



To & Fro

A Publication of the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists • Volume 70 • Summer 2012

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists CRNAs

- Represent nearly 150 years of quality anesthesia
- Safely administer approximately 32 million anesthetics in the US every year
- Represented by 44,000 CRNAs nationwide and over 1100 here in Georgia
- Are the sole anesthesia providers in nearly 100% of rural hospitals throughout the country
- Practice in every type of clinical setting
- Provide high quality, safe, efficient and cost effective anesthesia care

Mission Statement

The Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists is a non-profit organization committed to advancing patient safety by supporting and furthering the practice of nurse anesthesia in Georgia.

Vision Statement

Recognized leaders who are committed to patient safety, practice autonomously to the fullest extent of their scope of practice, and are consummate professionals with 100% of its members belonging to the AANA/ GANA, and are fully reimbursed for all anesthesia services.

Report from the AANA President

AANA Presidency Returns to Georgia

by Janice J. Izlar, CRNA, DNAP



“Over 35 years ago, as a student nurse anesthetist, I never dreamed I would live this moment. The faith and trust you, the members, have placed in me is the most humbling honor of my life. However, no one goes it alone. I stand on the shoulders of countless people; so I begin by bestowing some well-deserved gratitude. First, to the members of the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists, you are the wind in my sails. I treasure the many adventures we have shared, and I look forward to your wisdom helping me through the coming year. I am proud to bring the AANA Presidency back home to Georgia after 70 years from when Rosalie McDonald was inducted as the sixth AANA President.” This is a quote for the beginning of my address to the members after accepting the AANA presidential gavel from 2011-2012 AANA President Debra Malina during the Annual banquet in San Francisco on August 8, 2012.

I was delighted to have eight GANA past presidents join me for the evening as well as the current GANA President and President-elect, Brent DuBois and Jim Masiongale. Proudly, I recognized GANA Executive Director and Legal Counsel, Christy Dunkelberger, during the banquet for her contributions of teaching me how to look at all angles of an issue and understand the ramifications of making a difficult decision.

During the speech unsung heroes were given a “shout out.” The first unsung hero group was all the CRNAs nationwide who were home working, so that we could attend the Annual

Meeting to do the business of the association. Truly, without the willingness of these dedicated CRNAs, state and national association leaders could not invest the time needed to protect and promote our profession. The second unsung hero group was the AANA staff who is instrumental in guiding association leaders, state and national, through difficult situations. This will be a year for AANA to build on our successes by continuing to advance special initiatives, partnering with our affiliate organizations and communicating with members. In recent years, we have worked to shape the AANA into a dominant, membership-attracting, revenue-generating, business-minded organization. To stay relevant, we must keep our membership numbers high. Therefore, we must continually ask ourselves: what do the members need from the AANA? And, we, association leaders, must provide that membership service.

Some identified areas of necessary membership services are fighting for the protection of CRNA practice, pursuit of adequate reimbursement for safe, high-quality anesthesia services by third party payors, federal and state agencies and support of our state associations and leaders through the Fifty State Service Strategy.

Enhancing communication with members is a personal mission for me this year. In our fast-paced, social media driven society, we are forced to use multiple communication tools, and I will try to be accessible on all. I have asked the AANA Board and staff to partner with me; but

(continued on page 5)

GANA Officers 2011-2012

Brent Dubois, President
1177 Moore Road
Danville, GA 31017
Home Phone: 478-962-0814
Cell Phone: 478-230-9708
Work Fax: 478-962-0201
Email: topgunanesthesia.aol.com

Rose Synsmir, Immediate Past President
11840 Devon Downs Trail
Alpharetta, GA 30005
Cell Phone: 917-723-8409
Home Phone: 770-232-4715
Email: rsynsmir@aol.com

James Masiongale, President-elect
369 Sugarcreek Drive
Grovetown, GA 30813
Work Phone: 706-721-8215
Work Fax: 706-721-8206
Cell Phone: 706-231-1575
Email: jmasiong@georgiahealth.edu

Maegan Taylor Brass, Secretary
20 Parks Avenue
Newnan, GA 30263
Cell Phone: 404-433-9442
Email: maegan.brass@gmail.com

Dewey G. Galeas, Treasurer
6126 Columbia Rd.
Grovetown, GA 30813
Work Phone: 864-227-3330
Work Fax: 706-541-2025
Cell Phone: 706-799-4940
Email: ringo55@aol.com

GANA Directors 2011-2012

Traci Bryan
5122 Cantrell Pt. S.E.
Acworth, GA 30101
Cell Phone: 770-789-6220
Home Phone: 770-974-4322
Email: htbryan@yahoo.com

Daniel Dell
142 Tanglewood Drive
Moultrie, GA 31768
Cell Phone: 229-456-0450
Home Phone: 229-890-2238
Email: ddellcrna@gmail.com

Richard Doublerly
922 S. Lake Drive
East Dublin, GA 31027
Home Phone: 912-704-0414
Email: r.doublerly@hotmail.com

Mark Schmitz
137 Southbend Dr.
Carrollton, GA 30116
Work Phone: 770-836-9806
Home Phone: 770-854-7532
Cell Phone: 770-301-8104
Email: meschmitz@att.net

