

A Publication of the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists • Volume 79 • Spring 2016

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists CRNAs

- Represent nearly 150 years of quality anesthesia
- Safely administer approximately 40 million anesthetics in the US every year
- Represented by 49,000 CRNAs nationwide and over 1200 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 advances patient safety and CRNA practice through advocacy, education, and member engagement.

Vision Statement

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists in Georgia will be autonomous providers recognized for their full scope of practice and quality patient care and are compensated fairly for their services. Report from the President

Why We Do What We Do



by Jo Sineath, CRNA

Lt came as no surprise to me when I read an article in U.S. News and World Report ranking Nurse Anesthetist as one of the most desirable of all careers. We placed #4 in the top ten jobs for 2016. As one would expect, the article assessed job desirability by measurable criteria such as growth potential (7,400 new positions are expected in the next 8 years.) attractive wages (median income reported at \$153,700,) and low unemployment (1.3%.) I could speak to all of these things. I've seen jobs added in every setting in which I have worked; I feel adequately paid for what I do, and in the past 38 years, I've been unemployed for about 6 hours because I waited that long to return a call.

What such an article cannot measure, however, are those esoteric factors, the intangibles that only one who experiences the job can know.

I believe that we become nurse anesthetists for the same reason that we first became nurses. We are caring and compassionate of people; we want to relieve suffering and make our patients more comfortable. My first job out of Nursing School was in the Burn Unit of Cincinnati General Hospital. My patients knew pain. Debridement and care of horrific burns can be excruciating and it was a daily occurrence in the shifts that I worked. When I saw the opportunity to go into a field that actually relieved pain, I didn't think twice. I am sure you have a similar story. The requirement of our having worked in a critical care area offers us a clearer understanding of the experience from the "other" side.

Our training prepared us well to care for our patients when they are most vulnerable and, yes, often afraid. We are good at what we do because of that training but also because of our desire to make the difference in a good experience or a poor one for our patients.

The rewards we enjoy are far more than just financial. Every day I encounter patients who make me realize the opportunity that I have to make a very real difference in their situation. We all have bad days, those days when nothing seems to go right. Most of our days, however, allow us to leave our jobs feeling good about what we have done.

If I had written that article for U.S. News ^ピ World Report, I would have ranked nurse anesthesia #1.

We have so many to thank for the profession that we enjoy today. Those who have gone before us have developed and advocated for the position we now occupy in the healthcare landscape. Because of their efforts and ongoing AANA/GANA member involvement, we are able to put our training and skills to work. I cannot stress enough how important this "member involvement" is to our profession and I would be remiss if I didn't remind you

To & Fro

GANA Officers 2015-2016

Jo Sineath, President

5265 Silver Creek Dr. SW Lilburn, GA 30047 Home Phone: 770-925-1008 Cell Phone: 404-387-2881 Email: jtscrna@hotmail.com

President-Elect Position Open

Leslie Ann Jeter

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

Sarah Phillips, Secretary

2787 Revere Main NW Kennesaw, GA 30144 Cell Phone: 859-229-0036 Email: sarah8888@hotmail.com

Steve Smith, Treasurer

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

GANA Directors 2015-2016

Alison Herren

108 Thornbrook Court Carrollton, GA 30116 Cell Phone: 770-328-1675 Email: afherren@aol.com

Julie Jackson

102 Atkinson Ave. Savannah, GA 31404 Home Phone: 912-232-3355 Cell Phone: 912-224-7238 Email: jaye14j@aol.com

Kurt Ochsenknecht

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

Wallace S. Phillips

1031 Scott Terrace Athens, GA 30606 Home Phone: 706-549-2700 Cell Phone: 706-424-1633 Email: wphillips@theccaagroup.com

<u>Representatives for GANA</u>

Juan F. Quintana CRNA, DNP, MHS AANA President 222 S. Prospect Ave. Park Ridge, IL 60068 Phone: 847-655-1104 Email: jguintana@aanabod.com

Steve Smith,

Federal Political Director 615 Stirling Glen Court Alpharetta, GA 30004 Cell Phone: 404-429-8553 Home Phone: 678-867-7043 Email: slldt@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

April Culler, SRNA Student Representative Email: aculler@gru.edu

John Ohanu, SRNA Student Representative Email: johanu@gru.edu

Communication www.gana.org



Proud supporter of Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation

From the Executive Director

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



2016 Elections

Election season is upon us. May 24th is the official primary election day, however, starting May 2 there will be early voting and on May 14, there will be Saturday voting. Before you vote, take the time to learn about the candidates in order that you can make informed decisions when you vote. Most candidates are holding "meet and greet" sessions and most political parties are holding forums or other such events to introduce candidates to the public. Choose the right candidate for your community and for the nurse anesthesia community. GANA is busy attending political fundraisers to support those candidates who have assisted with CRNA issues and legislative efforts. You can do the same on an individual basis. We need to let the legislative candidates know that CRNAs are a valuable resource for them whenever anesthesia issues arise.

In good news, at the local level, former GANA President Brent DuBois threw his hat in the ring and is running for County Commissioner, District 2 of Twiggs County. His platform includes bringing jobs to his community and improving education. Because he does not have any opposition, the job will officially be his after Election Day, May 24th. Congratulations Brent.

2016 Legislative Session

The GANA lobbyist, leadership, GRC Committee, and the members worked very hard trying to get HB 212 passed during the 2016 legislative session. Unfortunately, it did not happen. The political maneuvering was at high peak and we were let down in the last minutes of the session. After agreeing with the AG's office and amending the Bill in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, we faced renewed opposition from the AG that lead to another amendment after the Bill went back to the House. GANA agreed to the late amendment, but the Bill Sponsor Tom Weldon failed to bring it up for a vote in time for it to go back to the Senate for agreement. HB 212 died around 12:15 AM in the last minutes of the 2016 legislative session. GANA will continue its efforts to remove the restrictions placed on CRNAs' scope of practice by the Pain Management Clinic Act that became law in 2013.

