, educational offerings, special activities, networking with colleagues, and poster presentations.

The educational offerings during the Convention included for the first time a pre-convention offering on Thursday, October 17, entitled Building the Civilized Workplace: It Begins with Me!, by Margie N. Gale, MSN, RN, Ph.D., and James Pichert, PhD.

The conference covered many areas of current interest including men in nursing, information technology in clinical practice, simulation, moral distress, strategies to empower critical thinking, and chemical dependency. The stimulating educational meeting offered a total of 9.75 contact hours of excellent Continuing Nursing Education and exchanging ideas with other nursing professionals.

House of Delegates

The House of Delegates opening on Friday included a welcome from The Honorable Ron Littlefield, Mayor of Chattanooga; and greetings from Lena Patterson, District 4 President. Tommie Norris, TNA Vice President, delivered the Nightingale Tribute and a moment of silence in memory of those TNA members who had passed away during the past year.

Laura Beth Brown, MSN, RN, outgoing TNA President, delivered her President’s Address, followed by Libby Lund, MSN, RN, Executive Director of the Tennessee Board of Nursing, who gave a brief overview of the activities and actions of the Board of Nursing during the past year.

Sharon Bailey, MSN, RN, APN-CNS, TNA Treasurer, presented the Treasurer’s Report, followed by Doris Davenport, DBN, RN, FNP, President of the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, who gave a report on the activities of the Foundation during the past year. Carolee Myers, PhD, RN, Chair of the Tennessee Nurses Political Action Committee (TN-PAC) gave a report on the PAC, followed by a report from the Tennessee Organization of Nurse Executives given by Wanda Perry, BSN, MHSA, RN, TONE President; and a report by Lois Wagner, MSN, PhD, RN, APRN, BC, Executive Director of the Tennessee Center for Nursing.

The Cancer Queens, a non-profit group that works to increase awareness about cancer prevention, entertained and educated attendees during the General Session on Friday.

The HOD session was followed by a general session, Cancer Queens: A Cancer Prevention Musical Revue, filled with dancing, singing, and a heartfelt message. Also on Friday, Jed Mescon, co-anchor of Channel 3 Eyewitness News for WRCB-TV in Chattanooga served as emcee for the TNA Awards Luncheon. Each year during its annual convention, the Tennessee Nurses Association takes time to recognize and honor those who have contributed greatly to the nursing profession and the organization. Photos with cutlines of the 2009 TNA Award Winners are included in this issue.

The Advanced Practice Council held its annual meeting Friday afternoon and elected new officers for the APN Council Executive Committee. The 2009-2010 officers include: Chair, Diane Pace, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, CCD,

The Tennessee Nurse

Diana J. Mason, PhD, RN, FAAN, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, American Journal of Nursing, delivered the keynote address Health Care Reform: What’s Nursing Got To Do With It?

On Saturday evening’s Fun Night, attendees traveled by bus to the Tennessee Aquarium to enjoy an Exhibitor and Supplier Reception followed by an extensive tour of the aquarium located on the Chattanooga Riverfront.

Visit the TNA website at www.tnaonline.org for a complete photo album of the events held during the 2009 TNA Annual Convention.

(continued on page 6)
The Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA) is the professional association representing Tennessee’s 70,000 registered nurses. This position paper outlines the basic philosophy of TNA’s House of Delegates relative to health care policy which may be addressed by the Tennessee General Assembly and the U.S. Congress.

Mission: The mission of TNA is to promote and protect the registered nurse and to advance the practice of nursing in order to assure a healthier Tennessee.

TNA supports a restructured health care system that ensures:
- Equitable and affordable access to essential health care services for all citizens and residents of this state;
- A standardized package of essential health care services provided and financed by public and private plans, including protection against catastrophic costs and impoverishment; and
- Direct access to a full range of professional registered nurses and other qualified health care providers who offer their services in a variety of delivery systems.

TNA supports initiatives to improve safe, quality, cost-effective health care and enhance affordable access to professional nursing services through:
- Assuring an adequate nursing workforce to meet current and projected health care demands;
- Collaboration with other professional and regulatory bodies to protect and advance nursing practice and quality patient care;
- Support of the Board of Nursing’s role as the sole regulatory authority over all nursing education and nursing practice; and
- Elimination of financial, regulatory, and institutional barriers to the practice of professional nursing;
- Participation of professional registered nurses on all local, state, and national health care advisory and policy making boards and committees; and
- Oppose any activities intended to restrain the ability of professional advanced practice nurses from providing quality, cost-effective and accessible health care to the citizens of Tennessee.

TNA supports health care initiatives that assure the protection of human rights as outlined by the American Nurses Association’s Code of Ethics.

TNA supports health care initiatives that assure an adequate number of school nurses and adoption of the ANA position statement recommending a ratio of one (1) nurse per 750 students.

TNA supports initiatives that encourage adoption of the principles of the Magnet Recognition Program® leading to nursing excellence.

TNA supports and advocates that both Federal and State dollars be made available to address the shortage of nurses with the following funding priorities:
- Enactment of additional slots for nursing students;
- Funding additional faculty positions for nursing schools in the state of Tennessee;
- Continued funding of the loan forgiveness program for graduate nursing students.