Representatives for GANA

Steve Smith, Federal Political Director
1920 Federal Court
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
Work Phone: 404-429-8553
Home Phone: 770-972-6225
Email: slldt@comcast.net

Christy A. Dunkelberger, Esq. Executive Director/Legal Counsel
1832 Highway 54 West
Fayetteville, Georgia 30214
Office: 770-487-3900
Fax: 770-632-1625
Email: ganaoffice@bellsouth.net

Monty Veazey, Lobbyist
610 North Ridge Avenue
P.O. Box 1572
Tifton, Georgia 31793
Phone: 229-386-8660
Fax: 229-386-8662
Email: mveazey@gach.org

Janice Izlar, AANA President
6 Huntingwood Retreat
Savannah, GA 31411
Work Phone: 912-547-7201
Home Phone: 912-598-1027
Home Fax: 912-598-9436
Email: jizlar@aanabod.com

Tony Chipas, AANA Region 2 Director
Phone: 843-412-0951
Email: achipas@aanabod.com

Brandi Justice MCG/Mercer Student Liaison to GANA
Email: blheath71@gmail.com

Meagan Joyner GHSU Student Liaison to GANA
Email: health.edumjoyner@georgia

Communication
www.gana.org

Get Busy Living or Get Busy Dying

by Brent L. DuBois, CRNA, MN



As I was coming home from a great AANA Annual Meeting in San Francisco this week, I rode a transport van from Hartsfield in Atlanta to Macon. Getting on the van I notice an older man with a little girl whom I guessed was his granddaughter. They sat closely together and one could tell they loved one another. Upon a closer look I noticed the man had labored breathing and was wheeling around an oxygen concentrator and wearing nasal cannula. He was skinny, looked to be in his early 60's, and was wearing a NASCAR baseball cap. The van was packed with travelers and we had to be re-seated in order to fit in all of the luggage. As he got in and out of the van I couldn't take my eyes off of him because his breathing became more labored, and he pulled out an Albuterol puffer and gave himself a couple of puffs. His young granddaughter, who couldn't have been more than 7 or 8, took no real notice. She was obviously used to this type of occurrence. I on the other hand, I was alarmed. I first thought, "This guy is going to code, and I'm going to have to administer CPR!" My second thought was, "I would not put this fella to sleep for anything ... maybe regional if it were an extremity!"

Then I looked at the big picture and imagined the scenario if it were me. This loving grandfather is taking his princess on one last trip before he dies. He knows his time here on earth is limited. He wants one last trip with the jewel of his world. His wish is for her memories to be filled with the wonderful time they spent together. Just her and her grandfather spending time together will be much more precious than any material gift he could leave her. I achieved some peace thinking that.

As I am witnessing this, a famous line from the Shawshank Redemption is beating in my head. Morgan Freeman's character is facing being a free man after decades of being in jail. He has become used to being the big man in jail and now is bagging groceries and living in a half-way house. As he faces change and mortality his epiphany is inspiring, Get Busy Living, or Get Busy Dying.

We as CRNA's are facing a similar, slower, less dramatic situation. Or profession is not in such jeopardy, but we could do some things to improve and grow. The following are guidelines I live by to strive to be the best, most equitable CRNA. Keep in mind this is a process, and like anyone, I may not be the best at what I do, but I try.

1. **Be the best CRNA you can in the OR.** Clinical excellence will always be my goal. Know your patients, anatomy and physiology, and be spot on with your anesthetic technique. Make yourself unquestionable. Your ability will bring credibility to yourself and your profession. The greatest complement I receive is when a staff member or staff's family member requests me to do their anesthesia.
2. **Know your worth:** I have had the privilege to be an independent CRNA for many years now. I know how much insurance companies and federal programs pay for anesthesia services. I also know how much the average salary for a CRNA is. We as a profession have been hoodwinked on our worth. Too often CRNAs find themselves content with a salary while hospitals and groups are making much more from our hard work. My prayer is that more of us seek out business education and start going after the big dawgs. The only

(continued on page 7)

Looking Back and Moving Forward

by James Masingale, CRNA



Here's hoping everyone has had a wonderful and safe summer. It is hard to believe fall will be here in a few short weeks. I along with several fellow Georgians had the opportunity to sample some fall like temperatures as we traveled to San Francisco for the AANA Annual Meeting and embellished in all the excitement, as Past GANA President Janice Izlar became the second CRNA from the state of Georgia to become President of the AANA. The week was filled with wonderful events to include a reception Janice and her family graciously hosted for GANA members, students, and special guests. It provided a wonderful opportunity for getting caught up with old friends and meeting new ones as we celebrated Janice's accomplishment. The week concluded with the Annual Banquet where Janice received the gavel from her friend, outgoing AANA President Debra Melina in front of hundreds of AANA members while her family and GANA members excitedly watched from their tables, front and center of the stage. Janice's hard work and dedication to the nursing anesthesia profession allowed her to accomplish this momentous achievement. As GANA President-Elect I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with her to help her in any way possible to accomplish her goals she has set for her presidency.

Two other GANA past presidents received much deserved recognition at the AANA meeting. Leslie Jeter and Rose Synsmir both serve on the AANA program committee and did a truly outstanding job organizing a well-run, beautiful meeting. Thank you both for helping showcase Georgia CRNAs by your hard work, dedication, and love of the profession.