GANA Strategic Plan

For 2016, the GANA leadership has been focusing on three goals of its strategic plan that was developed in 2015. Those goals are: (1) member engagement; (2) advocacy; and (3) the GANA annual meeting.

Member Engagement

Our PR Committee under the direction of its Chair Sarah Phillips is off and running with "Member Engagement". Thus far, two (2) regional meetings have been held with another one planned on July 16, 2016 in Athens. These meetings provide an opportunity for the members in the region to meet GANA Board member and leaders and enjoy lunch and discuss issues related to the association and the profession. Another initiative for member engagement is to enhance our recruitment and retention. We are investigating ways to welcome our new members and reward the dedication of our long-standing members.

Georgia CRNAs & SRNAs Advocate on Capitol Hill for our Veterans

by Steve Smith, CRNA, MA



his year's 2016 AANA Mid-Year Assembly in Washington DC on April 2-6 proved to be another amazing year for our advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill. We had another record breaking year in attendance with over 1200 CRNAs/SRNAs from around the country and 29 SRNA's from Augusta University in Georgia and 8 CRNAs. We were able to visit our 2 US Senator's offices and our 14 US Representative's offices to advocate on your behalf for those of you who stayed home and gave safe, efficient and cost effective care to our patients and Veterans. Our #1 priority this year was to encourage Congress to support VHA recognition of CRNAs and other APRNs to the full scope of their education and skills in providing care for our Veterans, to co-sponsor S. 2279 (Merkley-Rounds) and HR 1247 (Graves-Schakowsky), and oppose efforts intended to impair full recognition of APRNs.

After attending meetings, breakout sessions and lectures the first 3 days of the conference from leaders in healthcare policy and experts in grassroots and political advocacy, around 500 CRNAs/SRNAs congregated on the west front lawn of the U.S. Capitol for the AANA's second annual Rally for Nurse Anesthesia. During the event, AANA President Juan Quintana, DNP, MHS, CRNA, presented Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Mike Rounds (R-SD) the AANA's 2016 National Health Leadership Award for their support of nurse anesthesia and introduction of Senate legislation (S. 2279) to expand Veterans' access to care by granting Full Practice Authority to CRNAs and other APRNs in VHA facilities. All of Georgia's CRNAs/SRNAs were in attendance despite a wind chill factor of 18 degrees that morning. Things got warmed up after that as all of Georgia's 37 students and CRNAs visited all of our legislators on April 5th. Along with Ensuring Veterans Access to High Quality Care we also discussed Rural Access to Nurse Anesthesia Services, Nurse Workforce Development funding and the Role of CRNAs in Pain Care.

There were 5 of us in attendance at the Annual AANA CRNA-PAC MYA fund raising event. Georgia was well represented by GANA President Jo Sineath, Kay Argroves, Alison Herron, Wally Phillips and Steve Smith. This year's theme was "the Roaring 20's" and appropriately named PAC's Bootleggers' Ball. The event raised more than \$100,000 and all goes towards our CRNA advocacy efforts in Washington. Please don't forget about a monthly or annual contribution to the AANA CRNA-PAC fund (crna-pac. com). All of this money goes towards re-electing members of Congress and maintaining our friendship with those of them who are friendly towards our cause of full scope of practice and reimbursement.

During our visit with Representative John Lewis, we had an opportunity to thank the staff and legislative assistants for his support and co-sponsoring of HR 2713, Title 8 Educational Funding for Nurses. On another note, we had 4 Representatives from Georgia who opposed CRNA Full Practice Authority in the VHA. They were Buddy Carter, Thomas Price, Barry Loudermilk and David Scott. We took the opportunity to ask each of them why they opposed this. There were different reasons, such as not hearing both sides of the story and the biggie was "state's rights". They did not like the idea of enacting any type of federal law that would be contrary to or supersede state law. We politely disagreed and will be available to try and guide their future decisions for full practice authority for CRNAs in the VHA and elsewhere. Prior to the MYA Janice Izlar was able to meet with Representative Buddy Carter back home and influence him towards our side. In other words, he now knows to contact Janice should anything come up concerning CRNAs. Great work Janice! This is an example of grassroots advocacy at its best.

If you have never attended the AANA MYA please consider doing so next year, April 8-12, 2017 in Washington, DC at the Renaissance Hotel on 9th Street Downtown. It is arguably the most educational meeting that the AANA sponsors and will leave you with a true since of accomplishment. On a final note, please respond to those AANA Email Blast concerning Full Practice Authority in the Veterans Health Administration. If this goes through it could very well be the launching pad we have been waiting for in order to finally practice to the fullest extent of our scope of practice. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns about any issues with federal government affairs.

Why We Do What We Do

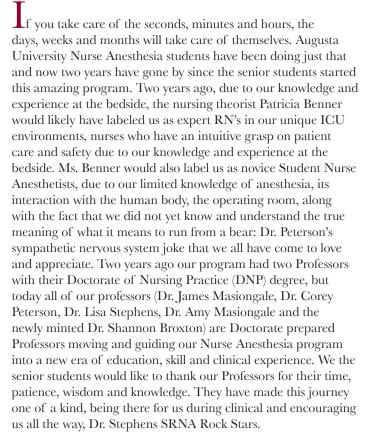
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that AANA elections are open until May 17. Our own state organization, the GANA, will conduct elections in August. I implore each of you to participate, make your voices heard and elect the leadership that will carry on and promote nurse anesthesia. We are able to provide compassionate, safe, and effective patient care each and every day because our leaders, past and present, cared enough to make it so. It didn't happen by accident or a tremendous stroke of luck. It has been developed, promoted and protected.

We owe this profession of ours no less.