TNA supports programs and initiatives that provide a safe work environment, and advocates for facility rules that are consistent with the ANA’s Principles of Staffing and the Handle with Care Program®, leading to nursing excellence.

TNA supports and advocates that both Federal and State dollars be made available to address the shortage of nurses with the following funding priorities:
- Enactment of additional slots for nursing students;
- Funding additional faculty positions for nursing schools in the state of Tennessee;
- Continued funding of the loan forgiveness program for graduate nursing students.

TNA supports and advocates that both Federal and State dollars be made available to address the shortage of nurses with the following funding priorities:
- Promotion of nurse safety in the patient care environment;
- Staffing effectiveness plans;
- Whistleblower protection;
- Ban on the use of mandatory overtime; and
- Support of the Tennessee Nurses Partnership Collaboration.

TNA supports the ANA’s Scope and Standards of Practice for registered nurses and advanced practice nurses through:
- Enactment of statutory and regulatory revisions that will enhance the role of RNs and APNs in the care of people in Tennessee;
- Inclusion of APNs as licensed independent providers (LIPs) in hospital licensure rules, health plans and health care facilities;
- Support of “any qualified” provider legislation;
- Enforcement of insurance laws in the public and private sectors.

TNA supports increased participation of registered nurses as leaders in health policy

Education: TNA will promote continuing education to prepare registered nurses to become candidates for state and local elective office and political appointments.

Advocacy: TNA will seek key appointments for qualified registered nurses both as political officials and as members of policy-making committees, commissions and boards.
TNA Annual Convention Highlights

District 4 members enjoyed the District 4 Welcome Reception including, from left, Linda Foster, Eloise Waters, and Gretchen Davis.

Numerous posters were presented during the 2009 Annual Convention. On Saturday, attendees had the opportunity to walk through all of the posters and talk to the presenters during the Q & A Session.

District 1 members Diana Baker, left, and Connie McCarter, both from Memphis, enjoy the hospitality and networking during District 4’s Welcome Reception Friday evening.

Long-time TNA members Dava Shoffner, District 2, front row left, and Leo Lindsay, District 3, enjoy watching the Musical Revue by the Cancer Queens.

A large group of District 5 members attended the 2009 Annual Convention.

Attendees dined on delicious fare during the Exhibitor and Supplier Reception held at the Tennessee Aquarium on Saturday evening before the tour.

District 4 President Lena Patterson greeted attendees at the opening House of Delegates session on Friday morning.

Saturday’s Exhibits and Schools of Nursing Luncheon provided attendees a time for meeting and greeting, as well as dining from a delicious baked potato, soup and salad bar with all of the trimmings.

Beth Smith, the 2009-2011 TNA President, speaks at the podium during a House of Delegates session.
2009 TNA Achievement Awards

**TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award**
Ann P. Duncan, MPH, RN, of Franklin, is the recipient of the TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes a retired TNA member who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and TNA, continued participation in TNA and nursing, and achieved state and/or national recognition by the profession. This award is given by the TNA Board of Directors.

**TNA Outstanding Member Award**
La-Kenya Kellum, MSN, RN, NE-BC, of Memphis, received the TNA Outstanding Member Award. This annual award is presented to the TNA member whose contributions most closely reflect the mission and goals of TNA and the nursing profession. The recipient of this award demonstrates professional leadership and service to TNA/ANA at district, state, or national levels, promotes TNA membership and political activity of nurses, represents TNA and the nursing profession through media channels, health organizations, business or government agencies, and initiates and supports programs and activities which promote nursing and TNA.

**TNA Awards for Nursing Excellence**
This annual award recognizes outstanding performance in multiple areas of nursing practice. Nominees may be selected from the areas of nursing education, direct care, advanced practice, and nursing administration. Selection criteria is specific to the major area of practice, but reflects outstanding performance in these areas: promoting and maintaining excellence in professional practice; commitment to the nursing profession and TNA; contribution to professional development of other nurses (publications, presentations, research); leadership which improves the quality of nursing practice, but reflects outstanding performance in advanced practice, and nursing administration. Nominees may be selected from the areas of nursing education, direct care, advanced practice, and nursing administration.

This annual award recognizes outstanding performance in these areas: promoting and maintaining excellence in professional practice; commitment to the nursing profession and TNA; contribution to professional development of other nurses (publications, presentations, research); leadership which improves the quality of nursing practice, but reflects outstanding performance in advanced practice, and nursing administration.

**TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Advanced Practice**
Cathy Forbes, MSN, RN, APRN, BC, of Kingsport, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Advanced Practice.

**TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Direct Care**
Cindy Aragam, MSN, MHA, RN, of Johnson City, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Direct Care. (No photo available)

**TNA Professional Promise Award**
Lacey L. Mangum, BSN, RN, of Knoxville, received the TNA Professional Promise Award. This annual award recognizes a recent graduate (within first year) and new member of TNA who demonstrates qualities of “professional promise” in the areas of consistent attendance and contributions at the District level; commitment to excellence in nursing practice; and collegial and mentoring relationships.

