A Message from the President

Gayle Harrell, NP-C, CWCN

Nurses from across the state met in Biloxi for the 101st Mississippi Nurses’ Association Convention, October 16-19th. Mayor A. J. Holloway joined us for the opening session and welcomed MNA to Biloxi. During the opening session, Janet Harris, President of the Mississippi Nurses’ Foundation, announced the creation of the Betty Dickson Health Policy Scholarship. Ms. Dickson has been instrumental in mentoring our nurses to be active in legislative activities. We were so excited that Ms. Dickson was present to witness the MNF’s establishment of a health policy scholarship in nursing. MNA and MNF look forward to announcing the criteria of the scholarship and presenting it to the first awardee.

Attendees then moved on to either wonderful, informative sessions or to the House of Delegates where many decisions impacting MNA would be made. The House of Delegates was presented with several reports of MNA’s yearly activities and financial status. My report and Teresa Malone’s Executive Director Report provided detailed information that the Delegates needed to help them make two important decisions.

The first decision was to decide whether MNA should remain as we are: an individual state association. ANA refers to this designation as a “stand alone constituent state nursing association, CSNA”. The other option that had been presented by ANA was to join with other like states to form a “multi-state” division. After much discussion, the delegates decided to remain as we are, a CSNA. They decided not to enter into a multi-state division at this time. Rapid changes are being made within ANA; therefore, a House of Delegates meeting may need to be called within the year in order to address unforeseen changes that would affect MNA.

The second decision, discussed during the Special Session, was to address MNA’s Bylaws so that we would be in compliance with ANA’s Bylaws changes made at its June bi-annual House of Delegates. Many of the changes to MNA’s Bylaws were editorial in nature. Others will lead to quite a change in MNA’s structure. The House of Delegates voted to add an MNA only membership category and an organizational affiliate membership (OA) category to MNA. The MNA Board of Directors will be developing dues rates before these memberships will be opened. As ANA’s House of Delegates was dissolved and replaced with a Membership Assembly, MNA’s House of Delegates had to determine how delegates would be elected to this new Membership Assembly. Formerly, MNA was allowed eleven delegates to attend the ANA House of Delegates, but each state will be allowed only two delegates to attend the ANA Membership Assembly. Each state's vote will be weighted to represent the number of state members. The MNA House of Delegates voted to have MNA members to elect one of the ANA delegates and the other ANA delegate would be the president, who is elected by the delegates. Another significant change was to move the election of the vice-president and secretary to even years while keeping the election of the president and treasurer to odd years.

The House of Delegates also passed a resolution to support an appointment of an advanced practice registered nurse from the Board of Nursing as a liaison to the Board of Medical Licensure. This would provide more opportunity for collaboration and understanding between the professions that serve Mississippi so well. Presently, there is a physician from the Board of Medicine who serves as a non-voting member of the Board of Nursing.

The delegates showed great wisdom and vision in the decisions they made. They really demonstrated the convention theme of Nursing: Our Kaleidoscope of Health. It was a great opportunity for all of us to be a part of this new era in MNAs history. The MNA Board members will have a challenging year ahead as we move forward with the tasks at hand, but with your support, it will also be a successful year!

Woven between CE sessions, the exhibit hall, fantastic keynote speakers, and an evening cruise were nurses’ sharing, networking, and planning the future of nursing and health care in Mississippi. I encourage you to join us for the upcoming events planned for 2013. Our January 2013 Summit will give us the opportunity to meet our legislators and get the latest updates of legislation that affects our profession. Together we make a difference.

JOIN MNA TODAY
Find your “Way to Serve” in MNA and Mississippi health care.

Happy Holidays from the Boards & Staff of MNA & MNF
by Teresa Malone

What an exciting Convention! Thank you to all who attended MNA’s 101st Convention on the Coast. The Convention Planning Committee and the Provider Unit deserve a standing ovation for their successful efforts in obtaining an array of interesting presenters and ensuring that each meeting and event was decorated to depict the Convention’s theme. Many individuals were the lucky winners of the vibrant centerpieces that reflected the colors of the kaleidoscope.

We also thank the many nurses who worked as volunteers at the Convention. The Convention would not be possible if were not for those of you who gave of your time to help in so many ways, assisting with registration, selling items at Marketplace, introducing speakers and scanning badges, assisting vendors in the exhibit hall, collecting tickets at the cruise, serving as tellers in the House of Delegates, and many more activities. Special thanks to the Bylaws Committee, the CPC Committee, and the Provider Unit. We thank each and every one of you for your support!