Don't forget to register for the GANA Fall Meeting to be held in beautiful Savannah Georgia October 5-7, 2012. The program committee has put together a very informative meeting and Savannah's rich history will make for a wonderful weekend. Bring the family and enjoy one of Georgia's beautiful treasures.

I look forward to the coming year serving you as GANA's President. The GANA officers, board members, executive director, and other invited guest will be holding a retreat in late October to strategize for the upcoming year. I would love to have input from you, the members, on what you feel should be our priorities as we move forward. Please email me with your suggestions at jmasingale@georgiahealth.edu.

See you in Savannah! ■

Get Busy Living

(continued from page 1)

roadblock is our own confidence and education. Everyone loves the underdog! It's time CRNAs threw off the yoke of indentured servant and got in the game!

3. **Get Active:** A man once told me, "If you're not at the table, you're on the menu." I tend to be as simplistic as possible, so I like this saying. But it rings so true when it comes to CRNAs. We must be active and support AANA and GANA events. Grassroots efforts at all levels are essential. We should be active in politics at all levels. From our county commissioners, mayors, and Governor; all the way to Washington DC with our congressman and Senators. Face time at all these levels lets the public know, "CRNAs are smart, informed, educated, and they have a purpose!" Thankfully, the AANA has its finger on the pulse of Washington. These next couple of years is going to be crucial to what CRNAs will be allowed, not capable, of doing. Without a strong lobby and grassroots effort we can find ourselves constrained. As Forrest Gump said, "And that's a bad thing!"
4. **Get Active ...** I mean really active!!: Longevity and quality of life is a passion of mine. When I should be studying about a procedure I might have tomorrow, instead I'm googling testosterone and human growth hormone therapy. I'm

not a health nut, but I enjoy the high from a great workout. The problem is I also enjoy the great food available after a workout. So I'm passionate on both ends of the spectrum. Why do Mountain Dew and Hershey's with almonds go so well together? Sorry, wandered off there. The point is studies show that over 80% of all illness is self-induced. At the AANA meeting a great speaker on longevity suggested aerobic exercise at least 3 days a week with resistance training at least 2 days a week. Wake up those cellular mitochondria and increase not only your lifespan, but your quality of life. As a side note, I have found I take advice from a lean, fit practitioner more easily than I do an obese out of breath practitioner. Fitness is addictive and good for you.

Since this will be my last letter as President of the GANA I have a lot of thanks to give out.

First and foremost I want to congratulate and thank Janice Izlar. Georgia's own Steel Magnolia has taken the helm of the AANA mothership. I am confident in the hard work she has put in to make America and Georgia CRNAs a force to be reckoned with. I know she will do a great job as AANA President. Christy Dunkelberger has been my whispering conscience throughout

(continued on page 4)

From the Executive Director

by Christy A. Dunkelberger, Esq.



AANA

On August 8, 2012, Janice Izlar assumed the role of AANA President. Her inauguration occurred seventy (70) years after Rosalie McDonald served as AANA President. Janice and Ms. McDonald are the only two (2) CRNAs from Georgia to serve in this capacity thus far. Both ladies were strong leaders of GANA before assuming their roles at the national level. GANA is a stronger organization because of their commitment and leadership to nurse anesthesia. Congratulations Janice! Your GANA colleagues commend you and support you. Thank you for all you have done.

Regulatory Issues

CMS – The AANA has requested state participation in responding to the proposed CMS rules that would reinstate CRNA reimbursement for pain management services. GANA has submitted comments to CMS in support of the proposed rule. Further, GANA has asked several organizations to submit comments in support of the rules. These organizations include: Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals, Georgia Board of Nursing, Georgia Rural Health Association, and Georgia Nurses Association. Individual CRNAs should also submit comments and can do so online by going to the following website: www.protectmypaincare.com

GCMB - The Georgia Composite Board of Medicine has published proposed rules related to telemedicine. The language in the proposed rules requires that a physician must see the patient in person or provide an initial consultation by way of electronic means before an APRN can provide care to a patient electronically. This requirement restricts the scope of practice of APRNs. There is no other situation under Georgia law whereby an APRN cannot provide care to a patient until the physician has seen the patient. If approved as proposed, the GCMB would impose a new restriction on nursing practice. It primarily affects APRNs other than CRNAs. GANA will monitor this situation. The comment period is currently open until August 31st.

OIG ADVISORY OPINION – In May 2012, the OIG issued an advisory opinion regarding two different contractual arrangements between anesthesia providers and physicians and outpatient surgery centers. Although the opinion applies only to these two specific situations, you can be guided by it nonetheless. If you are in the business of contracting anesthesia services to medical provider practices, you may want to familiarize yourself with OIG Advisory Opinion No. 12-06. Below is a brief summary.

Under the first arrangement, the anesthesia provider would continue to serve as the exclusive anesthesia provider for several outpatient anesthesia surgery centers, and begin paying the centers for management services on a per-patient fee basis, excluding Federal health care program patients. The OIG reiterated its long-standing concern about arrangements which ‘carve out’ Federal health care program patients. The opinion stated that in this situation there was a risk the anesthesia provider would be paying the management fee to induce the

centers referral of all of its patients, including Federal health care patients.

