



To & Fro

A Publication of the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists • Volume 76 • Fall 2014

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists CRNAs

- Represent nearly 150 years of quality anesthesia
- Safely administer approximately 34 million anesthetics in the US every year
- Represented by 47,000 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 President

Third Time's a Charm?

by Leslie Jeter



I would like to thank the membership for entrusting me to serve a third term as President of the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists. It has never been more obvious that our profession is under fire from various medical societies on the state level. What can we, as an association, do to strategically position ourselves to maintain the CRNA's scope of practice in Georgia?

The answer is simple. The message I have for fellow CRNAs and SRNAs is that we must unite with all of our might. During the GANA's recent annual meeting in downtown Atlanta, I observed many different generations of nurse anesthetists and students. We must overcome generational differences and work together to achieve our common goal – maintaining the legal rights of CRNAs to practice to the fullest extent of our education and training.

My vision this year is to see all generations, from baby boomers to Generation Y and even Linksters, across the board, get involved in the GANA. So why should you volunteer your talents to the GANA's cause? There are several reasons I can think of.

1. Values: You are doing something for your profession
2. Understanding: You will learn new skills
3. Enhancement: You gain satisfaction and recognition you don't get from your work
4. Career: You make new contacts by

networking with your colleagues, and it looks good on your resume

5. Altruism: You are rewarded with personal and professional gains
6. Challenge: You are fighting for your practice rights

Last year, House Bill 178, the Georgia Pain Management Clinic Act, was enacted. What does this mean for the rank and file CRNA?. What SHOULD passage of this legislation mean to you? It should resonate with each and every CRNA in Georgia, regardless of whether you offer pain management services or not. Enactment of this bill sets a precedent to limit everyone's scope of practice.

Another way for SRNAs and CRNAs to get involved is to make a donation to the GANA's Political Action Committee (GANA-PAC).

(continued on page 3)

Shadow a CRNA

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



From the Executive Director

by Christy A. Dunkelberger, Esq.

The Benefits of Recycling

Everyone knows that recycling benefits future generations. GANA is doing its share of recycling that will benefit future generations of CRNAs. The 2014 and 2015 GANA Presidents are recycled leaders. Mark Schmitz just finished his second term as President of GANA. He initially served in 1996-97 and stepped up to the plate again in 2014 to lead the organization. This year Leslie Jeter is serving her third term as President of GANA. She first served in 2002-03 and then again in 2004-05. She has now once again taken the reins to lead GANA through 2015. Recycled tenures allow our leaders to bring to the table a wealth of experience, competence and confidence. These qualities benefit the newcomers to the Board who are in need of leadership training and mentoring. It gets easier the second time around. The learning curve lessens and new faces become old friends. Because there is less time needed to learn the job, a recycled leader can spend more time mentoring and teaching the newcomers to the board. Recycled leaders are a windfall to the organization. Their past service and experience not only benefits the organization during the years they serve, but also benefits our future by preparing future leaders who will later serve as GANA presidents. Watching and learning from a seasoned leader is the best way for a new board member to learn the ropes and prepare himself or herself to move up the ladder. Thank you to Mark and Leslie for being recycled leaders of GANA. Your generosity has created a win-win-win situation.

Upcoming 2015 Legislative Session

GANA will continue to work towards correcting to the Pain Management Clinic Act during the 2015 legislative session. This law was passed in 2013 and omitted CRNAs as one of the types of care providers who can independently provide treatment in a pain clinic. The law requires that in order for medical treatment or services to be provided in a pain clinic, a physician, PA or an APRN with prescriptive authority to be present at the clinic. (CRNAs do not have prescriptive authority).

After being promised by the Georgia Composite Medical Board that this problem would be corrected by regulation under its definition of "medical treatment", the Board failed to keep that promise. Therefore, GANA is working with key legislators to amend the law to add CRNAs to the list of providers who must be present for treatment to be provided at a pain clinic. We will be asking all GANA members to participate in legislative "call to action" so that we can successfully correct this restriction on CRNAs' scope of practice.