**TNA Outstanding Legislator Award**
Rep. JoAnne Favors, MS, RN, of Chattanooga, received the TNA Outstanding Legislator Award. This award recognizes an outstanding legislator who has demonstrated support of the TNA legislative agenda and the nursing profession, and promoted legislation which enhances adequate and safe nursing care and healthcare for the people of Tennessee. Favors serves as Representative of District 29, part of Hamilton County.

**TNA Outstanding Employer Award**
Patricia Vanhook, PhD, RN, FNP, CNRN, of Johnson City, received the TNA Award for Nursing in Nursing Education.

**TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Nursing Education**
Ellen Drummond, MN, RN, of Johnson City, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Nursing Education.

**TNA Presidents Membership Award**
Jennie Walls, MSN, RN, APRN, BC, District 5 President, accepted the TNA Presidents Membership Award. This award recognizes an individual or group that has demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and to the Tennessee Nurses Association, and contributions may be professional, monetary, or literary. This year, two Friends of Nursing Awards were given by TNA.

The Award recipients listed below were unable to attend the TNA Annual Convention.

**TNA Friend of Nursing Award**
This award recognizes an individual or group that has demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and to the Tennessee Nurses Association, and contributions may be professional, monetary, or literary. This year, two Friends of Nursing Awards were given by TNA.

The HCA Foundation of Nashville, and the Memorial Foundation of Hendersonville, Tenn., each received the 2009 Friend of Nursing Award.

**John W. Runyan Jr. Community Service Award**
Patricia Vanhook, PhD, RN, FNP, CNRN, of Johnson City, received the John William Runyan Jr. Community Nursing Award, given annually by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center’s College of Nursing. The award is presented each year to a nurse who makes outstanding contributions to the development and promotion of health in the community. This award is not a TNA award, but TNA offers the UT Health Science Center the opportunity to present the award during the TNA Awards Luncheon.

**TNA Deans and Directors Award**
Ruth Elliott, EdD, RN, accepted the TNA Deans and Directors Award for Tennessee Wesleyan College-Fort Sanders Nursing Department. Tennessee Wesleyan is the recipient of the TNA Deans and Directors Award for the seventh consecutive year. Now in its eighth year, this award is given annually to Deans and Directors of any nursing program with 100% faculty membership in the Tennessee Nurses Association. Both the Dean and the faculty members have demonstrated the value and importance of membership in the professional organization the Tennessee Nurses Association.

**TNA Deans and Directors Award**
Ruth Elliott, EdD, RN, accepted the TNA Deans and Directors Award for Tennessee Wesleyan College-Fort Sanders Nursing Department. Tennessee Wesleyan is the recipient of the TNA Deans and Directors Award for the seventh consecutive year. Now in its eighth year, this award is given annually to Deans and Directors of any nursing program with 100% faculty membership in the Tennessee Nurses Association. Both the Dean and the faculty members have demonstrated the value and importance of membership in the professional organization the Tennessee Nurses Association.

**TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award**
Ann P. Duncan, MPH, RN, of Franklin, is the recipient of the TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes a retired TNA member who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding contributions to nursing and TNA, continued participation in TNA and nursing, and achieved state and/or national recognition by the profession. This award is given by the TNA Board of Directors.

**TNA Outstanding Member Award**
La-Kenya Kellum, MSN, RN, NE-BC, of Memphis, received the TNA Outstanding Member Award. This annual award is presented to the TNA member whose contributions most closely reflect the mission and goals of TNA and the nursing profession. The recipient of this award demonstrates professional leadership and service to TNA/ANA at district, state, or national levels, promotes TNA membership and political activity of nurses, represents TNA and the nursing profession through media channels, health organizations, business or government agencies, and initiates and supports programs and activities which promote nursing and TNA.

**TNA Awards for Nursing Excellence**
This annual award recognizes outstanding performance in multiple areas of nursing practice. Nominees may be selected from the areas of nursing education, direct care, advanced practice, and nursing administration. Selection criteria is specific to the major area of practice, but reflects outstanding performance in these areas: promoting and maintaining excellence in professional practice; commitment to the nursing profession and TNA; contribution to professional development of other nurses (publications, presentations, research); leadership which improves the quality of nursing practice, but reflects outstanding performance in advanced practice, and nursing administration.

This annual award recognizes outstanding performance in these areas: promoting and maintaining excellence in professional practice; commitment to the nursing profession and TNA; contribution to professional development of other nurses (publications, presentations, research); leadership which improves the quality of nursing practice, but reflects outstanding performance in advanced practice, and nursing administration.

**TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Advanced Practice**
Cathy Forbes, MSN, RN, APRN, BC, of Kingsport, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Advanced Practice.

**TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Direct Care**
Cindy Aragam, MSN, MHA, RN, of Johnson City, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Direct Care. (No photo available)

**TNA Professional Promise Award**
Lacey L. Mangum, BSN, RN, of Knoxville, received the TNA Professional Promise Award. This annual award recognizes a recent graduate (within first year) and new member of TNA who demonstrates qualities of “professional promise” in the areas of consistent attendance and contributions at the District level; commitment to excellence in nursing practice; and collegial and mentoring relationships.