Student Report: Time Flies – Augusta, AANA Mid-Year and Advocacy

by John Ohanu, SRNA



On January 27th, 2016, over 70 CRNAs and SRNAs turned out to celebrate National CRNA Week at the Georgia State Capitol in Atlanta. Governor Nathan Deal recognized us with a proclamation. SRNAs from Augusta University and the US Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia Nursing joined Georgia CRNAs in educating and lobbying for the pain management act, HB 212. We thanked Senator Greg Kirk, who sponsored HB 212, and Health and Human Services Chairs Senator Renee Unterman and Rep Sharon Cooper. It was a great experience learning about the state's legislative process and seeing how much our representatives are delighted in meeting their constituents. Hopefully next year, our numbers will be even greater than this year. We can do it!

The class of 2017 will soon be completing their second semester of the didactic phase, with one more semester to complete before diving into clinical. While undergoing their second semester of didactics this spring, this motivated group of students had the privilege of working through various clinical simulation scenarios and working with instruments such as the fiberoptic scope and Glidescope for difficult intubations. The class had the opportunity during these simulation sessions to think and to put their theoretical knowledge to practice, so that when they enter the OR on their first day they will be able to comfortably

rely on their training from simulation as a foundation to build on, while moving towards their goal in this great profession. During their final semester in the didactic phase over the summer, they will learn Cardiac and Thoracic Anesthesia, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Regional Anesthesia. Eddie Thomas, CRNA with Sentry Anesthesia will be teaching their course on Ultrasound Guided Peripheral Nerve Blocks. Mr. Thomas is a teacher at heart, patient, gentle, and his knowledge of USGPNB is of the highest quality. In addition to its million dollar simulation rooms, the Augusta University program also has access to 6 Ultrasound machines, so the SRNAs will be able to have valuable hands on training with USG-PNBs. The students are looking forward to what this summer has in store for them. While still novices, their knowledge of anesthesia and physiology has increased tremendously since beginning the program.

The senior students just returned from the AANA Mid-Year Assembly and will be completing the second semester of our clinical phase this May. With two semesters left to go, we are studying and preparing for boards as we continue throughout our clinical phase. For boards, Apex Anesthesia Review Course was chosen due to its successful outcome with the previous

... we love it, we love anesthesia, we love keeping patients comfortable during their time in our care ...

class. Some students will also be attending Valley Anesthesia courses throughout the remainder of the year. In speaking with my classmates, the consensus is that clinical are going great and that this is the right profession for us. We love it, we love anesthesia, we love keeping patients comfortable during their time in our care, we love managing and making sure that when we tell their loved ones, "We will take good care of them" or "I am going to take care of her/him as though they are my own loved one" we mean it and we deliver on that promise. This task would be impossible without our preceptors. We are very thankful to all the preceptors who have given back to this profession by guiding our thinking through complex cases, aiding us in considering other anesthetic options for management, opening our eyes to missed signs and lab results, and showing us the many varied ways to administer an anesthetic. We are also thankful to those CRNAs who have at times defended us, because they remember the anxiety, palpitations, and shear terror they experienced themselves as students when the surgeon looked over and asked if the patient

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GANA Capitol Day – January 27, 2016



Iva Ozkan, Amy Masiongale and Frankie Webb Hurst



Kay Argroves, Taushera Westbrook, Janice Izlar, Kathy Mann and Senator Renee Unterman



Kay Argroves, State Senator Greg Kirk and Janice Izlar



Alison Gunbay, Ryan Ussery and Phillip Knauer



Jessica Faith Wooten, Aleshia Edwards, Angie Ohanu and Dar Odle-Edghill



Phillip Kanauer, Rohit Avula and Jeremy Webb



Janice Izlar with State Senator Lester Jackson

Calling for Nominations for Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists 2016 Outstanding Student Nurse Anesthetist of the Year Award

AWARD: One award will be given annually to honor an outstanding nurse anesthesia student enrolled in a Georgia nurse anesthesia program. The administration of this award will be handled by the Scholarship Committee.

PURPOSE: To provide recognition for outstanding accomplishment as a nurse anesthesia student.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: Award is available to all nurse anesthesia students currently enrolled in a nurse anesthesia program in Georgia. Any clinical preceptor, classroom faculty, GANA Board of Directors member or any GANA member may nominate a candidate for this award.

CRITERIA:

- 1. Excellence in academics;
- 2. Exemplary clinical practice;
- 3. Leadership capability in the GANA;
- 4. Potential for future contribution to the practice of nurse anesthesia;
- 5. Contribution to the professional body of knowledge;
- 6. Contribution to the GANA / GANAS as a student nurse anesthetist.

DEADLINE: Completed nomination form submitted with a postmark, fax, or e-mail date to the GANA office by August 1.

PRESENTATION: The award is presented by the GANA President or other designated individual during the Annual Business Meeting of the GANA and announced during the graduation ceremony of the nurse anesthesia program. The recipient will receive \$250.00, an individual plaque, and name on a perpetual plaque that will remain at the school of the winner until the next award is given.

NOMINATION FORM 2016 Outstanding Student Nurse Anesthetist of the Year Award

DEADLINE is August 1 @ 5:00 p.m.	
Nominee's Name:	
Nurse Anesthesia School Attending:	
Nominated By:	
Address:	
Telephone:	E-Mail:

Attach a narrative description of the candidate's qualifications for this award.

Signature

Date

Submit Application to: Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists 1832 Highway 54, West Fayetteville, Georgia 30214 Fax: 770.632.1625 Email: ganaoffice@bellsouth.net

Georgia CRNAs in Action



GANA Regional Board of Directors meeting in Macon on February 20th.



#GAS2016 There's something for everyone!



Exciting things are being planned for the GANA Fall 2016 Annual Meeting. Mark your calendars now to attend the first annual Georgia Anesthesia Symposium, #GAS2016, September 30 – October 2, 2016 at the JW Marriott, Atlanta, GA.