In addition to participating in informative sessions and attending an exhilarating cruise, nurses at the Convention raised over $11,000 for the MNA PAC. The House of Delegates had an incredibly busy session and is to be commended for their dedication in considering all the many issues put before them this year. We also look forward to working with the new MNA Board members and those returning. Congratulations and thank you for your willingness to serve on the Board!

As this was my first convention, I also thank you for your warm welcome and for taking the time to share your thoughts about MNA with me. I appreciate your support and am excited to be working with you!

The Convention may have concluded, but we still have many events that offer opportunities for nurses. We encourage all nurses to join us for our RN and APRN Day at the Capitol on January 24, 2013. Please plan on attending our Nineteenth Annual Nursing Summit to be held at the Jackson Convention Complex on January 29, 2013. Our nurses are exceptional—nominate some of those exceptional nurses that you know for the upcoming Nightingale Awards to be held on March 4, 2013. You can also thank the nursing profession for all it provides to Mississippi by purchasing an ad in the Nightingale program.

Most importantly, please encourage other nurses to join MNA as a member and subscribe to our text alerts. It is easy, just text NURSE to 601-863-8104. We need your support so that we can continue to support Mississippi’s nurses.
The 2012 Mississippi Association of Student Nurses’ (MASN) Annual Convention was a great success. This year’s convention theme was “Setting the Stage for your Nursing Career”, and the 2012-2013 Board of Directors worked hard all year in order to truly “set the stage” for student nurses in Mississippi, as well as prepare them for their future careers. The convention facilitated an environment where nursing students could build relationships with other students, schools, and future employers. This year’s convention offered various curriculum review courses such as a mini Hurst Review and Pharmacology Made Insanely Easy by ICAN Publishing. Other seminars addressed vital questions from today’s nursing students and professionals, such as Do I HAVE to get a Doctorate? by Dr. Jonnie Sue Wijewardane and Today’s Healthcare: Mississippi Nurses’ Center for Justice, Who’s Googling You? Leverage Social Media for your Job Search by Andy Collins, and Cellphone Etiquette by Dr. Tammie McCoy. These seminars shed light on how social media and electronics are changing the nursing profession and how student nurses can use them to their advantage in their job search and career. Another way the MASN Convention helped nursing students prepare for the professional world was through a fashion show, which featured suggestions on how to dress appropriately for any professional occasion.

This year’s House of Delegates was a great experience that provided the opportunity for delegates to discuss important issues, and allow the state to come together and voice opinions concerning Resolutions, MASN Bylaws amendments, and the election of the 2012-2013 MASN Board of Directors. The 2012-2013 President of the MASN Board of Directors is Forrest Pogue from Mississippi University for Women. The entire 2012-2013 MASN Board of Directors is excited about the upcoming year and the opportunities we have to improve MASN involvement and outreach. MASN was proud to present scholarships and awards to many deserving and hard working recipients this year. The Nightingale Chapter of the Year Award was presented to Delta State University for their exemplary involvement in their SNA chapter, various forms of community service, and their display of a positive image of nursing. One of this year’s inductees to the Hall of Fame was Tasheba Buckner. Rickki Ellis, Rob Smith and Katherine Young were also inducted into the Hall of Fame in addition to receiving the Circle of Excellence Scholarship. The Nursing Mentor of the Year Award was presented to Dr. Molly Moore of University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) for her dedication to and involvement in her local SNA chapter. The 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 MASN Board of Directors would like to congratulate and thank all award and scholarship recipients for their service to their local SNA chapter, MASN, and their community.

This year’s joint session with both MASN and the Mississippi Nurses Association (MNA) was a great experience that included singing and laughter throughout. Keynote speaker Jenny Nolen discussed how to deal with and avoid stress. She also gave insight on different personality types and how to interact with them in a professional setting. This was a great opportunity for the two organizations to come together. Throughout the 2012 MASN Convention it was stressed that being part of your professional organization is important for our future as nurses because we need professional organizations such as these to protect us and our rights as nurses. This includes being a part of MASN as a student and organizations such as MNA and MNF as a professional. MASN is looking forward to another great year!
### Sponsorships

**Sponsorships Made Our 2012 Convention Activities Possible**

**Thank you to our sponsors!**

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- Maison Weiss
- MNA Districts 1, 2, 6, 13, 15, 28, 31 & 32
- Mississippi Nurses Foundation
- Quail Ridge Pressure