Under the second arrangement, the physician owners of surgery centers would create separate subsidiary companies for the purpose of providing anesthesia services to patients having surgery at a center. The anesthesia provider would be engaged by the physician owners as the exclusive anesthesia provider and be paid a negotiated rate for anesthesia services. The anesthesia provider rate would be paid from collections with the subsidiary retaining any profits. This particular arrangement has the possibility of being protected by the ASC safe harbor for the relationship between a surgery center and physician office. In this particular scenario, however, because the subsidiary was created for the purpose of providing anesthesia services, it would not provide surgical services and could not qualify for protection of the ASC safe harbor. Again, the OIG reiterated one of its long-standing concerns that the opportunity for a referring physician to earn a profit through the investment in an entity where the physician generates business could constitute an illegal inducement under the anti-kickback statute. The OIG opined that under this proposed arrangement the physician owners would be receiving compensation in the form of a portion of the anesthesia provider’s service revenues in return for referrals from the anesthesia providers. It would thus be a disguised payment for referrals, which violates the anti-kickback statute.

It can be difficult to know what contractual arrangements are legal versus which ones are problematic. If you are involved in these business arrangements it would be prudent to seek legal advice and counsel. Be careful out there.

Medical Fair

The Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals in conjunction with the Georgia Rural Health Association is hosting its First Annual Medical Fair, aimed at recruiting much needed doctors and medical specialist to communities across Georgia. The Medical Fair will be held October 12 – 13 at the Ritz Carlton, Reynolds Plantation. The registration is completely free of charge. Registration and additional detailed information can be found by going to the following site: <http://gachallpac.medicalfair.dojiggy.com/>

GANA Meetings

2012 FALL MEETING: The GANA Fall meeting is scheduled for October 5–7, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency Savannah located at 2 W Bay St., Savannah, Georgia. The cut off date for hotel reservations at the reduced rate is September 7, 2012. Please do not delay in registering to attend by going to www.IPGE.com.

2013 FALL MEETING: The GANA 75th anniversary will be celebrated during the 2013 Fall Meeting. Plans are already underway for this event. The meeting will be a celebration of the past 75 years of GANA and include a walk down memory lane. Please save the dates of October 4-6, 2013 and plan to attend at the Marriott in Stone Mountain. We look forward to a three (3) day meeting with extended lectures, an evening banquet with entertainment and a lot of “war stories” to be told. More to come! ■

The Nursing Anesthesia Program at Georgia Regents University

by Christine Futch, SRNA

*"What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet."
— William Shakespeare*

As many of you may have heard, Georgia Health Sciences University, formerly known as the Medical College of Georgia, is undergoing consolidation with Augusta State University. The new name of the combined universities will be Georgia Regents University. The name was approved on August 7, 2012 and has caused quite an uproar from the community. Despite differing opinions on the issue, it is important as students to remember that the education we receive is of high quality and that the institution appearing on our paper diploma is merely a name. We will still enter the professional world with great confidence and respect from our peers.

On that note, this is the final semester for the Class of 2012! The seniors are busy completing their clinical assignments, preparing for the national board examination, and actively seeking employment opportunities throughout the state. If anyone knows of any job postings, please feel free to contact our program director James Masiongale at jmasiongale@georgiahealth.edu.

The Class of 2013 just completed the didactic portion of the program. The curriculum this past summer focused on clinical research, regional anesthesia skills, and emergency scenarios such as malignant hyperthermia, anaphylaxis, and venous air embolism in the simulation lab. These students will be entering into the clinical world for the first time this fall. Wishing them the best of luck!

Our program recently welcomed the Class of 2014. Congratulations to each of them for making it to, and more importantly, through the interview process! Wishing them luck also as they start this new chapter of their life!

Several students in the program were fortunate enough to attend this year's AANA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California. Feedback on the meeting was extremely positive and the inauguration of Janice Izlar as the new AANA President made us all very proud! There is already an energy regarding next year's annual meeting, which is to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada! ■



Georgia Regents University Nurse Anesthesia Program Class of 2014

AANA Presidency Returns to Georgia

(continued from page 1)

I need your help, too. Members must be sufficiently engaged to read, listen and offer feedback. Only with your participation can we set an enlightened course for the AANA and the nurse anesthesia profession that meets your needs and matches your values.

It is wonderful to be recognized by your peers for your contributions to the profession and I pledge, on behalf of the fiscal year 2013 AANA Board of Directors, we will dream big and work diligently to protect and promote the profession of nurse anesthesia and the AANA.

Thank you for entrusting me to be your President. I remain – your faithful – Steel Magnolia. ■



Go to www.gana.org, click on Facebook in the upper right hand corner of the home page and then "Like Us" on Facebook!

Vote Smart!

by Daniel Dell, CRNA, MSN



This is an election year as you well know and the time has come for us to elect a new President. I implore you to research the candidates and vote smart! Healthcare is “swinging in the wind” so to speak, and we need some definite intervention to protect our practice.

The GANA has been monitoring the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) as it relates to CRNA reimbursement rule for pain management. The GANA has submitted comments in response to proposed rules for 2013. These rules will affect many rural Georgians ability to receive pain management services.

The Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG) recently issued its opinion on the “Company Model.” This opinion addresses anesthesia service arrangements in physician owned facilities. You may hear it referred to as the “Anti-Kick Back Statue.” In these times of reduced reimbursement and other hardships, anesthesia providers may feel the need to provide enticements

for potential stakeholders in return for anesthesia services/business. Please know that adopting this type of practice is illegal and may be considered fraud. The consequences of such actions are enormous, and may include fines and incarceration. Please consult legal counsel when you are negotiating contracts in the business of anesthesia services.

Also, please remember the GANA Fall Annual Meeting in Savannah Georgia being held October 5-7, 2012. Please attend and also consider the GANA-PAC event. ■

Need Malpractice Insurance?

Contact AANA Insurance Services
at 1-800-343-1368
or obtain insurance information
from the AANA website.

Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists PAC

*I am contributing \$ _____ to further
the legislative efforts of the GANA.*

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone # _____ Best time to call _____

Email _____ Fax _____

Do you work in ☐ an office based setting? ☐ a rural hospital? ☐ a surgery center? ☐ an urban hospital?

Nurse Practitioner _____ Other (specify) _____ (Mandatory for all donations greater than \$100)

Are you interested in lobbying with the GANA during the 2012 legislative session? _____

Are you acquainted with any of Georgia's legislators? _____ If yes, who? _____

Please clip and send to: **Robbie Pope, GANA-PAC Treasurer, P.O. Box 887, Tifton, GA 31793**

Forms available at www.gana.org

*Thank you for
your contribution
to this worthy
cause for your
profession!*



Georgia CRNAs in Action

The Women's Republican Clubs of Coweta, Henry, and Troup counties hosted an "Evening with Herman Cain and Congressman Westmoreland" on Saturday, August 11, at the Center for Performing and Visual Arts in Newnan. Maegan Brass, CRNA, serves as President of the Coweta County Women's Republican Club and was the organizer and emcee for the event. This event, also attended by Steve Smith CRNA, provided yet another opportunity to have face time with our State and Federal legislators during this busy election season. It is important to maintain relationships with our legislators during this tumultuous political time.



Maegan and Matt Brass with former Presidential Candidate Herman Cain



Steve Smith, Congressman Lynn Westmoreland of District 3 and Maegan Brass



Steve Smith, State Senator Mike Crane of District 28 and Maegan Brass

Get Busy Living

(continued from page 3)

this year. As Executive Director and Legal Counsel, she has been priceless in keeping us informed, as well as armed. Our Federal Political Director, Steve Smith has done an outstanding job. I can say with confidence that Steve Smith is one of the best FPD's the GANA has ever had. Maegan, thanks for your hard work in Public Relations and networking with the legislators and VIPs that give the GANA a face. Daniel, thanks for keeping up with our lobbyist down in Tifton and Moultrie. Richard, thanks for taking on GANA-PAC, and being a true friend. Rose, thanks for getting in my grill. A good discussion does something good for me. Dewey, our voice of reason and

Treasurer. Mark and Traci, thank you for your guidance and honesty. I also have to give a shout out to the past-presidents who keep us in line at the BOD meetings. This year has been good. I couldn't have asked for a better Board of Directors.

As I reflect on this ship known as the GANA, I look at her as Jim Masingale is about to take command. Much better equipped than I to lead, I think to Jim, "Yeah, she's in good shape, on course and ready for the storm if it comes."

Thank y'all. ■

2012 AANA Annual Meeting



AANA President-Elect Dennis Bless, Steve Smith and AANA President Janice Izlar at the AANA Foundation Fundraiser Cruise



Noleen Afolabi-Brown, Janice's mother Mary, AANA President Janice Izlar and Rose Synsmir



Janice receiving her gift from the GANA at the GANA reception.



Barb Waldron, Martha Kral, Rose Synsmir and Ann Thompson



GANA members at Janice's reception for her close friends and GANA members.



The gavel presented to AANA President Izlar from the GANA (the gavel was hand made by GANA President Brent Dubois), a symbolic gesture described in Barb Waldron's "wellness article" in this issue.



Leslie Jeter and Christy Dunkelberger



GANA President-Elect Jim Masingale and GANA President Brent Dubois

Meeting in San Francisco



*Jim Masingale, Ann Thompson
and newly elected AANA Region 2
Director Tony Chipas*



*Christy Dunkelberger, Jim
Masingale and AANA President
Janice Izlar*



*Christy Dunkelberger and
Jim Masingale*



*Janice speaking at the AANA Annual Banquet after
becoming the 2012-2013 AANA President.*



Jim Masingale, Steve Smith and Mark Schmitz



*Nine GANA Past Presidents were in attendance at the
meeting along with our current President, President-Elect and
Executive Director. Bottom row – Christy Dunkelberger, Kay
Argroves, Janice Izlar, Barbara Waldron, and Leslie Jeter.
Top row – Mark Schmitz, Steve Smith, Martha Kral, Jim
Masingale, Ann Thompson, Brent Dubois and Rose Synsmir*



*Janice's mom Mary, Janice, her son Ellis
and husband Charles*

San Francisco 2012

by Barb Waldron, CRNA



Oh, what a gathering we had in San Francisco. As you probably know Janice Izlar CRNA, took her seat at the helm of the AANA ship. As I reflect back on that evening and the reception given by GANA for her, the word gratitude fills my mind. Gratitude makes us feel good, and when we feel good we are promoting health. Gratitude is the antidote to bitterness and resentment. So I was grateful for a lot of things that evening. I was grateful that I am a CRNA and that I have had the privilege of serving my profession and patients for 32 years thus far. I still find it amazing. I am also grateful that I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Janice in both the clinical setting and on the GANA BOD. She inspires and works to help others succeed. I am especially grateful that I am part of a well-respected profession.