Every detail is being planned with you in mind. The program includes hot topics in anesthesia, the latest information on clinical issues, pharmacology, physiology, professional issues and the business of the state and national associations presented by nationally

recognized speakers. Additionally, downtime will be incorporated so you can enjoy the hotel property

and surrounding Buckhead sites. Networking and social events will contribute to the weekend and give you time for relaxing fun. Truly, it will be something for everyone and each attendee will be able to tailor their experience to meet their needs for a professional meeting.

Don't forget; mark your calendars now for the first annual Georgia Anesthesia Symposium, #GAS2016, September 30 - October 2, 2016 at the JW Marriott, Atlanta, GA. We look forward to seeing you there.



Georgia Association of Nursing Students (GANS) Convention 10/23/15 in Macon



SRNAs Kassie Krieger, Dara Edghill-Odle and John Ohanu



GANA President Jo Sineath, GANS representative Kelley Allen, Dara Edghill-Odle, Kassie Krieger, John Ohanu, April Culler, Courtney Voss and Steve Smith



John Ohanu, Steve Smith, Courtney Voss, April Culler and Kassie Krieger celebrating another successful year of exhibiting at the Annual GANS Convention at the Macon Marriott City Center



Steve talking to the nursing students about becoming a CRNA

AANA Fall Leadership Academy in Chicago – November 9, 2015



Lisa Phillips, Janice Izlar, Martha Kral, Rose Synsmir and Leslie Jeter



Steve Smith, Gil Kandrac, Vic Martin, Barry Cranfill and Janice Izlar



Sarah Phillips, Janice Izlar, AANA ED Wanda Wilson and Jo Sineath



Gil Kandrac, Steve Smith, Sarah Phillips, Jo Sineath and Walley Phillips at the AANA Headquarters

Augusta University Nursing Anesthesia Report

by James Masiongale, CRNA, DNP Director and Clinical Coordinator, Nursing Anesthesia Program Augusta University



As you may have noticed, we have once again undergone a name change and now we are Augusta University. Just like with the previous name changes, nothing has changed with the program except the name. This year marks the program's 20 anniversary and as of last December we have produced over 250 graduates with the majority working here in Georgia.

The seniors, Dr. Amy Masiongale and I were able to join several Georgia CRNAs in Washington D.C. for the AANA Midyear Assembly. The students were also allowed some free time to enjoy D.C. and spend time together as a class. This is the only time the class will be together until graduation in December so they get to catch up and compare notes. The students represented themselves, Augusta University Nursing Anesthesia Program, GANA and Georgia CRNAs as they joined Georgia CRNAs in educating legislators about our profession. This continues to be an educational and fun event and we hope we can continue to do this as we move to the DNP for entry into practice.

The juniors just finished their second semester of didactic. This semester they were allowed to use what they were taught in the classroom in simulation. The NAP has always utilized simulation to bridge the gap between didactic and clinical. This is the second class to be in the brand new AU Education Commons building. Most of the bugs have been worked out and the students are experiencing as close to real life training as is possible using the latest technology.

We have made offers to 30 applicants and they have accepted a slot in what we hope will be the final masters prepared class, starting August 2016. We will be submitting an application to move to the DNP level to COA this summer and hope to take the first class in January 2018.

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.

(706) 721-8215 jmasiong@augusta.edu



Georgia Regents University Nurse Anesthesia Program Class of 2015

Student Report: Time Flies

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was relaxed and then they said yes, but it was one of those days when the 40 mg of Rocuronium administered 5 minutes ago decided to act like 100 mg of Succinylcholine given 15 minutes ago. For that and so much more, we thank you.

This year over 1000 CRNAs and SRNAs descended on Washington, DC to advocate for the CRNA profession. Georgia CRNAs and SRNAs were among this group. The Mid-Year Assembly is the most important advocacy meeting for CRNAs. During this time we learn to advance CRNA policy interests on Capitol Hill, engage with members of Congress and also build professional network with CRNAs and SRNAs in other states. The Legislative issues for this year included: Promoting Veterans Access to High Quality Health Care, Medicare Access to Rural Anesthesiology Act, Title 8 Nursing Workforce Development Programs and educating the members on the value and evidence of CRNA care. During our time at Mid-year we listened to guest lectures, had regional meetings, panel discussions and workshops to show how to be an effective advocate for the profession.

Prior to our Washington, DC trip, as part of our Professional Aspects of Nursing Anesthesia course, we had a guest lecture day in which Mr. Stephen Smith, and Ms. Kay Argroves came to Augusta University to prepare our class for the AANA-Midyear meeting. Mr. Smith educated us on the "Business of Anesthesia and Capitol hill topics". Ms. Argroves taught us about our Nurse Anesthesia history, the hurdles our profession has overcome from its inception, and how the legislative cycle works. The senior students would like to thank Mr. Smith, Ms. Argroves for their time and imparting of their knowledge and experience. This class meeting decreased the anxiety of the AANA Mid-Year conference and it also gave us a head start during our time in DC.

I enjoyed several lectures at Mid-Year. Kate Fry taught us about knowing our history, our personal story, the issues, and legislators. Ms. Fry stated, "While Mid-year is one week, advocacy is 365 days a year." Nancy Bocsker lectured on the "Art and Science of Story Telling," in which she emphasized the art of telling a story and rooting the story in good data. Ms. Bocsker stated that, "Just because you don't have an interest in Washington does not mean that Washington doesn't have an interest in you." Past AANA President Larry Hornsby gave us the five lessons he learned as President and during his career as a CRNA. The number 1 Lesson: CRNAs can win in Washington, DC. My favorite lecture was a panel discussion named "Top 10 Events Impacting State Regulation of CRNA Practice". I really enjoyed this session because it showed me what other states were doing to defend the profession and how other entities that have nothing to do with anesthesia can in one court decision change the profession as we know it, and this placed a even greater urgency on why membership is important.