GANA Meetings

The 2014 Annual Meeting was a success. Our 2014 Fall Meeting is now history. Thank you to Rose Synsmir and IPGE for giving us another successful meeting. Thank you to all of our sponsors: Arch Advisory Group, Armstrong Medical Industries, Inc., Augustine Temperature Management, LLC, Cadence Pharmaceuticals, Granite Financial Solutions, LLC, Mercury Medical, New York Life, Sensational Anesthesia Staffing, Sentry Anesthesia Management, LLC, Soothing-Scents, and Tri-anim. Plans are already underway for the 2015 Annual Meeting which will be held at the Marriott in Savannah, October 2-4. Mark your calendars now to save the date.

GANA Board Meeting – The next GANA Board Meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2014, at the Inn at Serenbe. This meeting will be brief and will be followed by the GANA Board Retreat. If any member is interested in attending a Board meeting, please call the GANA office at 770.487.3900 to make a reservation. Please check the website at www.gana.org for all meeting dates. ■

GANA Officers 2014-2015

Leslie Ann Jeter **President**

1244 Wildcliff Cir. NE
Atlanta, GA 30329
Home Phone: 404-315-9984
Cell Phone: 404-274-1721
Work Phone: 404-274-1721
Email: lesliejeter@comcast.net

Jo Sineath, President-Elect

5265 Silver Creek Dr. SW
Lilburn, GA 30047
Home Phone: 770-925-1008
Cell Phone: 404-387-2881
Email: jtsrna@comcast.net

Mark Schmitz, Immediate Past President

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

Linda Strother, Secretary

2142 La Dawn Ln. NW
Atlanta, GA 30318
Work Phone: 404-558-0285
Home Phone: 404-351-8554
Cell Phone: 404-444-8188
Email: mischas@bellsouth.net

Steve Smith, Treasurer

615 Stirling Glen Court
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Work Phone: 404-429-8553
Home Phone: 678-867-7043
Cell Phone: 404-429-8553
Email: sldt@comcast.net

GANA Directors 2013-2014

Shannon Broxton

403 Saterlee Ct.
Grovetown, GA 30813
Home Phone: 803-270-8700
Cell Phone: 803-270-8700
Email: shannonbroxton@gmail.com

Julie Jackson

102 Atkinson Ave.
Savannah, GA 31404
Home Phone: 912-232-3355
Cell Phone: 912-224-7238
Email: jave14@aol.com

Amy Masiongale

2119 Fothergill Drive
Evans, GA 30809
Work Phone: 706-721-7934
Home Phone: 706-945-0093
Cell Phone: 706-414-7094
Email: amasiongale@gru.edu

Kurt Ochsnecht

26 Eagles View Dr.
Cartersville, GA 30121
Work Phone: 478-448-4020
Home Phone: 678-721-9889
Cell Phone: 770-713-9528
Email: kurtochs@aol.com

Representatives for GANA

Sharon Pierce

AANA President
Phone: 847-655-1104
Email: spearce@aanabod.com

Steve Smith, **Federal Political Director**

615 Stirling Glen Court
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Cell Phone: 404-429-8553
Email: sldt@comcast.net

Christy A. Dunkelberger, Esq., **Executive Director/Legal Counsel**

1832 Highway 54 West
Fayetteville, Georgia 30214
GANA Office: 770-487-3900
GANA 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

Debra A. Barber, AANA Region 2 Director

Work Phone: 770-632-0052
Email: dbarber@aanabod.com

Courtney Voss **Student Representative**

1402 Big Holley Ct.
Martinez, GA 30907
Cell Phone: 706-631-8544
Email: cvcross@gru.edu

Kassie Krieger **Student Representative**

2660 Wander Trail
Alpharetta, GA 30022
Cell Phone: 678-777-2844
Email: kkrieger@gru.edu

Communication

www.gana.org



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Anesthesia Patient
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The Student's Side

by Joseph C. Penick III, SRNA

Time flies when you're having fun! It is crazy to believe that 2014 is coming to an end which will bring exciting changes for all of the students here at GRU. The class of 2014 will be graduating on August 13 in Augusta and I know I speak for everyone when I say we cannot wait! Fourteen members of this graduating class attended the Valley Review course in Orlando, FL this fall and will be busy studying for boards between now and then. Three of our graduating students will attend the GANS meeting in Peachtree City Friday, October 24 to speak with nursing students about nursing anesthesia. Hopefully we will be able to spark an interest in a few of these students!