**TNA Outstanding Legislator Award**
Rep. JoAnne Favors, MS, RN, of Chattanooga, received the TNA Outstanding Legislator Award. This award recognizes an outstanding legislator who has demonstrated support of the TNA legislative agenda and the nursing profession, and promoted legislation which enhances adequate and safe nursing care and healthcare for the people of Tennessee. Favors serves as Representative of District 29, part of Hamilton County.

**TNA Outstanding Employer Award**
Patricia Vanhook, PhD, RN, FNP, CNRN, of Johnson City, received the TNA Award for Nursing in Nursing Education.

**TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Nursing Education**
Ellen Drummond, MN, RN, of Johnson City, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Nursing Education.
Nurses’ Apron (Continued from page 1)
The pillar of micro-credit is identifying a person, usually a woman, who is already in business, sometimes simply sitting by the side of the road selling salsa or any other product, and loaning her money—from $10 to $100—which she then pays back into the micro-credit fund for the benefit of the next woman entrepreneur. Over the 30 years of this experience, more than 97% of the recipients have repaid their loans—a much better rate of return than for conventional loans. Micro-lending, also known as bootstrapping and micro-finance, has radically changed life for millions of families worldwide.

In 2006, I had the opportunity to reconnect with a long ago teacher and colleague, Poppy Buchanan, a registered nurse in Nashville who had started a non-profit organization, Burning Bush, Inc. (BBI), targeting the support of a community in central Kenya. Since 1999, BBI has provided much of the funding to build a health clinic and to support local cooperatives in this region. BBI is currently funding the construction of the WAKA Continuing Education Center which will provide ongoing education for about 70 nurses in Central Kenya who own their own clinics. These nurse-owned clinics are unaffiliated with any government agency and they provide 42% of the basic health services, including midwifery, for the population.

Poppy had met the first of these Kenyan nurses, Susan Kaburu, in 1999, while visiting Nairobi. Poppy felt called by God to assist Susan—a registered nurse and mid-wife—and over the course of several years, Poppy’s efforts led to Susan establishing the Samaria Maternity Center in Ndathi, Kenya, where she provides services to a community of about 20,000 people. Susan was able to become completely financially independent at the end of 2008.

In October of 2006, my 40th class reunion of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing took place, bringing back together more than 20 of the 39 members of the class of ’66. A few weeks earlier, I had inherited a stash of vintage linens from a relative in East Tennessee who was moving to a retirement apartment after 60 years of living in the same farmhouse. During the reunion weekend, some of my classmates discovered almost 50 domestic aprons in the boxes of linens—most of them handmade—dating from the ‘50s, ‘60s, and ‘70s. We decided to “adopt” an apron, to recruit other nurses to join our adoption process, and to create a story or other piece of artistic work inspired by our newly adopted apron. It was our hope to assemble these submissions in a book and to use the profits from such an endeavor to help fund Poppy’s works.

We have now completed our book—Gotcha Covered: A Legacy of Service and Protection—which is coming out in fall, 2009. Visit www.thenursesapronpartnership.com for ordering details. Fifty registered nurses, including Sharon Adkins, Executive Director of TNA; Diane Carlson Evans, founder of the Vietnam Women’s Memorial; Frances M. Edwards, a Past President of TNA; and Carol Etherington, former President of Doctors Without Borders and world-renowned nurse humanitarian; are among the contributors to the book. Virginia Trotter Betts, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities and past President of the American and Tennessee Nurses Associations, wrote the foreword.

The book combines original stories or art by the nurses, text on nursing history, apron history, feminism, and professional photographs of the 50 aprons. The result is a poignant and thoroughly enjoyable journey through the symbolism and rituals of aprons in women’s lives, especially the lives of women who are nurses. While completing the book, we also founded The Nurses Apron Partnership (TNAP), a grassroots organization open to all nurses and to anyone who admires or has benefitted from the help of a nurse. Our mission is to provide assistance to nurses who would not otherwise have the resources to do what they are doing. We have begun our efforts by informally joining with BBI to become a donor portal for people who are interested in funding the efforts of the Kenyan nurses who independently own and operate their own clinics.

These nurses want to stay in Kenya and help their countrymen but they have limited access to crucial further education in specialties such as maternal-child health and treatment of communities affected by HIV/AIDS. Through the beginning effort of TNAP, donors have contributed more than $5,000 since early May 2009, to partially fund a micro-credit loan for one Kenyan registered nurse, Jocelyn Macharia, who began graduate studies in Pastoral Care and HIV/AIDS at St. Paul’s University in Limuru, Kenya in May 2009. Jocelyn’s degree, which will take her three years to complete, will cost about $7,600—a figure which is out of the reach of almost all Kenyan nurses unless they receive full assistance.