My favorite part of Mid-Year assembly was the visit to the Capitol. Apart from the weather, 30 degrees with the wind moving at 20 mph, it was a great experience. We spoke to the Legislative Assistant, and Veterans Administrative Legislative Assistants. Report from Our Lobbyist

HB 212 by Monty Veazey



As you know, HB 212 failed to pass in the last minutes of the 2016 Legislative Session. I am most proud of it being able to pass through the Senate. Once the bill got back to the House, the Attorney General asked for an amendment to be added, which we accepted.

The House and author of the bill had to make a motion to agree with the version that passed the Senate along with the amendment. Representative Tom Weldon didn't make a motion to agree until 12:15 am which left no time to get the Senate to agree.

Georgia CRNAs and SRNAs had a total of 16 visits with member assistants during our Capitol visits, one of the highest number of appointments and visits of any state association at Mid-Year. It was great seeing fellow classmates and Georgia CRNAs advocating for the profession with data and research. Georgia CRNAs and SRNAs were united on our legislative positions, and communicated it effectively. Georgia Representative John Lewis was thanked for co-sponsoring HR 2713, which supports Title 8 education funding for nurses. We also had an opportunity to discuss with Representatives Buddy Carter, Thomas Price, Barry Loudermilk and David Scott's legislative assistants on why they opposed CRNA Full Practice Authority (FPA) in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). We listened and explained our support of FPA in the VHA. Dialogue will continue on this topic with these legislators.

AANA Mid-Year is a great experience and I look forward to attending future conferences. If I cannot attend a conference to advocate, then I will send someone in my place. In advocacy, there is a part for every CRNA and SRNA to play when it comes to our profession. Lets say the entire profession of Nurse Anesthesia was a person and they needed to be saved from the bottom of a volcano. This task would require three different roles to achieve. A CRNA to physically go into the volcano on a rope made of stylets linked together, another individual to hold this stylet-rope, supporting the first CRNA and lastly, a CRNA who purchased the stylet rope. When it comes to the advocacy of our Nurse Anesthesia profession, where do you see yourself: going down the rope, holding and supporting the rope or paying for the rope?

Lobbying Efforts on Behalf of House Bill 212



Jo Sineath, Christy Dunkelberger, Governor Nathan Deal and Leslie Jeter



State Senator Harold Jackson, Steve Smith, Sarah Phillips and Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle



CRNA Kay Argroves with APRNs lobbying at the Capitol



Wally Phillips, Erica Moore, Kay Argroves and Trish Brunton



Christy Dunkelberger, Leslie Jeter, State Representative Sharon Cooper (Chair of HHS), Jo Sineath and Kay Argroves

www.aana.com/ peerassist.aspx

Helpline Peer Assistance 800.654.5167

Anesthetists in Recovery (AIR) 215.635.0183

Join the GANA for the 1st Annual Georgia Anesthesia Symposium

September 30 – October 2, 2016 JW Marriott Buckhead

C rogram co-chairs Janice Izlar, Rose Synsmir, and Leslie Jeter are planning a fantastic and informative annual meeting for Georgia CRNAs and SRNAs. We hope that you will share in our excitement as we organize and "rebrand" our annual meeting.

The first day of the meeting, Friday, September 30th is a day of professionalism at its best with renowned speakers associated with the AANA. Mary Golinski, CRNA, PhD with NBCRNA, will speak on the value of life long learning for the CRNA. Juan Quintana, CRNA, DNP, in his role as immediate past president of the AANA, has agreed to present two lectures on leadership and business. Juan will be followed by Mark Silberman, JD, Legal Counsel for the AANA. He will be addressing legal issues and concerns for nurse anesthesia practice. John Fetcho, AANA Director of Insurance Services, will present a lecture on what every CRNA needs to know about malpractice insurance. The day of lectures culminates in an interactive panel discussion on the topics of the day. Friday evening's entertainment will be a party at the hotel. Details for the fun event will be announced soon..

Saturday's sessions (October 1) are a hodge podge of anesthesia topics. We begin the day with AANA President Cheryl Nimmo giving the AANA Update and hosting a Town Hall Meeting. The Dan Ebald Memorial Lectures/Student Presentations will follow. The highlight of Saturday's lectures will be a keynote address on patient safety delivered by Kenneth Rothfield, MD, MBA, CPE, on "Lessons Learned from the Death of Joan Rivers."

Also on Saturday will be the GANA Business Meeting during the 11:30 - 12:30 slot slated for Issues Facing CRNAs in Georgia – Legislative, Regulatory, and Business. New to both Friday and Saturday will be a "Lunch and Learn" activity where you can eat lunch, listen to a lecture, and earn a CE credit.

Following lunch Saturday, we have a treat for meeting attendees. Chuck Griffis, CRNA, PhD from California will speak on infection control and AICDs and pacemakers. Chuck is a very entertaining speaker, and we are looking forward to having him visit us in Georgia.

New this year is the State of the Science Oral Poster Presentations by the SRNAs on Saturday afternoon. Also on Saturday afternoon, students will have their own concurrent track on making smooth transitions from classroom to clinical to first job.

On Sunday, October 2, we are pleased to inform you that Maria Hirsh, CRNA, DNAP will be giving two lectures on ultrasound, followed by a three hour hands on ultrasound workshop. Maria is a recognized expert in ultrasound and experienced Georgia CRNAs will be assisting her with the workshop stations. We are pleased to announce that you will be able to register on the GANA web site, and you can tailor the meeting to meet your needs and expectations with an a la carte menu of offerings..

Mark your calendars and secure the time off from work now, September 30 – October 2, 2016! This is going to be a meeting you do not want to miss. Keep checking the website for updated information.