The class of 2015 will be finishing up their second clinical rotation this semester and beginning their first round of rotations as "senior" SRNA's in January. After speaking with many of them it is obvious they are beginning to feel much more comfortable at the head of the bed!

Third Time's A Charm?

(continued from page 1)

GANAPAC raises money to disperse to state legislators who are in a position to further our cause. Money is the language of politics. Remember, this is an election year. We must fill the PAC's coffers with money. It's only in this way can our collective voices be heard at the Capitol. Always exercise your right to vote.

I am looking forward to working with the newly elected Board of Directors, our Executive Director / Legal Counsel Christy Dunkelberger, and our Lobbyist Monty Veazy. Most of all though, I am looking forward to working with and mentoring our new volunteers.

So, I ask, is the third time around a charm? For me, it is, as I enjoy making my contributions to the GANA. It is imperative, though, that we identify and cultivate future leaders. We must not rely upon past board members to carry the banner of the GANA. Contact the GANA or any of the GANA's Board of Directors to volunteer your talents to the GANA. ■

Report from Our Lobbyist

2015 Legislative Issues

by Monty Veazey



The Georgia Legislature will convene the second Monday of January 2015. The legislature had one of its shortest sessions on record this past year due to early voting. I look for this session to be on the opposite end of the spectrum being one of the longest we have seen in quite some time.

As in years past, the budget will be the main issue of discussion. Revenue has increased about 5% and we do not expect any substantial cuts in the near future. In addition, transportation will be a big issue and we will see some scope of practice legislation as well. There will be talk of expanding Medicaid and Medical Marijuana will be debated with increasing favor to pass this year.

In many respects, the General Assembly should look the same. Governor Deal will likely be re-elected. The Lieutenant Governor should also remain the same as well as the Speaker of the House. The Georgia House of Representatives and the State Senate should pick up some seats giving both bodies a super majority. In the Senate there will be a change in Majority Leader to Senator Butch Miller of Gainesville as Ronnie Chance retired.

Many thanks to each of the CRNA's who came to the Capitol to participate in "GANA Day". The association continues to make great contacts and always stands out as a successful organization.

As you know, all politics start at the local level. While GANA is an active organization, its members must continue to reach out to their Senate and House members. With a part time legislature, it is our responsibility to educate them on our issues. There are 180 House members and 56 Senators. In the House 91 have less than four years and the Senate has 27 less than four years of tenure, reinforcing the great need to continue educating. ■



Christy A. Dunkelberger, Governor Nathan Deal,
Leslie Jeter and Jim Masiogale at
The Commerce Club

Make Your Voice Heard on Veterans' Access to CRNA Care

by Steve Smith, CRNA, MA



As mid-term elections are approaching I would like to take this time to encourage all CRNAs in the state of Georgia to make sure if you are not already registered to vote, register and vote! As you all well know, the results of these elections will determine for the next 2-4 years how policy is affected here in Georgia. What you might not know is that on the state level the GANA Political Action Committee (PAC) gives to those candidates who are friendly to our cause and on the federal level the AANA CRNA-PAC contributes to those candidates who also support CRNAs. Both PACs are non-partisan and as mentioned previously contribute to those legislators that are friendly to our cause. This is why it is so important for every CRNA in the state of Georgia to contribute to the GANA PAC and CRNA-PAC fund in order to get those representatives elected that will be our advocates here in Georgia and in Washington DC. If you would like a list of who the GANA and AANA have contributed to here in Georgia please contact the GANA office.