### MNA Council on Nursing Research

#### 2012 MNA Convention–Research Poster Session

**Congratulations to all Presenters!**

#### Primary Presenters

1. **Clinical Nurse Residents examine the impact of improved nurse knowledge of intent of purposeful rounding on compliance with rounds**
   - Takeitha Chambers, Brent Calvert, Lisa Fair, Kimberly Harris, Stephanie Staggs, & Cathy Stepter

2. **The benefits of using paper and electronic forms of SBAR to improve shift reports and interdisciplinary rounds**
   - Mary Townsend-Gervis, Paul Cornel, Lauren Yates, Reynae Bennett, & Barbara Cox

3. **A LIC lacks sensitivity and specificity in diagnosing diabetes in a group of predominantly minority adults and children**
   - Jennifer Hitt

4. **Initiation of the management of hypercholesterolemia in patients diagnosed with hypertension**
   - Jessica McKenzie, Andrea Byman, Chris Phillips, Shonda Phelon, Mary Smith, & Johnnie Sue Wijewardane

5. **Primary care providers’ adherence to guidelines for routine screening of cardiovascular disease risk factors of obese children**
   - Whitney Robinson, Savannah Bohon, & Courtney Paden

6. **The development of a breast cancer educational program for young women**
   - Clara Ruston

7. **Assessing childhood obesity and the role of the parent**
   - Maria Stephens, Debra Whisenant, & John Hill

8. **Healthcare providers’ compliance with CDC clinical practice guidelines for the screening of chlamydia and gonorrhea**
   - Hannah Stewart, Megan Slade, & Pat Campbell

9. **A change in pre-participation exam guidelines for student athletes in the state of Mississippi**
   - Alisha Tenhet, Erin McGraw, Jennifer Caldwell, & Johnnie Sue Wijewardane

10. **Health care providers’ compliance with low back pain (LBP) management guidelines**
    - Leigh Ann Weatherly, Robbie Jones, & Melissa Richardson

#### Alternate Presenters

1. **Nurse driven protocol changes in the AICU bring CLABSI rate to zero using evidence-based practice**
   - Patricia Adams & Lauri Parker

2. **Alumnae mentoring program for DNP students**
   - Mary Atkinson Smith, Ernesto Perez, & Mikkii Swanson

3. **The role of the primary care provider in screening, treating and managing vitamin D deficiency**
   - Jaime Ellis Gutierrez, Lucie Arrington, & Carolyn Johnson

4. **School nurses’ impact on a school district’s average daily attendance**
   - Estelle Waits, Connie Board, & Donna Harris

5. **Chair Chi exercises as a collaboration between restorative care nursing and recreation therapy for residents with dementia**
   - Janette Silvania
Mississippi Nurses Foundation Announces Winner

The Mississippi Nurses Foundation congratulates Mrs. Mary Beth Neeley, of Lake Charles, LA, the grand prize winner in the 2012 Volvo Raffle held October 19th at the Mississippi Nurses’ Association Annual Convention in Biloxi, MS. Mrs. Neeley is an advanced practice registered nurse who has worked in Vicksburg and Gulfport Mississippi. She currently works at an Internal Medicine Clinic in Lake Charles, LA. She read about the Volvo Raffle in the MSRN and was excited to support the Foundation because she has attended the MNA convention many times.

With her options of a three year lease of a 2013 Volvo S60, a $10,000 cash prize or a seven day trip to Sweden, Mrs. Neeley chose the $10,000 cash prize! The Foundation raised over $40,000 on the raffle; funds will be used to carry out the mission of raising, accepting and dispersing charitable donations to promote professional nursing and better health in Mississippi.

Thank you to all who purchased and sold tickets. Special thanks to our friend and partner, Paul Moak Automotive. The Mississippi Nurses Foundation looks forward to driving forward in 2013 with another successful campaign.

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Noxubee General Hospital, Macon, MS
Going, Going, Green!

Effective January 1, 2013, The Mississippi Nurses’ Association will no longer send out renewal membership cards via USPS. You will have access to print your membership card from our website: www.msnnurses.org. Please contact us should you have any questions or need assistance.

Also, Nightingale Awards packets will be sent via e-mail.