Nominations for the 2016 Rosalie McDonald Award Now Being Accepted

GANA is seeking nominations for a CRNA to receive the 2016 Rosalie McDonald Award. Please nominate a worthy CRNA for this prestigious award. All nominations must be submitted by August 5th to the GANA office. Nominations should be prepared in narrative format and submitted by mail, fax or email to:

GANA, 1832 Highway 54 W. Fayetteville, GA 30214; or facsimile: 770.632.1625; or email: ganaoffice@bellsouth.net.

Rosalie McDonald spearheaded the GANA in 1938. She was the first GANA President, and the 6th AANA President. GANA provides an annual award to an outstanding CRNA who demonstrates leadership and professionalism in nurse anesthesia practice. Be proud of your profession. Honor a fellow CRNA by nominating him or her for their contributions to our profession. The honoree will be presented with the award during the GANA's First Georgia Anesthesia Symposium on October 1, 2016 in Atlanta Georgia.



Amy Morales and husband, Wally Phillips, Emma Autry, Doug Collins' LA Katie Evans, Alana Boling-Aldaco and Alison Herren



Charlie Campbell, Tom Graves' LA Jason Murphy, Ashley Stone, Jim Masiongale, Amy Masiongale, LA Matt Hdge and Whitney Lyles



Frankie Webb Hurst and Alison Herren in Congressman David Scott's office



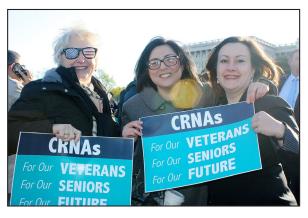
Nathan Lever, Jessica Wooten, Wes Hurt, Alyson Lamb, Jada Lee, Lindsay Anderson, Jonny Lenartz, Rick Allen's LA Katie Hunter, Dr. Amy Masiongale, Dr. Jim Masiongale



GANA group pic in Washington DC at the Renaissance Hotel



Jennifer Simmons, Phillip Knauer, Buddy Carter's LA Chase Conner, Charlie Campbell, Ashley Stone, Whitney Lyles and Kay Argroves



Jo Sineath, Tracy Joiner and Iva Ozkan



Annual lunch outing during visits on Capitol Hill at Tortilla Coast



Alison Herren, David Scott's LA Ashley Osterkamp, Frankie Webb Hurst, Jo Sineath and Dara Edghill



Jennifer Simmons, Jim Masiongale, Austin Scott's LA Mary Dee Beal, Ryan Ussery, Jeremy Webb, Phillip Knauer, Tracy Joiner and Amy Masiongale



Lynn Westmoreland's LAs Tripp McKenney and Mary Christina Riley, and Rohit Avula, SRNA from Georgetown, Iva Ozkan, Kay Argroves and Alison Herren

PR Committee Hard at Work

by Sarah Phillips, CRNA, MSN



e are well into the New Year and the PR Committee has been hard at work planning meetings and events for our members! We ended 2015 with a successful Toy Drive at Church at the Well in Cartersville to benefit Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and the Dominguez family of Lawrenceville. Around 200 toys were collected while attendees enjoyed Zumba, refreshments, blood pressure screenings, and children's activities. We took advantage of CRNA Week in January by reaching out to several news and radio stations across Georgia to increase public awareness about Nurse Anesthetists. Columbus area CRNAs, Shannon Stansell and Carollynn Heath, did an outstanding job in their interviews for an article in the Ledger-Enquirer newspaper in February. Brent Dubois, a Macon CRNA, performed a fantastic live interview on NBC's affiliate WMGT in the middle of February about our profession. Finally, a public service announcement written by the AANA was aired in Atlanta on Talk Radio 640 WGST January 28th – February 6th. A huge THANK YOU to Shannon, Carrolynn, and Brent for their time and contributions! Also during February, GANA held its first regional meeting of the year in Macon, which turned out to be very eventful and productive, and Georgia Public Broadcasting invited GANA back to volunteer on live television, which is always a fun time! Georgia truly has a great team of CRNAs and SRNAs.

Spring is upon us now and to keep the momentum going, several exciting events are planned over the next few months. Saturday, May 21st, GANA will host its 2nd Annual Blood Drive with the American Red Cross in Cumberland Mall, Atlanta. Last year we surpassed our goal of pints of blood collected, so our goal has increased this year! Please donate if you can. You may schedule an appointment on www.redcross.org with the sponsor code CUMBERLAND; however, walk-ins are also welcome. If you cannot donate, drop in to show GANA your support! Our next regional meeting is planned for Saturday, July 16th in Athens, and it will not disappoint! We will be providing an Ultrasound Basics Lecture for Regional Anesthesia and Line Placement, including lunch and a GANA meeting. This meeting will be open to Athens area CRNAs initially, then statewide. Be sure to check your email for more details. Have a great spring!

As always, I welcome any questions, comments, or concerns. If you are interested in any of these events please feel free to email me at sarah8888@ hotmail.com, or the GANA Office ganaoffice@bellsouth.net .



GANA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 18, 2016 GANA Board Meeting – Telephone

May 21, 2016 2nd Annual GANA/Red Cross Blood Drive Cumberland Mall in Atlanta

July 16, 2016 Regional Meeting in Athens We will be providing an Ultrasound Basics Lecture for Regional Anesthesia and Line Placement, including lunch and a GANA meeting

August 27, 2016 GANA Board Meeting Augusta University, Augusta, GA

> September 9-13, 2016 AANA Nurse Anesthesia Annual Congress Washington, D.C.

September 30 – October 2, 2016 1st Annual Georgia Anesthesia Symposium (#GAS2016) Presented by the GANA J.W. Marriott at Lenox, Atlanta, GA

GANA Board Meetings:

The conference calls will be at 8:00 pm and the in-person meetings will be at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise announced. 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.