Now, I would like to encourage all of you to go to the home page of www.gana.org and contribute to both the GANA and AANA-CRNA PAC funds. While you are there please visit the 'Advocacy' link at the top of the page for legislative information and news. Also, before leaving the home page please "Like Us" on Facebook. You will join one of almost 300 that will receive current information about the GANA and issues close to CRNAs nationwide.

As I am sure most of you know, To ensure our Veterans have access to high quality healthcare, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is updating its Nursing Handbook, a guide for VHA healthcare facilities, to authorize Full Practice Authority (FPA) to CRNAs and other Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to practice to their full scope and to be recognized as Full Practice Providers (FPPs). This effort supports the safe and effective care that CRNAs provide our nation's Veterans. The outcome of the update is far from certain however, and has faced attack from physician specialty groups, specifically the American Society of Anesthesiologists, and others. The VHA has indicated that it will likely conduct a public comment period on the revised Handbook as late as the end of this year.

So how do you make your voice heard? There are several things you can do. First of all, visit the CRNA-PAC Advocacy website. Log on to www.crna-pac.com (member log in required), then click "CRNAdvocacy" and "Take Action" to view the online tool for writing the Veterans Health Administration. A sample letter has been provided for individual

CRNAs on the site to help guide your remarks. You can also find an online tool on www.crna-pac.com to aide you in contacting your U.S. Senators and Representative on this issue. Urge them to contact the VHA and express their own support for recognizing CRNAs and other APRNs as FPPs. While this issue directly affects only a small portion of the AANA membership, it has an indirect on the future of all CRNAs and the care they provide. Remind and encourage your friends and colleagues to also take action. We are only as strong as our collective voice!

I would like to give a big shout out to CRNA Rose Synsmir for attending a recent Veterans Health Administration Town Hall Meeting in Atlanta where this very issue was discussed. By being present she was able to counter false accusations by an anesthesiologist that was also attending. She set the record straight that this has nothing to do with safety (which recent studies have shown there is no difference in outcomes between CRNAs and MDAs) and all to do with our Veterans access to quality care. Thank you Rose!

Finally, thank you for all you do on behalf of the profession. If you have any questions whatsoever, please contact me. I am privileged to serve as your Federal Political Director and to help in any way I can to protect and advance CRNA practice in the interest of the patients we all serve. ■

GANA Board Meeting & Retreat

The next GANA Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2014, at 10950 Hutcheson Ferry Road, Chattahoochee Hills, GA 30268

This meeting is open to all GANA members.

If you want to attend this meeting, please RSVP to ganaoffice@bellsouth.net or call 770.487.3900.

Some Things Haven't Changed ...

by Jo Sineath, CRNA



In 1976 during my nurse anesthesia training, I overheard a conversation about the imminent demise of the nurse anesthesia practice. When I approached one of my instructors with my concern that my career as a CRNA might be over before it began, she replied, "They've been saying that for twenty years."

Fast forward 38 years and the nurse anesthesia practice is still viable and our number has greatly increased.

I am so proud to be a member of this important profession and honored to serve as President Elect of GANA. I look forward to the Fall Leadership Assembly where I hope to gain additional tools to serve the GANA. I also look forward to working with our Board of Directors and members to advance the objectives of our organization.

I encourage every member to get involved in some way to improve our practice, our professional organization and protect our scope of practice. Please don't hesitate to contact me or any board member for suggestions on ways you can get involved.

The concerns I had in 1976 have not been alleviated. CRNAs are better trained, and the science and practice of nurse anesthesia are constantly improving, but we are at a critical juncture. An awareness of the issues we face and a willingness to become involved is even more important as the changes dictated by the Affordable Care Act become law. ■



Jo Sineath, Michele Womble, and Leslie Jeter, pictured with Representative Wendell Willard, Chair of the House Judiciary Committee

2014 – 2015 GANA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GANA BOARD MEETINGS:

The conference calls will be at 8:00 pm and the in-person meetings will be at 10:00 am unless otherwise changed. Please call (770) 487-3900 or email ganaoffice@bellsouth.net if you would like to attend a meeting. They are open to all GANA members.