Invitation for Speakers

The Eliza Pillars Registered Nurses of Mississippi is issuing an Invitation for Speakers to participate in their Annual Convention. Please visit http://elizapillars.org/ or call contact Dr. Karen Winters at kwinters@aol.com for more information. DEADLINE TO APPLY: Friday, December 15, 2012

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Asthma Educator Course

This is a two-day program designed for the healthcare professional responsible for providing asthma education to people living with asthma. NURSING CEUs AVAILABLE

For more information or to find a training in your area contact: Eugenia King, MPH via phone at 601-206-5810 or email at eking@breathehealthy.org

Mississippi Nurses – help your patients quit smoking now!

The ACT Center for Tobacco Treatment, Education and Research

Goal: To improve the health of Mississippi youth and their families by reducing tobacco use through research, education, prevention and treatment.

Providing FREE treatment to Mississippi residents who want to quit smoking. Providing healthcare providers with training to promote cessation among tobacco users.

www.act2quit.org

ACT Center programs are funded by the Mississippi State Legislature, the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and the Mississippi State Department of Health

Congratulations to...

- Kay Bender, PhD, RN, FAAN, for being chosen as a committee member for the American Nurses Credentialing Center IOM Committee on Credentialing Research in Nursing!
- Juanita Graham, DNP, RN, FRSHP, has been elected to serve as an Officer of the Public Health Nursing Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA). Dr. Graham also serves as Treasurer of Every Woman Southeast, a coalition of regional and national leaders and agencies from nine states working together to build a multi-state, multi-layered partnership to improve the health of women and infants in the South.
- Lisa Byrd, PhD FNP-BC, GNP-BC, was recently appointed to the Board of Nursing Home Administrators as the education expert for a 4 year term. This Board regulates the practice of administrators at nursing homes across Mississippi.
- MNA recognizes Marilyn Ellis, MSN, CANP, for her dedication to the VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System and congratulates her on her retirement for 40 years of service and her many contributions to nursing.
Mississippi Nurses Foundation

Upcoming Scholarship Opportunity!

Oneita Dongieux Award for Excellence
Deadline – 02/04/2013

Criteria
• Currently enrolled & in good academic standing in a MS school of nursing;
• A Mississippi resident;
• 3.0 or higher GPA on a 4.0 scale;
• Application and essay submitted by deadline date.

For more information regarding all scholarships offered, and to download student information forms, etc. Please visit our website.

www.msnursesfoundation.com

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Mississippi Nurses Foundation

MNF Announces the Betty Dickson Health Policy Award

The Mississippi Nurses’ Association and Mississippi Nurses Foundation named the BETTY DICKSON HEALTH POLICY AWARD in honor of its former executive director and lobbyist, Betty Dickson. The purpose of the award is to increase the number and quality of registered nurses trained in health policy at the state and national level and to identify individuals with an expressed and demonstrated commitment to health policy, leadership, professional involvement, and a long term career related to health policy.

For more information about this opportunity, please contact the Mississippi Nurses Foundation at 601-898-0850.

Mississippi Nurses Foundation Sponsors Pre-Conference Workshop

The Mississippi Nurses’ Foundation sponsored a pre-conference workshop during the 101st Mississippi Nurses’ Association Annual Convention in Biloxi, MS. Twenty nurse administrators, educators, and nurses attended the workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to provide information about anti-tobacco and tobacco cessation efforts within the state of Mississippi and explore the extent of tobacco cessation content in nursing curricula. The featured speakers included – Dr. Tanya Funchess, Mississippi State Department of Health Office of Tobacco Control; Dr. Kevin Nelson, University of Utah; and Dr. LaDonna Northington, University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing. Dr. Funchess presented on the history of tobacco control efforts in the State of Mississippi, current statistics, emerging tobacco products and ongoing efforts to eliminate tobacco use. Dr. Kevin Nelson highlighted approaches and strategies that can be implemented in clinical settings to assist patients with tobacco cessation. The workshop was concluded with facilitated discussion by Dr. Northington and MNF Executive Director Rosalyn Howard. The goal of the facilitated discussion was to identify recommendations from workshop participants on integrating tobacco cessation training into nursing curricula across the State. Additional meetings will be planned as a follow-up to this workshop to continue discussion about nursing curricula. The workshop was sponsored through the support of a grant received from the Mississippi State Department of Health Office of Tobacco Control.

Presentation of the Betty R. Dickson Health Policy Scholarship Award

Rosalyn Howard, Executive Director MNF; Janet Harris, MNF President; Betty R. Dickson, Lobbyist; Gayle Harrell, MNA President; Teresa Malone, MNA Executive Director

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In New Golden Triangle Collaborative, these Nurses Make House Calls

by Maridith Geuder

(Reprinted with permission from Mississippi University for Women)

COLUMBUS, Miss. — For elderly, homebound or immobile patients, access to medical care can be challenging. A new, innovative service, founded by an MUW assistant professor of nursing, is bringing health care into the home.