As part of my practice of being grateful, I needed to show it in some small way such as sending Janice a note, which I did. Brent DuBois, our GANA President, showed his gratitude by making a gift for Janice. He personally made a wooden box made of Georgia pine. In the box was a gavel. The head of the gavel was made of magnolia wood and the shaft was made of steel. This gift had a lot of thought put into its construction. You see, when Janice was campaigning for the position of President-elect, as a reference to herself, she coined the phrase "Steel Magnolia", delicate as the magnolia flower yet reinforced by steel when she needed to be. Brent combined his love of woodworking with his gratitude for Janice's success (which is success for all of us), to come up with a fitting gift to show his appreciation.

There were so many outstanding things about this meeting it would be hard to mention them all.

Another story about gratitude; Patti Bright, VANA CRNA, presented a segment on getting the CRNA story out to the public. She has combined her passion for running and being a CRNA by organizing a Rock 'n Roll Marathon. This year will be the 7th year, with proceeds going to help the homeless in VA Beach. During the segment a young woman told her story of how she has gone from being homeless to participating as a runner in the marathon. VA Beach CRNAs are changing lives in their community and that is how they show their gratitude for our worthy profession.

For many of you, paying your AANA dues is showing your gratitude for our profession, which in turn allows us to be of service at the state level and supports people like Janice to represent us at the national level. So I salute all of you, and I truly wished that each one could have been present in San Francisco for our fun and excitement.

Be well, express your gratitude. If you're having a problem with depression, drugs, or alcohol please get help. The profession needs you to be well.

Caring for you and about you ...

P.S. See you in Savannah for our fall meeting! Health and Wellness will be present.

2012 GANA Calendar

GANA Board Meetings:

August 25, 2012	At GHSU in Augusta
October 6, 2012	During GANA Fall Meeting in Savannah
October 27, 2012	Board Retreat – Atlanta

Other Meetings and Events:

October 5-7, 2012	GANA Annual Fall Meeting Hyatt Regency Savannah, GA
October 18-21, 2012	GANS Convention in Atlanta
November 16-18, 2012	AANA Fall Assembly Leadership Academy

[www.aana.com/
peerassist.aspx](http://www.aana.com/peerassist.aspx)

Hotlines
Peer Assistance
800.654.5167

Anesthetists in
Recovery (AIR)
215.635.0183



Protect My Pain Care

by Stephen D. Smith CRNA, MA

First things first, I need to take a moment to congratulate my good friend and mentor, Janice Izlar, the 2012-2013 AANA President from Savannah. Yes, not since Rosalie McDonald in 1942 has the AANA had a President from Georgia. I have had the honor of personally knowing and working with Janice since 2006. I have no question Janice will serve us all well. She possess all of the qualities important for a leader; vision, integrity, magnanimity, humility, openness, creativity, fairness, assertiveness and perhaps the most important, patience. She listens to all sides and doesn't form an opinion prematurely without first having all of the facts. I look forward to working with Janice as Georgia's Federal Political Director (FPD) and an AANA Government Relations Committee member. There will be a total of 5 of us from Georgia serving on AANA committees during President Izlar's term; Rose Synsmir (program), Kay Argroves (practice), Martha Kral (Peer Advisors), and Leslie Jeter (Program Chair and AANA Liaison to the AORN Recommended Practices Advisory Board).

As your FPD I have been working diligently for several months now to get the word out concerning the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed rule that would restore direct reimbursement for CRNA chronic pain management services. It is critical that this proposed rule by the CMS stays! The rule involves access to pain care, particularly in rural areas of Georgia and the ability for all of us to practice our full scope of services within state law. Pain management is within the scope of practice for a CRNA and in compliance with the laws of the State of Georgia.

The GANA has written a letter to the CMS and contacted the Georgia Board of Nursing, Georgia Nurses Association, Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals, the Coalition of Advanced Practice of Registered Nurses and the Georgia Rural Health Association asking them for their support. I have also contacted our Georgia Key Contacts urging them to contact all of our 15 Federal Legislators asking them to write letters in support. Lastly, the GANA, along with the AANA contacted every one of you asking for your support by writing the CMS. Please, if you have not yet written a letter to the CMS go to www.protectmypaincare.com and do so. The cutoff is September 4th for all communications.

Please don't be so naïve as to think just because you don't practice pain management that this doesn't affect you. It does! It's about maintaining our scope of practice. If we all do not remain united on scope of practice issues, one by one they will be taken away from us. When you are contacted by the AANA or GANA to act on an issue involving a regulatory or legislative issue please do so for the sake of our practice, our patients and their access to care and our future.