December 6, 2014

Condensed Meeting prior to Board Retreat –
Serenbe, Chattahoochee Hills, GA

February 11, 2015

GANA Board Meeting, teleconference 7:30 pm

May 2, 2015

GANA Board Meeting – Wyndham Peachtree Hotel –
10:00 am

August 22, 2015

GANA Board Meeting – GRU School of Nursing
Anesthesia, Augusta, GA – 10:00 am

OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

November 7-9, 2014

AANA Fall Leadership Academy

December 6, 2014

GANA Board Retreat • Serenbe
Chattahoochee Hills, GA

January 25-31, 2015

AANA National Nurse Anesthetists Week

February 26-22, 2015

AANA Assembly of School Faculty

GANA Capitol Day and Georgia Rural Health
Association Day at the Capitol TBD

April 18-22, 2015

AANA MYA

August 29 – September 1, 2015

AANA Nurse Anesthesia Annual Congress

October 2-4, 2015

GANA Annual Meeting • Marriott, Savannah, GA

Calendar for the *To and Fro*:
April and October, 2015

GANA Annual Fall Meeting



President Leslie Jeter exhibiting at the GANA Political Action Table



SRNA Amanda Fowler with Immediate Past President Mark Schmitz



Dewey Galeas, Kurt Ochsenknecht, Brenda Galeas and Steve Smith



SRNAs Rebekah Korn, Tyler Harris, Misti Browder, Mike Janich and Darrell Ragan



GANA President Leslie Jeter with AANA President Sharon Pearce (Sharon spoke at the meeting and gave the President's report)



SRNAs Brooke Barnhardt, Alex Ray, Rachel Greene and Stacy Elzey

More from the GANA Annual Fall Meeting



President Leslie Jeter, President-Elect Jo Sineath and her husband, Cy Sineath



Rose Synsmir and Annie Thompson



Rose Synsmir, Lena Gould, Steve Smith, Janice Izlar, and Ann Thompson (Lena was a guest speaker from New Jersey and spoke on Diversity in Anesthesia)



Exhibitor from Quease along with CRNA Annie Thompson. Thanks to all exhibitors for supporting the GANA!



Janice Izlar, Annette Johnson, Heather Harvey Rankin, and Steve Smith (Heather was a guest speaker from Alabama and spoke on pediatrics)

Barry Cranfill Named 2014 Rosalie McDonald Award Winner

by Steve Smith, CRNA, MA

It was an honor for me, along with Christy Dunkelberger, to present the 2014 GANA Rosalie McDonald Award winner to Barry Cranfill at this year's GANA Annual Fall meeting. Barry was nominated for this prestigious award by Kathy Mann and me. Rosalie McDonald was the First GANA President and Sixth AANA President. The Rosalie McDonald award was established in 1987 to honor an outstanding practitioner in Georgia.

I'm proud to call Barry a colleague, business associate and good friend. Currently he serves as the GANA's Reimbursement Specialist Director and Practice Committee Chair and served

Anesthesia Program were able to thwart the plan to shut down MCG NAP due to budget cuts. Had this not been stopped this would have had a major impact on healthcare in Georgia, particularly in rural Georgia. Perhaps, his biggest fight has been for all nurses, including CRNAs, to secure more funding for the GBON which had previously been diverted to the state general fund. Continued competency and mandatory reporting are just a few things as a result of the increased funds. Barry has spent countless hours at the state capitol not only as the President of the GBON but also as a CRNA representing the GANA in the fight against pain management regulations. Lastly, he has given back to our great profession by allowing SRNAs from Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina to rotate through many of his practices. Many of these rotations involve regional anesthesia and pain management which would otherwise be very difficult for the students to achieve.