TNAP hopes and expects that all nurses—and the people who care about nursing—will want to become a part of TNAP’s efforts, either by buying our book or by donating to BBI through TNAP’s doorway. Already we have seen participation from many states in the U.S. and from nurses and those who admire nurses in the U.K. and Australia. We do not know of another nursing grassroots effort anywhere in the world who is building this kind of network for the benefit of our fellow nurses. We welcome any and all participation! To learn more, visit us at www.thenursesapronpartnership.com.
Chris is the charge nurse tonight for a rehab center, and as the only RN in the building for eight of the next 12 hours, many decisions rest on his shoulders. Overseeing a staff mix of licensed and unlicensed personnel, his responsibilities are vast with a heavy reliance on delegation. At 3 a.m., he needs to feel confident in the assignment plan for his shift, as well as in the tasks and functions he has delegated to others. This is not the time for him to question what he can and cannot delegate as the RN, such as patient care benefits, when he walks in the door already armed with that fundamental knowledge base.

As reality strikes many RNs who are challenged daily with delegation scenarios and a sense of no direction or resources for answers, often it is easier said than done. At times, responses to questions raised related to delegation will vary with the source you use to validate your decisions. For some nurses, they are aware of the resources that are available; however, they have a sense of uncertainty as to how they relate to their work setting.

In June of this year, the Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA) released a pivotal resource, uncertainty as to how they relate to their work setting.

In consideration of the specifics of the practice act along with rules set by the state Board of Nursing, assuring compliant delegation practices is imperative for the RN. Be proactive as a nurse—ensure you have the knowledge, tools, and resources necessary to make effective delegation decisions. Evaluate current delegation practices at your workplace and discuss these with your nurse leaders as well as peers. Remember, it is you—the RN—who remains accountable for those delegated tasks and functions performed by unlicensed staff. Your working knowledge of acceptable delegation practices in Tennessee enhances your ability to provide safe and efficient patient care.

The Tennessee Nurse Practice Act (2009a) outlines unacceptable practices of the Registered Nurse, including:

- Assigning unqualified persons
- Delegating outside of the Nurse Practice Act
- Failure to supervise those you delegate to or assign functions to

In consideration of the specifics of the practice act along with rules set by the state Board of Nursing, assuring compliant delegation practices is imperative for the RN.

The table below outlines some of the basic “do’s and don’ts” of the delegation process:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DO</th>
<th>DON’T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assume responsibility for what you delegate to unlicensed staff</td>
<td>Delegate nursing assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verify competency prior to delegating</td>
<td>Delegate planning of patient care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determine how available you will be to supervise</td>
<td>Delegate evaluation of patient care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use clear and specific communication skills</td>
<td>Delegate nursing judgment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be open to questions from those you delegate to</td>
<td>Delegate based on how well you know someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adhere to organizational policy and procedure</td>
<td>Delegate anything that requires critical thinking skills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each of these “rights” is a firm reminder of the impact delegation decisions have on patient outcomes and safety concerns. As the RN questions in his or her mind these five essential elements, the focus is on a particular scenario. In this very moment, as the RN considers delegating to an unlicensed person the task of taking vital signs on a patient, the RN needs to consider the following:

- Am I delegating the right task? Is this task in the job description of the unlicensed person I delegated it to?
- Is the patient circumstance right for this unlicensed person to perform this task? Is this a patient who only has a palpable blood pressure? Is this unlicensed person familiar with vital signs on this type of patient?
- Is the right person involved in this delegation? Can the RN delegate this particular task to an unlicensed person?
- Has the right direction been provided by the RN who delegated this task? Has the RN clearly communicated what he or she means by vital signs?
- Has the RN communicated his or her expectations related to the documentation of the vital signs?
- Is the RN readily available to respond to any concerns the unlicensed person may have as he or she performs this task?
Legislative Update

by Robert Gowan, TNA Lobbyist

Gloomy budget situation could dominate legislative session for third straight year

The Tennessee legislators return for the second year of the 106th General Assembly on Tuesday, January 12, 2010. Lawmakers passed a FY 2009-10 budget that assumed $1 billion less in revenue than the previous year. Unfortunately, the revenue that was expected with the bare bones budget passed in this spring has even less than the very conservative amount that was anticipated. For the third straight year, legislators will return to Nashville facing a very gloomy budget situation—this time without federal stimulus money to help fill the budget hole. Once again, legislative proposals requiring even minimal new funding will be put off for consideration, and lawmakers will face tough decisions including cutting many existing programs. State economists predict that a recovery—defined as revenues exceeding FY 2007-08 revenue—will not occur until at least 2012.

Could two Senators running for Governor lead to a short session?

Two Senators will return to Nashville for the legislative session after spending the summer and fall campaigning for Governor. Candidates Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey (R-Blountville) and Sen. Jim Kyle (D-D-Memphis) are seeking their parties’ nominations for Governor in the August primaries. The gubernatorial election is November 2, 2010. Other candidates running for the Republican nomination include Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam, Shelby County District Attorney Bill Gibbons and 3rd District Congressman Zach Wamp from Chattanooga. Other Democratic candidates include former House Majority Leader Kim McMillan and Jackson businessman Mike McWherter.

Republicans add to majority in House

The members of the House of Representatives will return with one more Republican member and one less Democrat member than in 2009 session. Businessman Pat Marsh, a Republican from Shelbyville, defeated Curt Cobb’s younger brother Ty in a fiercely contested special election in October. Marsch’s election expands the Republican majority in the House to 51-48.

