

OFF THE CUFF

A publication of the Northwest Peri Anesthesia Nurses Association



Northwest PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association

The President's Letter

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“ The Association exists to promote quality and cost effective care for patients, their families, and the community through public and professional education, research, and standards of practice”. (NPANA Mission Statement)

As I sit here before my computer I find myself contemplating the journey I, we, are about to take together. Several emotions and words are flowing through my mind. Such as, WOW, scary, overwhelming etc. As I think of those words it reminds me of the same thoughts that went through my head while standing in line to ride the California Screamer at California Adventure. When the ride was over thoughts such as: exciting, cool and I'm so glad I did it, let's do it again, went through my head. That ride only took 50 seconds of my life as pointed out by the 9 year old standing in front of me in line. This adventure will just take several more 50 seconds of my life but I think that the journey will be as exciting as the amusement ride was. So let us get started on our journey and hopefully we will all have exciting stories to tell at the end of our year together.

My presidency started at the NPANA fall conference this past October in Bend, Oregon. I hope that all of you that attended learned a lot. The conference appeared to be a great success. I received many positive comments, not only in person, but through friends of mine who attended that were given positive comments by you the attendees, as well as from the evaluations. I want to thank the planning committee of Holly Hunt, Chris Schild, Lynn Gibert, Bonnie Ruby and myself. You all were great to work with. Thank you for also helping to relax while do-

ing the functions that I had to do, even if you didn't know you were helping. Thanks also to the staff at the Bend Riverhouse for their excellent care of us. While at the conference we said good-bye to Arlene Kozicki as past-president. Thanks for all the hard work that you did to get NPANA where it is now. We welcomed to the board, Ginny Longo, our new treasurer. Know that we are here to support you throughout your term. Congratulations to Pat Moffett, our new vice president/president elect. I will be here for you to ask questions as you move into being the president and on to being the past president. I am glad to still have on the board Rebecca Ettien, secretary and Holly Hunt, education coordinator. You two are such assets to the board. Special thanks to Jim Lehn, who turned over his presidency to me as he moved on to be our past president. It is amazing all that you accomplished through out your term. You have left me some big shoes to fill. I hope that I can do my best to live up the standard that you have set.

During the conference a few awards were given out. Congratulations to all the winners. Sheri Bowell received the Jean Sutton Award, 1 year ASPAN/NPANA dues and a \$500 scholarship. Leslie Thompson received Recruiter of the Year, 1 year dues for ASPAN/NPANA. Rebecca Ettien received the Ruth Foster Award, 1 year dues for ASPAN/NPANA. Lucky drawing winners were Michael Clark, 1 year dues for ASPAN/NPANA.

October, 2008

From the Desk of the Immediate Past President:

I was pleased to pass the gavel to our new President, Cheryl Gettelfinger RN, BS, CAPA at the Fall Conference in Bend, Oregon on October 4th. The year I served as your President was fulfilling and rewarding and offered many challenges. The Board looked at the fiduciary responsibility we have toward you, the members of NPANA. We discussed at length the impact the economy is having on today's way of doing things and have proposed a few changes in the 'status quo' of how NPANA functions. We addressed expenses and how to continue NPANA's mission to provide for the members in the arena of education scholarships. What we have on the table for continued work by the new Board of Directors, are several considerations. 1. Eliminating the spring conference, in favor of ASPAN sponsored conferences. These can be hosted in many locations which will allow for attendance without incurring travel or accommodation expenses. This option allows for increasing our education scholarships to assist our members with affordable education hours required for certification. 2. Teleconferencing for the Board eliminates the expense of bringing the Board together to deal with business issues of NPANA. NPANA is unique in that it is comprised of five states. Our Board members are spread far and wide. Teleconferencing will allow us more meetings, should they be needed, and will save several thousands of dollars per board meeting. Again, this will allow for further increases to the scholarship fund. 3. Paperless communication and 21st century technology to reach members in an affordable manner. We have begun by incorporating our news letter, "Off the Cuff", into the NPANA Web page. We will also be considering online voting. As your Immediate Past President, my duties are: to oversee the webpage; work with the editor of the newsletter; seek candidates for office and manage the voting process for those candidates. I have taken upon myself the challenge facing NPANA to solicit candidates for the offices of Secretary and Vice President which will be the offices needing replacement next year. I cannot encourage strongly enough, the benefit of serving as a Board Member of NPANA. It affords the opportunity to be involved in your profession, to get to network with other PeriAnesthesia Nurses, to have a say in which direction NPANA will go and to help insure it reaches that destination. I also am committed to securing a workable method of