Thank you, Barry, for all of your contributions of excellence to our great profession and for your unwavering and sustained support for CRNAs and SRNAs throughout the state. ■



Stephen D. Smith, 2014 GANA Rosalie McDonald Award winner Barry Cranfill and GANA ED/Legal Counsel Christy A. Dunkelberger

as GANA President in 2009-2010. He is coming off of two terms on the Georgia Board of Nursing with a portion of that time spent as President. He has also recently served on the AANA Finance Committee under President Janice Izlar. Barry is an accomplished author and has written numerous articles about Anti-Kickback Statutes (AKS) and Anti-Trust Laws and how they affect the practice of Georgia CRNAs and CRNAs nationwide. He has also been published in numerous journals including Outpatient Surgery Magazine. As a side bar he is an accomplished piano player and pilot. If that is not enough, he was this year's winner of the AANA's Clinical Instructor of the Year Award.

In my opinion, this award for Barry is long overdue. He has served the CRNAs and RNs of Georgia with distinction since first becoming involved in the GANA as treasurer in 2005. His articles in the To and Fro have impacted how CRNAs in Georgia practice. During Barry's GANA Presidency he along with Jim Masiogale and 40+ SRNAs from the MCG Nurse



Janice Izlar recently meeting with Buddy Carter, 1st Congressional District Republican candidate

CRNAs in Action



2014 AANA Annual Congress in Orlando during the GANA hosted breakfast. — at Orlando World Center Marriott



GANA President Mark Schmitz, AANA ED Wanda Wilson, AANA President Dennis Bless and GANA PE Leslie Jeter — at 2014 AANA Annual Congress



Your 2014-2015 GANA Board of Directors – Jo Sineath, Amy Masiogale, Steve Smith, Shannon Broxton, Christy Dunkelberger, Kurt Ochsenknecht, Mark Schmitz, Leslie Jeter and Linda Strother



Jim Masiogale and House Appropriations Chair Terry England at The Commerce Club

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

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

Helpline
Peer Assistance
800.654.5167

Anesthetists in
Recovery (AIR)
215.635.0183

Making New Friends

by Mark Schmitz & Dewey Galeas

Election day is November 4th this year. Now is the time to do your homework and learn about the candidates running to represent your district. They are the people who will vote on the laws that will direct your work and your life, present and future. The website 'votesmart.org' is where you can gain information on the candidates. Go there to learn their bio, the committees on which they serve, their voting records, and the bills they sponsor and/or support. Send them a campaign donation. You are a constituent and a friend. Make an appointment to visit the office or find a small event they are attending and go introduce yourself to them. Introduce yourself as a CRNA and let them know you are a source for healthcare information. Get to know their secretary and/or office members by name. Write a letter to the editor of the newspaper or magazine applauding their bill or support of a bill. Volunteer your time to help with the campaign.

What in the world does all this accomplish? A friend of mine told me that, yes this is a lot of work, but it is not unlike any other relationship. The time you need to have someone's ear is not going to be the first time you meet them. This process is how meetings and action in the legislative world happen. Every friend we make is someone our opponent will find more difficult to influence.

Keep in mind that the elections are November 4, however, that doesn't finish the relationship. If the campaign is successful, stay in touch and cultivate the relation which you worked to establish. Follow-up and ongoing communication are important to keep the relationship alive. ■



Misti Browder (in blue scrubs) with high school students during a 'Med-Camp' for healthcare careers. They spent the day touring the hospital in Macon and hearing about becoming a CRNA.

Student Report

by Kassie Krieger, SRNA

Fall semester in the Georgia Regents University Nurse Anesthesia Program is always exciting! Our brand new SRNAs are getting their feet wet in didactics, our juniors (myself included) are beginning clinical rotations, and our seniors are gearing up for graduation and boards. Everyone is having wonderful experiences and learning so much. We all owe a big thank you to our professors, Jim Masiongale, Amy Masiongale, Corey Peterson, Lisa Stephens and our newest addition, Shannon Broxton. They have all been so supportive! Another thank you goes out to all of the preceptors; we literally could not do it with you!