Issues for 2010 may look a lot like the issues from 2009

While it is impossible to predict all of the issues of interest to nurses that will arise during the 2010 legislative session, it is a pretty safe bet that several issues from 2009 and earlier sessions will be back for consideration. These issues include:

• Requirements for personal service support companies, a bill introduced by Sen. Charlotte Burks that would allow employees of personal service support companies to administer medication to clients was sent to a study committee.
• Revisions to the Smoke-free Workplace Act of 2007—several exemptions were included in the 2007 smoke-free law. Legislation has been introduced in both the 2009 and 2009 legislative sessions to fill the budget hole. Once again, legislative proposals requiring even minimal new funding will be put off for consideration, and lawmakers will face tough decisions including cutting many existing programs. State economists predict that a recovery—defined as revenues exceeding FY 2007-08 revenue—will not occur until at least 2012.

Seven Habits of Nurse Advocates and Policy Leaders

by Carole R. Myers, PhD, RN, APRN-Chair, Tennessee Nurses Political Action Committee

While searching for another book some time back, I came across one I read several years ago, The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, by Stephen R. Covey. Later the same day, I began thinking about the habits of nurses I admire who are committed to improving health by engaging in policymaking. What are the seven habits of nurse advocates and policy leaders? Here is what I came up with:

• Nurse advocates and policy leaders are pragmatic. They understand how to get things done…and they do.
• Nurse advocates and policy leaders are realistic. They do not let the perfect impede the good.
• Nurse advocates and policy leaders take the long view. They may experience short-term set-backs, but they look beyond the immediate, knowing that change is sometimes evolutionary rather than revolutionary.
• Nurse advocates and policy leaders cultivate networks and build coalitions. They seek out individuals and groups they can work with to get things done, valuing the power of collective actions and the wisdom of finding what values and goals unite parties, rather than what divides them, on an issue-by issue basis. Nurses are adept at assessing the needs of patients, and they can do the same for stakeholders. Successful nurses are good problem-solvers who can balance competing priorities, while affirming the unique needs of each individual. These skills transfer well to building coalitions.
• Nurse advocates and policy leaders do not shy away from politics. You cannot separate policy from politics. Politics are not inherently “dirty,” as so many say. Diana Mason, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, the American Journal of Nursing, (who was the keynote speaker at the most recent TNA convention), Judy Leavitt, and Mary Chaffee are contemporary nurse advocates and leaders. They write about this very issue, explaining that “politics” is actually a neutral term that applies to the process of allocating scarce resources. Since ultimately there are limits on all resources and there are many competing interests for the resources, there is inevitable conflict. This conflict can be about the issues (not the people), and it is possible to achieve goals without being adversarial or unethical. Effective nurse policy leaders know and exemplify this.
• Nurse advocates and policy leaders can tell you whose shoulders they are standing upon. Most are quick to tell you about the nurses who inspired them, including the nurses they have known, most commonly through professional organizations and working on policy issues, and their historical role models. I can name several of my own heroes. Mary Emily Trotter, a wonderful public health nurse from Sevier County, was very supportive and a great role model for me when I first graduated with my Master’s degree in nursing and became involved in TNA. Her niece, Commissioner Virginia Trotter Betts, MD, JD, RN, FAAN, has long been a very important mentor. I was fortunate to be able to work with Margaret Heins, EdD, RN, FAAN, a Past President of TNA; and Louise Browning, the past Executive Director of TNA. I can name many others, as well as my favorite historical figure, Lilian Wald. I take my inspiration from these nurses, past and present.
• Invariably, nurse advocates and policy leaders support their professional organizations, notably TNA and ANA, by paying their dues, contributing to their political action committees, and, when they can, investing their time in the organizations.

TN PAC needs your donations: Most of us are feeling the pinch of the recent economic downturn and we all have so many competing demands for our money. Some have not yet connected with the value of political advocacy. We need your support! Our goal is to build a strong base of regular givers, nurses and friends of nursing, who give what they can afford, however modest. More donors will make us more powerful. Contributions to the TN-PAC, whatever the size, will continue to help support political candidates whose legislative views enhance nursing and health care in Tennessee. There are several ways you can make giving to the PAC a routine, and make it relatively easy, including monthly, quarterly or annual drafts. Whatever the method, it is important that you make regular giving a habit.

Visit the TNA website at www.tnaonline.org, and click on the Government Affairs link from the home page, then Tennessee Nurses Political Action Committee, for more information. Or, if you have questions, you may call 615-254-0350.
TASN Convention Well Attended

by Heather McQuistion, TASN President

The Tennessee Association of Student Nurses (TASN) held its Annual Convention in Chattanooga, September 25-27, 2009, shortly before TNA held its convention at the same location. TASN registered more student nurses then documented previously. TASN also has more than 900 members statewide and anticipates breaking 1,000 members shortly.

TASN re-elected President Heather McQuistion and Vice-President Sarah Bumpas. Newly-elected are Secretary Becky Marshall, Treasurer Hays Faulkner, Breakthrough to Nursing & Legislative Director Missy Jones, West Regional Director Tony Hill, and East Regional Director Bridget Norman. There are continued opportunities for TASN committee involvement for students across the state.