Working as a complement to a patient’s primary care physician, the Golden Triangle Geriatric Collaborative, developed by MUW’s Mary Atkinson Smith, delivers in-home healthcare services by a staff of board-certified nurse practitioners. Patients are referred by hospitals, nursing homes, case managers, insurance companies, family members, and a variety of other sources.

A Louisville native and MUW graduate who earned a doctorate of nursing at the University of Alabama, Smith said she saw a need in the Golden Triangle.

“I watched the decline of my own grandparents, and I saw there are gaps especially for elderly, high-stress, high-turnover atmosphere? River Chase Village in Gautier has opportunities for motivated, compassionate professionals interested in working in a resident centered environment. Come visit and see how rewarding health care can be.

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www.riverchasevillagems.com

One of the key areas of emphasis, Smith said, is patient education. “We work with patients to ensure they take the appropriate medications and the appropriate dosage. Often, we find they’re confused if a medication changes or if there’s a generic name for the medication.”

She’s a strong believer in involving patients as partners in healthcare. “The more empowered they feel, the more likely they are to understand and comply with appropriate treatment,” she said.

Even though the model is brand-new, Smith said already she has had interest from nurse practitioners in Meridian, Greenwood, and other Delta locations. And she hopes that continues. “In five years, I’d really like to see this become a program for other nurse practitioners to utilize around the state.”

For more information, see www.goldentriangelinkcollaborative.com.

MEMBERSHIP

by Jennifer Hitt, RN, MSN, CNE, MNA Vice-President

The Mississippi Nurses’ Association is built on the backbone of our membership. We need each and every nurse in Mississippi to become a member. MNA is your support team and your advocacy group!

When I took office, a pledge was made to create a membership campaign that targeted nurses at the bed-side, in advanced practice and those in specialty areas. We wanted to better understand how MNA could be more of a presence in the lives of our nurses.

In addition, MNA has recently acquired the software and technology to accommodate meetings online. This will enable members to meet from home or work, in order to maintain activity in their local district. I highly encourage district presidents to contact the MNA office about utilizing this technology to keep in touch with your membership.

Please join me in a pledge to get one nursing friend to join MNA this year. If all of our members invited one person to join, we would double our membership in just one year! Our membership growth is in the hands of you and me—the current members of MNA.

Let’s keep MNA strong so that we can keep nursing strong!

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Angel Great, MPH, BSN
Executive MPH Class of 2010
Chief Executive Officer, Coastal Family Health Centers and Greene Area Medical Centers • Biloxi, Miss.

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December 2012, January, February 2013
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Drinking low-fat or fat-free white or flavored milk helps kids get the 3 daily servings of milk and milk products recommended by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

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### Application for Nurses Association Membership

(Please Print)

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**Street Address **

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Social Security Number

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**Home Phone**

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Work Phone ( )

Home e-mail address - email address required to receive Members Only Newsletter

**Home Fax**

( )

Work Fax ( )

Work e-mail address

**Employee Name**

Basic School of Nursing

**Employee Address**

Graduation (Basic School of Nursing): Month, Year

**Employee City, State, Zip**

State / RN License Number

**Area of Practice**

Certiﬁcates/Degree

Recruited by

### Select Membership Type

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<th><strong>RN DUES</strong></th>
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**REDUCED DUES**

- Full-time graduate student (include proof of 9 HRS minimum and graduation date)
- Not employed
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**ADVANCE PRACTICE SPECIAL DUES**

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  - American Express

- I want to pay MONTHLY (32 month minimum) using:
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  - Visa
  - MasterCard
  - American Express

If paying by credit card, please provide the following:

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**Expiration:**

**Name as it appears on card:**

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If monthly payments are selected, you authorize MNA to charge your card on or after the 15th of each month for dues and fees. MNA will charge a $10 fee for any returned drafts.

### Electronic Payment Authorization Signature

**Mail to:**

Mississippi Nurses Association dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes but may be deductible as a business expense. However, that percentage of dues paid for lobbying (15%) is not deductible as a business expense. $5.42 of MNA member dues is for a subscription to the American Nurse Today and $18.00 is for a subscription to The American Nurse. $20.00 is for a subscription to American Nurse Today. $18.00 is for a subscription to The Mississippi RN and MNA Members Only. Members may not deduct the subscription price from dues.

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

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