> To and Fro Publications: November 2016

GANA is sorry to report that **Dr. Shannon Broxton** has resigned her position as President-Elect of the GANA Board for personal reasons. She will be sorely missed. On a happy note, congratulations to her and Erin on the birth of Marshall, Mason and Caselyn! Good luck Shannon! On behalf of the GANA, we wish you the best.



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Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists



BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, May 21, 2016 11am to 4pm

Cumberland Mall – Atrium 1000 Cumberland Mall Atlanta, GA 30339

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All presenting donors will be entered into a raffle to win one of two \$50 Visa gift cards!

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2016 Georgia Legislative Session Update

by Kay Argroves



his was a very exciting and very busy legislative session for our association. Our legislative day on January 27th had a large turn out from members and legislators. The Government Relations Committee was grateful for the support of Augusta University Anesthesia Program. Directors Jim and Amy Masiongale, faculty Shannon Broxton, and students did a great job meeting and visiting their individual legislators. All 60 of their students came up for the proclamation signing and breakfast. They were a great help.

We were delighted to have the Directors of the Eisenhower Army Nurse Anesthesia program attend from Fort Gordon for the first time with five of their students! We hope they will return again, and are looking to plan something in the future at the capitol especially to recognize our military members. Many thanks for the ways you support us all.

Since our legislature functions on a biennial calendar, GANA sponsored HB 212 returned from last year where it left off. HB 212 had passed the House in 2015 and was sitting in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee at the beginning of 2016. So our challenge was to get the bill passed out of this committee and to the floor of the Senate for a vote. HB 212 was introduced to address HB 178, also known as The Pain Management Act of 2013, which restricted our scope of practice working in pain clinics. HB 178 was not intended to restrict our practice, but to rein in those physicians writing excessive pain prescriptions resulting in a ballooning drug addiction problem in GA. The bill mandated licensing of pain clinics. It has created a greater funding stream for the Board of Medical Examiners as all providers wishing to work in a pain clinic must pay a licensing fee to this group. Further, it limits the owners of pain clinics to MD only. This is another further restriction on our trade. Meanwhile, the drug addiction and overdose numbers continue to be problematic. The irony of this bill is that nurse anesthetists are the only providers that must work in a pain clinic in a capacity more restrictive than their current scope, and yet the only ones who do not write pain prescriptions!!

HB 212 did eventually pass the Senate, but with a revised version requiring it to returned to the House for another vote with the changed language. Unfortunately, our bill failed to pass at the 11th hour on the last day of the session after extensive revisions and heavy lobbying against us by the Interventional Pain Physicians and changes made by the Attorney General's Office.

Monty Veazey, our lobbyist, and Christy Dunkelberger, our Executive Director/Legal Counsel, worked tirelessly and did

a terrific job for us all during a very frantic session. Jo Sineath, Steve Smith, Wally Phillips, Annie Thompson and Trish Brunton all made last minute runs to the Capital when called upon. Kathy Mann, Janice Izlar, Julie Jackson and anesthesia student Laura DeBarge all contributed greatly from their home districts.

We are most grateful to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee who were willing to hear our concerns and opinions. HB 212 passed out of this Committee with only one dissenting vote by Senator Cowsert from District 46, Athens. They were awesome! A special thanks to Chair Renee Unterman, and Senators Kirk, Hufstetler, Millar, Watson and Shafer. We are most grateful to the leadership and support of this committee.

Despite more opposition on the Senate floor from Senator Cowsert as well as the Attorney General, HB 212 passed out of the Senate and made its way back to the House for agreement. However, with continued opposition, another amendment was agreed to, but Representative Tom Weldon failed to bring the Bill up for a vote and in time to get back to the Senate, and it died.

Our goal with the Government Relations Committee this year was to have a member present at the Gold Dome every day of the legislative session to have a presence and build coalitions with others. We came very close to having a member present every day, and we continued to build on old and new relationships with others. As this was the second year of a two year cycle in our legislative session, we begin anew with all new bills in 2017.

Remember, this is an election year, and I think it is important for our members to know who is supportive of nurse anesthetist issues and who is not so that members can take this information into consideration when they exercise their right to vote.

Upcoming GANA Board Meetings

The next GANA board meetings will be held May 18th by phone (time TBA) and on August 27th, at Augusta University in Augusta, GA at 10:00 a.m.

If you would like to attend please RSVP to ganaoffice@bellsouth.net or call 770-487-3900. These meetings are open to members and we encourage your participation.

GANA Capitol Day – January 27, 2016



Alyson Lamb and Lindsay Anderson



Ashley Stone, Tracy Joiner, and Jada Lee



Whitney Lyles, Amy Morales, and Jada Lee



Lindsay Anderson, Kyle Calhoun, Emily Impey Ramnarine, Whitney Lyles, and Jada Lee



Philip Knauer, Charlie Campbell, Ryan Ussery, Alison Gunbay, Rohit Avula, and Ashley Stone



Emory School of Nursing Launches DNP, Nurse Anesthesia Program

by Justin Gianniny, Interim Director DNP Nurse Anesthesia Program Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing – Emory University



L he Emory University Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing is launching a DNP Nurse Anesthesia program, beginning fall 2017. Emory's doctoral-level nurse anesthesia program is one of only two programs in the State of Georgia. The 36-month, 86-credit hour, full-time program is designed to provide the solid clinical and academic foundation necessary to produce competent, professional, advanced nurse practitioners in the field of nurse anesthesia who are able to implement and translate existing knowledge into practice and lead care improvements. One unique focus will be to prepare students for both business and practice realities. Students will gain extensive training through clinical sites in both metropolitan Atlanta and rural Georgia. Adding the anesthesia track to our already existing DNP program is in line with the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) requirement that students enter a DNP based program starting in 2022. Our inaugural class size will be 10 students. The first class is expected to enroll in August 2017 pending approval from the COA and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC).