TASN welcomes a new TNA/TASN Liaison, Sherri Stevens, PhD, RN, to join current Liaison Ellen Morris, BSN, RN, and outgoing Liaison Raycene Brewer, MSN, RN. Stevens, a nurse educator at Cumberland University, is very instrumental in the strength of the school Student Nurse Association (SNA) chapter. TASN is also fortunate to maintain the continued support of Graduate Consultant Lacey Mangum, and Treasurer Consultant Eric Howard.

TASN’s goals for the coming year include continued collaboration with TNA in an effort to matriculate members into their professional organization. TASN intends to meet this goal through hosting the first joint convention with TNA in years on October 22-24, 2010, at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, Franklin, Tenn. TASN is also working closely with students and educators across the state to solicit greater support for the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA).

If you would like more information about starting a SNA near you or supporting your local pre-professional association, please contact TASN at TASNPresident@gmail.com or visit the TASN website at www.tasnonline.org.
“Nurses Leading to the Future”
2010 TNF Scholarly Writing Contest

The Tennessee Nurses Foundation is sponsoring a scholarly writing contest for TNA members. A $1,000 award will be presented to the winner as part of the celebration of Nurses Week 2010.

Criteria:
1. Registered Nurse
2. TNA member
3. Paper is publishable as submitted.

Manuscript requirements:
1) Should be written on one of the following topics:
   • Nursing research—how you utilize your research in daily practice.
   • How you demonstrate leadership in your daily practice no matter what the setting.
   • How you influence the use of evidence-based practice in the setting in which you work.
   • Successful strategies to mentor and sustain the “new” nursing workforce.
2) Must not have been previously published.
3) Maximum of 10 pages (inclusive of references).
4) Double spaced, 10-12 point font.

A completed application must include:
1) All applicant contact information including email and TNA identification number.
2) Two (2) copies of the manuscript.

Deadline for submission: March 1, 2010. Submissions must be postmarked by this date. Fax submissions are not accepted. Please see the Guidelines article on this page or visit the TNA website for more details!

We all had a great time at Convention in Chattanooga! Thank you District 4 for making us all feel so welcome and for all of the hard work you did in preparation for hosting the event.

The TNF Board would like to remind everyone that we are sponsoring the Scholarly Writing contest again this year. A $1,000 award will be presented to the winner as part of the celebration of Nurses Week 2010. Deadline for submission: March 1, 2010. Submissions must be postmarked by this date. Fax submissions are not accepted. Please see the Guidelines article on this page or visit the TNA website for more details!

Please consider the following: The Tennessee Nurses Foundation (TNF) needs to sell 1,000 nursing license plates before any funds can be distributed and there is a time constraint. One-half of the $35 cost for each specialty plate will be returned to TNF. The funds will be used to promote the programs and mission of TNF. Anyone can purchase these plates, all levels of nurses, families, supporters of nurses. The only requirement is that the person purchasing the plate be a licensed driver in the state of Tennessee and that the vehicle be registered in the state of Tennessee. Please see the information in this issue of the Tennessee Nurse on the front cover, or visit www.tnaonline.org to find more information about TNF and the license plate. Remember, it does not matter when your license renewal is scheduled, your fees will be rated accordingly.

Please mail submissions to:
TNF Scholarly Writing Contest
545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 405
Nashville, TN 37228-1296
New/Reinstated Members

District 1

District 2
Stephanie Bank, Kelly Carlson, Joan Elizabeth Fedrigno, Rebecca Jean Free, Ida Carolyn Goodman, Mary Helen Harkins, Victoria Dawn Hood-Wells, Karen Sue Keith, Teresa P. Malone, Lacey Leeeza Mangum, Mary Anne J. Modrin, Chriscilla Moore, Christine L. Morrill, Carrie Palmer, Donna Kay Rule, Elizabeth Delores Verespie, Kimberly S. Wilks

District 3

District 4
Barbara F. Blow, Jodie R. Combgs, Stan Golab, Pamela J. Goodwin, Martina Sherese Harris, Raymond Christopher Howard, Traci Lynn Martin, Linda Morris, Anne L. Pesce, Carol Ann Phillips, Ginger Pippenger, Jacqueline Sharp

District 5

District 6
Penny Gateley Creekmore, Leah Marie Donaldson, Dana F. Robinson, Nicole D. Wilson

District 7
Sian Baranco, Sherry L. Kinkade, Melissa Ann Smedley, Mary C. Sweeton

District 8
Janet T. Ambler, Melinda A. Dunavant, May P. Fernandez, Karen Frederick, Patricia A. Gunter, Rita Koon, Jeannie Renae Walker, Caron Wilbur

District 10
Janet A. Ambler, Melinda A. Dunavant, May P. Fernandez, Karen Frederick, Patricia A. Gunter, Rita Koon, Jeannie Renae Walker, Caron Wilbur

District 12
Anita Max

District 15
Joneka Betty Barnett, Lisa Nicole Garwood, Jennifer T. Harris, Jacqueline Henshaw, Tonette Marie McDaniel

December 2009, January, February 2010

Member News

Board of Nursing Appointments
Debra Pecka Malina, DNSc, MBA, RN, CRNA, APN, Memphis, was appointed to fill the APN slot on BON. Malina is an independent anesthesia contractor (CRNA) in and around the Memphis area. She currently serves as Treasurer of the 40,000-member American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

Cheryl Cummings Stegbauer, PhD, RN, FNP, APRN, BC, who was first appointed to the Tennessee Board of Nursing in 2002 and was elected Chair in 2004, is a Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis.