Other Federal issues of interest that have been on the back burner are (i) Legislation has been reintroduced to restore Medicare rural hospital CRNA "on call" services reimbursement; (ii) House panel cuts nurse, allied health workforce funds; and (iii) Party divide emerges in Congress over drug shortages. Please go to www.gana.org or www.aana.com and access Anesthesia E-ssential and Federal Government Affairs Hotline for the latest information on AANA Federal Government Affairs. Also, visit the Advocacy site of www.gana.org for current State and Federal issues.

As always, I ask for your support of your GANA PAC (state) and AANA CRNA-PAC (federal). Contributions can easily be donated on the right hand side of the homepage of www.gana.org. Remember, this is an election year and the AANA needs your dollars in order to ensure that those incumbent legislators friendly to our cause stay in office and those newly running for office have the best opportunity for being elected. I hope to see you all at the GANA Annual Fall Meeting in Savannah October 5-7, 2012. ■

A Non-Invasive, Beat-to-Beat Blood Pressure Monitor

How did they do it?



Find out with an on-site trial now!

**Call Tom McManners at 404-915-5060
or visit PartnersInMed.com**

CNAP™ Monitor 500

Georgia Health Sciences University's Nurse Anesthesia Program Report

by James Masingale, CRNA, MHS
Director and Clinical Coordinator

The Board of Regents has spoken and the new name for the new university formed from the merger of Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) and Augusta State University (ASU) is Georgia Regents University. Current President of GHSU Dr. Azziz will be the President of the new university and had the following to say after the name was released: "With a strong show of confidence, the BOR gave name to Georgia's nascent fourth comprehensive research university. A university that from day one will have over 9,500 students, more than 5,000 staff, over 1,000 faculty, over 150 buildings, 650 acres of campus, nine colleges, and an aligned health system, forming part of the state's only public Academic Health Center (AHC). A university that will have state-wide reach, and will strive to have national and global relevance in becoming one of America's great universities. An institution that already injects over \$2 Billion dollars (that's Billion with a 'B') yearly into the local economy and, with its planned growth over the next 8 years, will eventually be having a greater than \$3 Billion annual economic impact into the local community... And much, much more into the Georgia and South Carolina economies".

The students of the Class of 2012 have begun their last clinical semester and anxiously await their December graduation. Students of the Class of 2013 are gladly making the transition from the classroom to the clinical setting and are both excited and nervous as they embark upon the task of taking their textbook knowledge and utilizing it in the clinical setting. Their departure from the classroom opened the door for the 20 students of the Class of 2014, which arrived on campus August 16th for orientation. I often reflect back on the excitement and fear of the first day of

anesthesia training, and now twenty something years later still thinking it was one of the best decisions I ever made. That excitement and fear will rapidly be replaced by the realization that there is a lot of information covered in what often appears to be not enough time and the year will be gone before they know it.

All paperwork for the collaboration between GHSU and the Medical Center of Central Georgia (MCCG) has been officially approved and signed by both institutions. In the next few weeks paperwork will be submitted to the Council of Accreditation to make MCCG one of GHSU's clinical sites with anticipation of sending the first students there for clinical rotation in January 2013. The Class of 2015 arriving in August 2013 will increase from 20 to 30 students to help offset the decrease resulting from the MCCG/Mercer closure.

The students and faculty would like to thank those of you who have made donations to the Nurse Anesthesia Program foundation. These funds are utilized solely for student activities and are not for program operations. If you would like to donate, make the check payable to: GHSU Foundation Fund 11302 and mail to Melvenia Blanchard at 987 St. Sebastian Way, EC 5440, Augusta, GA, 30912. She will see that it gets to the corrected location.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to send me an email or give me a call. ■

**Shadow a
CRNA**

Contact the GANA office
by email at
ganaoffice@bellsouth.net



☒ **Yes!**

I want to be actively involved in the GANA!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Home Tel: _____ Work Tel: _____

Interests – Check all that apply:

Committees:

☐ Bylaws ☐ Communications ☐ GRC ☐ Public Relations

☐ Obtain a seat on the Board of Directors

I'd like to become a legislative contact for my legislative district:

☐ State ☐ Federal

☐ I can participate in GANA Lobby Day

☐ I will participate in any area needed

☐ Other: _____

Please clip and return to:

GANA, 1832 Hwy. 54 West • Fayetteville, GA 30214

Looking Back to See Our Way Forward

by Mary P. Flister, CRNA

Looking back to see our way forward is a major theme for the GANA Archives Committee. We can all be proud of our founders – both on the state and national levels. They provided clear direction for us today. Even with the advances in science and technology, their basic principles remain firm guiding principles for us today.

The featured signers of the GANA Charter pictured below were Atlanta CRNAs who got involved. GANA continues to depend on Georgia CRNAs to do the same.

Be sure to attend the 74th GANA Annual Meeting this year in Savannah. Georgia's own Janice Izlar, CRNA will address us as the AANA President. You will also learn about the next four signers of the Charter and what their involvement then meant for our future.