This past weekend, I was able to attend the GANA Annual Meeting in Atlanta and had a wonderful time both networking and learning! Our seniors did an awesome job with their Capstone poster presentations and were a great contribution to the weekend of continuing education. Additionally, two of our classmates, Carrie Culpepper and James Conner, presented insightful lectures on unintentional perioperative hypothermia and the controversial use stress dose steroids. Other lecture topics included postoperative nausea and vomiting, sleep apnea, pain management, pharmacology and pediatric assessment. It is always nice to hear what is coming up in new evidence based practice!

As one of the new GANA student representatives, I hope to get more SRNAs involved in our organization. This year, we are planning to host events and utilize more PR to recruit new members and attract current members to more active roles. As you all know, we are going to be facing new, and old, challenges in the near future and we will need all the help we can get! With Capitol Day in Atlanta and Mid-Year Assembly in D.C. coming up, we are very much looking forward to a busy spring. Both events promise to be great experiences and have strong student participation, so we hope to see you all there! ■

#tbt!

by Barb Waldron, CRNA, BS

tbt – I know that means pictures from long ago, but I'm just going to ask you to form a picture with my words. Besides, we all looked a lot better years ago, so there.

Peer Assistance started as an Ad Hoc Committee in 1983. AANA was initiating steps to address the issues of chemically dependent anesthesia providers. We started with the helpline (800)654-5167 and AIR (anesthetists in recovery). AIR was put online in 2002, with the help of Art Zwerling. This community of recovery cultivated future state peer advisors. Adding to this community PAIR was initiated, partners of anesthetists in recovery.

Today at the AANA level, the committee is called Peer Assistance Advisors and at the state level our committee is State Peer Advisors. If you have an interest in helping the Georgia nurse anesthetists with chemical dependency and the health and wellness of your own, then please join the committee/group. We are small but very strong, and it is time you contributed to all of our health and well-being.

There is an article written by Diana Quinlan CRNA, MA; [Peer Assistance Reaches Its 25th Year](#). It's a history, a #tbt of Peer Assistance. Please go to the AANA website and look under 'Resources'. There is also a link to USA Today featuring Anita Bertram addressing drug diversion.

Art Zwerling, CRNA, MSN, MS, DNP, DAAPM, passed away this year. Art was vital to the AANA Peer Assistance committee. On a personal level, he always answered his phone when I called with a question about a CRNA in Georgia that was in need of help. We raffled off a serenity handbag at the state meeting and the proceeds will go to the Foundation for health and wellness in Art's name.

In 2004 the Wellness program was added to the Peer Assistance Committee. By AANA definition, wellness is defined as positive state of the mind, body, and spirit. Elements of wellness are balance and self-care; if this does not define you, take a look at what is happening in your life. I am going to do some of that self-care stuff and I need to pass the baton on to the next Chairperson of Peer Assistance and Wellness in Georgia. Can I pass it to you? If not you, then who? Why don't you volunteer some of your time to the betterment of your state association or to the state Peer Assistance program?

It has been my privilege to serve you. ■

And the Award Goes to...

Shannon Broxton, MSN, CRNA

Each year the GANA Board has the honor and privilege of recognizing an outstanding SRNA, which is a joy and a challenge. The challenge lies in narrowing down the recipient of the GANA Outstanding Student Nurse Anesthetist Award when many meet the criteria. The difficulty met by choosing one recipient only boasts the quality of anesthetists produced by Georgia Regents University each year. This year, the recipient was none other than Joseph C. "Tripp" Pennick, III.

Tripp has shown his commitment to the GANA by serving as the SRNA liaison and actively participating at GANA meetings and functions. Additionally, many of you may have seen Tripp in action as he has shown exemplary clinical skills at many sites across Georgia. Tripp is held in high regards by his peers and faculty and is noted for his willingness to help and his eagerness to learn. More than once, Tripp has expressed a personal goal of revitalizing the GANA by encouraging active involvement from our recent graduates. For all of these reasons and more, congrats to Tripp for being the recipient of the 2014 GANA Outstanding Student Nurse Anesthetist Award.