Marian Ikard Stewart, MSN, RN, Winchester, is the Department Chair for Nursing Education and Allied Health Programs at Motlow State Community College. She serves as the Director of the Nursing program in this position as well.

Ways to Support the Tennessee Nurses Association
- Membership: JOIN! Support the organization that supports you.
- Already a member? Recruit colleagues. Take an active role in shaping the future of the organization and the profession.
- Attend TNA conferences & events (membership not required, but members do get discounts!)
- Apply for and use a TNA Bank of America card for your credit purchases.
- Need liability insurance? See the MARSH insurance link on our member benefits page under Join TNA at www.tnaonline.org.

Some of the ways TNA supports YOU...
- Our lobbyist and Government Affairs & Health Policy Committee monitor Tennessee legislation and create action alerts on health policy related bills that impact your practice or work environment.
- We have successfully advocated for many changes to the Nurse Practice Act that have improved practice environments.
- TNA continually lobbies to ensure high quality nursing education in the Volunteer State.
- We regularly provide testimony on behalf of Tennessee nurses to promote public health and safety (EX: seat belt, helmet and tobacco bills).
- We are currently working to ensure safe staffing levels at acute care facilities—through hospital commitments for planning committees which include direct care nurses.
- We promote ANA Standards of Practice and the Code for Nurses.
- Recruit colleagues.
- Attend TNA conferences & events.
- Apply for and use a TNA Bank of America card for your credit purchases.
- We provide testimony on behalf of Tennessee nurses to promote public health and safety (EX: seat belt, helmet and tobacco bills).
- We are currently working to ensure safe staffing levels at acute care facilities—through hospital commitments for planning committees which include direct care nurses.
- We promote ANA Standards of Practice and the Code for Nurses.

TNA Needs Your Help So We Can Continue to Provide:
- A strong voice for TN nurses
- Valuable member benefits
- Educational programs—with savings for members

Become a TNA Member today! Help us continue our work as a strong advocate for YOU—and the nursing profession.
American Nurses Association/Tennessee Nurses Association Membership—It’s Your Privilege!

Tennessee Nurses Association Membership 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 Number: _____________________________________

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 _______ / _______ / _______

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

Newly-licensed graduates, not employed, RNs who are full-time students, 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 $74.40 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 $196.00 annually. Includes membership in and benefits of the Tennessee Nurses Association and the TNA District Association.

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: ___________________________

To Be Completed by TNA Staff

State: ___________________________ District: ___________________________ Expiration Month: ___________________________ Year: ___________________________

Membership Status: ___________________________ Membership Type: ___________________________

☐ 1. New
☐ 2. Renewal
☐ 3. Reinstated
☐ Winter 09

☐ 1. A
☐ 2. Reduced (50%)
☐ 3. Special (25%)
☐ TNA Individual

Bill Method: ___________________________ Amount Enclosed: ___________________________

☐ 1. A
☐ 2. EFT
☐ 3. CCM
☐ 4. PD

Amount Discounted: ___________________________ Approved By: ___________________________

Today’s Date: ___________________________

Dues Payment Options (please choose one)

* SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW

☐ Automatic Monthly Payment Options

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

*SEE AT RIGHT

☐ Automatic Annual Credit/Debit Card Payment

This is to authorize annual credit card payments to American Nurses Association, Inc. (ANA). By signing below, I authorize TNA/ANA to charge the credit card listed below for the annual dues on the 1st day of the month when the annual renewal is due.

*SEE AT RIGHT

☐ Automatic Annual 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: ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________ Verification Code: ___________________________

☐ Payroll Deduction

This payment plan is available only where there is an agreement between your employer and the association to make such deduction.

PARTicipating Agencies

VA - Nashville, Menphis, Mountain Home, Murfreesboro
Regional Medical Center - Menphis
Bordeaux Hospital - Nashville
Nashville General Hospital

Signature for Payroll Deduction: ___________________________

* By signing the Automatic Monthly Payment Authorization or the Automatic Annual Credit Card Payment Authorization, you are authorizing ANA to change the amount by giving the undersigned thirty (30) days advance written notice. Undermined may cancel this authorization without receipt by ANA of written notification of termination twenty (20) days prior to deduction date designated above. Membership will continue unless this notification is received. ANA will charge a $5.00 fee for any returned drafts or chargebacks.

*SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW

Automatic Monthly Payment Authorization Signature

Automatic Annual Payment Authorization Signature

Authorization to Bill My Employer

Company: ___________________________

Contact Person: ___________________________

Street or PO Box: ___________________________

City: ___________________________________ State: ______ Zip: _______

(Make employers pay professional dues. TNA’s educational programs alone justify it. Ask your employer.)

Signature for Payroll Deduction: ___________________________