Caroline E. Hohenschutz

BIRTH

July 17, 1904

DEATH

January 18, 2001

NURSE TRAINING

St. Joseph's Infirmary, Atlanta, GA

ANESTHESIA TRAINING

Cincinnati, OH

PROFESSIONAL

Nurse Anesthetist, Saint Joseph's Hospital, Atlanta, GA

GANA OFFICES

President: 1941

Vice President: 1941-1944, 1948-1949

Secretary/Treasurer: 1937-1939, 1945-1946

GANA COMMITTEES

Education: 1952-1953, 1954-1955

Revisions: 1939-1940, 1940-1941, 1941-1944, 1950-1951 Chair,

1953-1954 Chair

Program: 1944-1945 Chair, 1946-1947, 1951-1952 Chair, 1966

Nominating: 1949-1950 Chair

Government Relations: 1960-1961

Bylaws: 1961-1962 Chair, 1962-1963

Minutes: 1967 Chair



Grace Dutcher John Rapp

BIRTH

March 26, 1902

DEATH

January 27, 1995

NURSE TRAINING

Unknown

ANESTHESIA TRAINING

Unknown

PROFESSIONAL

Nurse Anesthetist, Atlanta, GA

GANA OFFICES

President 1947-1948

Vice President 1946-1947

Board of Directors 1951-1952

GANA COMMITTEES

Membership: 1937-1938 Chair

Education: 1949-1950, 1952-53

Finance: 1950-1951 Chair

Nominating: 1944-45 Chair

Public Relations: 1953-1954

Social: 1954-1955



**The GANA
Business Meeting**
will be held
Saturday, October 6, 2012
at **12:00 noon**
at the GANA
Annual Fall Meeting
in Savannah.

Also, there will be a brief
meeting of the GANA Board
of Directors on Sunday,
October 7th immediately
following the last lecture.

*All GANA members are
welcome!*



Halo H. Warman Kimsey

BIRTH

September 3, 1911

DEATH

September 24, 1981

NURSE TRAINING

West Suburban Hospital, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois

ANESTHESIA TRAINING

Unknown

PROFESSIONAL

Nurse Anesthetist, Emory University Hospital, Atlanta, GA

Nurse, 43rd General Hospital, Camp Livingston, LA (1943)

Served overseas as a Nurse with the rank of Lieutenant (1944)

GANA OFFICES

President: 1938-1939, 1940-1941

GANA COMMITTEES

Membership: 1937-1938

Education: 1949-1950 Chair

Publications: 1950-1951, 1951-1952



Florence Ethel Knight

BIRTH

August 26, 1894

DEATH

July 17, 1954

NURSE TRAINING

Davis-Fisher School of Nursing, Atlanta, GA

ANESTHESIA TRAINING

Unknown

PROFESSIONAL

Nurse Anesthetist, Davis-Fisher Sanitarium, Atlanta, GA
(now Emory University Hospital Midtown)

GANA MEMBER

1937-1954





The Institute for Post-Graduate Education, Inc.

and



The Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists

presents:

The GANA Fall 2012 Meeting in Savannah

October 5-7, 2012

at the



Hyatt Regency Savannah

20 CE Credits

visit www.ipge.com for details and to register
or call: 1-877-692-0430

Health & Wellness Events at the GANA Fall Meeting



Early Bird Health & Wellness Events



GANA 5K RUN/WALK

LOCATION: Meet for registration in the lobby of Hyatt Regency Savannah

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: Saturday, October 6, 2012
registration time 5:30am, race start time 6:00am

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The run/walk is primarily on an asphalt surface. The course is flat

T-Shirt sizes on a first come first serve bases
\$20 for early registration by Friday Sept. 28th or \$25 day of the race

No rain date... Race Held Rain or Shine

GANA Wellness Yoga

Location: Hyatt Regency Savannah
Saturday, October 6, 2012 in Sloane Room
Sunday, October 7, 2012 in Savannah Room

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:
Registration 5:00am
Class 5:30am-6:30am
Donation \$12 by September 28th or \$15 day of

Bring your yoga mat and a friend!

CONTACT INFO: ganawellness@gmail.com

To & Fro

Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists
1832 Hwy. 54 West
Fayetteville, GA 30214



*Proud supporter of Anesthesia
Patient Safety Foundation*

FIRST CLASS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 466
SUWANEE, GA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rachel Murchison Awarded GANA/AANA Scholarship



Rachel Murchison is a senior nursing anesthesia student at Georgia Health Sciences University. She received a BS in Biology from the University of Georgia and a BS in Nursing from the Medical College of Georgia. Her experience as a nurse includes working in the Shock Trauma ICU at the Medical College of Georgia. She is currently serving as the GANA PAC student representative. After

graduation Rachel plans to begin her career as a CRNA in Augusta. Rachel would like to thank her husband Mitchell, her family, professors, classmates and preceptors for their unwavering support throughout this journey. She would also like to thank GANA and the AANA Foundation for this generous scholarship.

the.difficult airway course™ ANESTHESIA

Intensive
Immersion
Experience

"Simply outstanding. The most practically useful seminar I have ever attended in 22 years as a Nurse Anesthetist."

— George H. Cox, CRNA
Las Vegas, NV



**October 26 - 28, 2012
Grand Hyatt, Atlanta, GA**

Master state-of-the-art airway techniques, devices
and algorithms as you work alongside a world-class
faculty of airway experts.

Also in Seattle (Sept. 21-23) & Las Vegas (Nov. 16-18)

Register at www.theairwaysite.com or (866) 924-7929

Evidence-based. Comprehensive. Expert Faculty.