GANA Outstanding SRNA Award winner, Tripp Penick and GANA President Mark Schmitz

Bo Ram Chung Named AANA/GANA Scholarship Winner

Bo Ram Chung is a senior student in the Georgia Regents University CRNA program. She received a BSN from Medical College of Georgia in 2007. Bo Ram joined St. Joseph's Hospital of Atlanta as a nurse resident to begin her nursing career then later became an ICU nurse. She continued to practice as a cardiovascular ICU nurse in Emory University Hospital Midtown before entering anesthesia school.



Bo Ram would like to thank the AANA/GANA Foundation members for this scholarship. The scholarship was valuable in meeting the needs of school expenses in the final semester of nurse anesthesia school. Bo Ram would like to thank her husband, daughter, parents, family members and friends for their support and prayers which made her journey to become a CRNA possible. Bo Ram would also like to thank all her classmates, professors, and preceptors for allowing her to be a member of Class of 2014.

In Memoriam – Dorothy Snead

May 17, 1931 – June 20, 2014

Dorothy Mae Crumpton Snead, 83, wife of the late Benjamin F. Snead, Jr., entered into eternal rest Friday, June 20, 2014. Dorothy was born May 17, 1931 in Guymon, Oklahoma, daughter of the late Grace Bowles and Lee Otis Crumpton. She is survived by her three sons: Benjamin F. (Mary) Snead, III, Harlem, GA, Dennis D. Snead, LaGrange, GA, and Samuel O. (Diane) Snead, LaGrange, GA; and one beloved granddaughter Shelley Reigh Snead, Tucker, GA. She is also survived by four sisters: Elsie Cowan and Jane Means, Oklahoma, Ruby (Bruce) Wells, Colorado, and LaVeta "Joy" (Jim) Hush, Kansas and was preceded in death by her sisters: Alma Maxey, LaRene McCarthy, and Barbara Brasuell.

Dorothy graduated from Oglethorpe University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and also graduated from the Fairmont General Hospital School of Nursing with degrees in Nursing and Anesthesiology. During her professional career Dorothy held numerous positions on the GANA (Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists) committees including President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. She organized, formulated, and taught a program of obstetrical anesthesia. Dorothy won numerous nursing awards including GANA Professional Excellence Award, Georgia Association of Nurses Anesthetist's President's Award. In 1989 she was presented the prestigious Rosalie McDonald Award. She retired from West Georgia Medical Center in LaGrange, GA after many years of devoted service. ■



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Georgia Regents University Nurse Anesthesia Program Report

by James Masiongale, CRNA, MHS
Director and Clinical Coordinator



Fall is a very busy time for the Nursing Anesthesia program. The 19 seniors are all getting excited about their upcoming graduation, passing boards, and finalizing their plans for employment. This year most of the seniors displayed their research topics as a poster presentation at the Fall GANA meeting. The posters provide the meeting attendees the opportunity to gather a lot of information about common anesthesia topics in a fun leisurely fashion and afford the student the opportunity to learn how to exhibit. Depending on the feedback from GANA this could become an ongoing occurrence.

The 30 juniors are midway through their first clinic rotation. This marks a new record for the program with 49 students placed in clinical sites throughout Georgia. That record will be broken next year where we have the potential to have 60 students in clinical if all goes well. This is a result of increasing the class size when the Mercer program closed and those students completing the didactic portion. We have not recently increased and there are no plans to increase class size as we turn our focus to converting the program to the DNP. If you are currently

working at a facility that might be interested in becoming a clinical site, email me. We will be looking to add a few more sites if they meet certain criteria.

Half of those 60 students are the 30 new students that joined us in Augusta in August. They are still in that adjustment phase of the fast paced learning that occurs during the didactic portion. It is quite a shock going from full time ICU work to full time studying and the riggers of anesthesia school.

As always I want to thank all of the clinical instructors. You are the heart and backbone of our program and without you we could not exist. Taking the time to share your knowledge, experience, and skills is one of the greatest gifts you can give back to this wonderful profession. You are true Hero's in the eyes of the students and didactic faculty, and we are forever grateful to you.

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

Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists PAC

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