For practicing CRNAs wanting to complete their education and earn the highest clinical degree available in nursing, Emory also offers a hybrid post-master's DNP program. The majority of coursework will be delivered online with three intensive on-campus sessions each semester. This program accepts full and part time students.

CRNAs already provide more than one-half of the anesthetics delivered in the United States each year, enabling both costeffective and high-quality patient care. With the graving of the anesthesia workforce and the increasing demand for services, there will be a growing need for nurse anesthesia professionals - particularly in rural communities and other underserved areas in Georgia that could face significant provider shortages. The demand is expected to grow exponentially over the next decade as the nation's hospitals and health care facilities work to control the rising costs of health care, maintain adequate staffing and accommodate an aging population and the need for more surgeries overall. While, there has been growing interest in nurse anesthesia, the number of CRNAs entering the health care workforce will not be sufficient to offset these factors in the future. The need for building capacity within the nurse anesthetist workforce to safely address these needs has never been greater.

To read more about the Emory University Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing's DNP, Nurse Anesthesia program, visit: Emory.edu/nursing/CRNA.



Peggy O'Barr Gargiulo, CRNA, died on December 16, 2015, after an extended illness. Originally she was from Hartwell, Georgia and practiced anesthesia for 32 years as a staff anesthetist at Atlanta Medical Center (formally Georgia Baptist Hospital). She was the Clinical Coordinator for the Georgia Baptist Hospital School of Nurse Anesthesia from 1983 until the school's closure in 1986.

She is survived by her husband Joseph Gargiulo, a son Michael and a daughter Stephanie.

Contributions to her memory can be made to: Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, Office of Gift Records, Emory University, 1762 Clifton Rd. NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30322.

GPB-TV Telethon 2/27/16



Angie Ohanu, Aleshia Edwards and Solopian Koipaton



They love SRNAs and CRNAs at Georgia Public Broadcasting!

From the Executive Director

(continued from page 2)

Advocacy

As stated above, GANA worked diligently to advocate for its members during the 2016 session of the Georgia General Assembly. The GANA GRC Committee under the direction of Chair, Kay Argroves, and Board members met with individual members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee to clarify and explain the restriction imposed on CRNA practice by the Pain Management Clinic Act. Our lobbyist worked with the leadership to pave a smooth path for HB 212 to pass through in its various phases. Constituents met with their legislators to emphasize the importance of the Bill's passage. The GANA-PAC solicited contributions from members to ensure GANA-PAC funds were available for appropriate donations to legislators. Even though HB 212 did not make it, all of the hard work was not in vain. The groundwork has been lain for continued future efforts to restore CRNAs' scope of practice in pain management clinics.

GANA Annual Meeting

As you can see under the report on the Georgia Anesthesia Symposium, GANA is completely reorganizing and rebranding the annual meeting. Please see the #GAS2016 article in this edition for the details. The program Co-Chairs, Janice Izlar, Leslie Jeter and Rose Synsmir have exciting plans for our 1st Annual Georgia Anesthesia Symposium, a/k/a #GAS2016. Mark your calendars and plan to attend on September 30 – October 2, 2016, at the JW Marriott Buckhead.

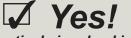
The GANA strategic plan is discussed and updated at all GANA Board meetings.



GANA Toy Drive 12/19/15 in Cartersville benefiting local families and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

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I want to be actively involved in the GANA!

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Address:					
Interests – Chec. Committees:		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



John Ohanu, Jo Sineath and Kay Argroves



John Ohanu, Tom Price's LA Eric Miranda, Emily Impey, Alison Gunbay, and Steve Smith



Jeremy Webb, Ryan Ussery, Congressman Loudermilk's LA Susannah Johnston, LA Colin Carr, Steve Smith and Kyle Calhoun



Lisa Galletta, April Culler, Kyle Calhoun, Amber Toulson, Jody Hice's LAs Tim Reitz and Caryn Hamner, SRNA from Georgetown and Kay Argroves



Alison Herren and Iva Ozkan going over the schedule



Kay Argroves, Steve Smith, Alison Herren and Jo Sineath at the AANA CRNA-PAC "Bootleggers Ball"

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AANA President Juan Quintana with Georgia SRNAs



Dara Edghill, Lisa Galletta, Alison Gunbay, Sanford Bishop's LA Jonathan Halpern, Rohit Avula and Steve Smith



Debra Barber, candidate for AANA VP – with SRNA Shannon Scolly and Steve Smith



Tracy Joiner, Dara Edghill-Odle, Dr. Amy Masiongale, Back row: Kyle Calhoun, Jeremy Webb Jonny Lenartz



Kay Argroves and Alison Herren



Iva Ozkan, Steve Smith, Jo Sineath and Wally Phillips



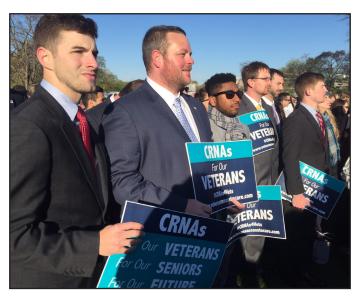
Jeremy Webb, Kyle Calhoun, Wes Hurt, Rohit Avula, Nathan Lever, Jonny Lenartz, Ryan Ussery, Natalie House



Alana Boling-Aldaco, Natalie House, Congressman Woodall's LA Janet Rossi, Emma Autry, Amy Morales and Steve Smith



Tracy Joiner, John Ohanu, Dara Odle-Edghill and Steve Smith



Philip Knauer, Jeremy Webb, Rohit Avula, Jonny Lenartz, Nathan Lever, Ryan Ussery



on Facebook in the upper home page and then "Like Us" on Facebook!

Shadow a CRNA

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

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Nurse Practitioner Other (specif	y) (Mandatory for a	all donations greater than \$100)		
Are you interested in lobbying with the GANA during the 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				
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