online voting. The return on the investment of over 700 ballots mailed netted us 162 responses for this year's election. I believe we can disseminate the candidate's bios and information, through the webpage, and see a greater response by the members given this method. Again I want to thank the members of the 2007-2008 Board of Directors for their support, assistance, and commitment to me and you.

James Lehn RN, CAPA
Immediate Past President, NPANA



CERTIFICATION

Beginning in April 2009, the CPAN and CAPA exams will be computer based exams instead of paper and pencil. The spring testing window is scheduled for April 6 through May 16, 2009 with the application window beginning on January 26, 2009. For more information visit www.cpancapa.org.

ABPANC's Vision statement: Recognizing and respecting the unequalled excellence in the mark of CPAN and CAPA credential, Peri Anesthesia nurses will seek it, managers will require it, employers will support it and the Public will demand it.

What is Certification?

According to ABPANC, Certification, as defined and adopted by the National Specialty Nursing Certifying Organization and used by ABPANC, is formal recognition of the specialized knowledge, skills, and experience demonstrated by the achievement of standards identified by a nursing specialty to promote optimal health outcomes.

We encourage members to submit articles of interest for publication in this news letter. Please email or call any board member.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER-SUMMER/FALL, 2008

Nancy O'Malley, MA RN CPAN CAPA

Olympic Gold—what does it represent? We all know---years of hard work, focus, training, exercise, self-discipline, self-denial to earn the admiration of the world. Of all the athletes that we have observed over the years, only a few are easily recalled. But the work that WE do lasts for many years and affects many, many lives. We may not be as well known as the Olympians, but we all earn “Olympic Gold” every day that we care for our patients providing them with safe, compassionate care.

ASPAN has been the Gold Organization for perianesthesia nursing practice for well over a quarter of a century! Some of our accomplishments have been individually achieved but most have been through team efforts. So many of our committees, Strategic Work Teams, and Specialty Practice Groups are working on clinical practice topics, patient safety issues, research, evidence based practice, advocacy, specialty education, membership, and many other areas. We have an opportunity for you to join a team that always earns GOLD!

ASPAN UPDATES

ASPAN's Website will have a new look soon thanks to Joni Brady and team!

ASPAN is developing a recognition program for component websites similar to the Newsletter Awards currently recognized at National Conference.

ASPAN is looking at “going GREEN” in several areas to reduce costs and waste. I have thick books for all 19 National Conferences that contain the presentations for all speakers that I have hardly looked once the conferences were over. Many professional associations have already instituted this approach and have found it to be successful.

ASPAN is also finding ways to help components, ASPAN Committees, and Board members communicate without always having to travel to meet. The Northwest PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association just had a productive Board meeting via a conference call. We know that face-to-face is best for some meetings but much work could be done without traveling.

ASPAN is collaborating with other professional organization on the Council on Surgical and Perioperative Safety to identify practices that will provide safer surgical and procedural experiences for our patients.

ASPAN recently met with leaders from the Interventional Radiology Nurses; Association of Women's Health, Obstetrical and Neonatal Nurses; Interventional Cardiology Nurses, Gastrointestinal Nurses; and Pain Nurses to identify ways to promote patient safety specifically in the pre and post procedural areas.

ASPAN's Governmental Affairs Committee and Advocacy Committees are busy planning awesome opportunities for attendees to the Washington, DC National Conference next spring. There will be some very special opportunities, so watch for the brochure late this fall.

ASPAN's Masters Degree SPG is developing an online Master's Degree or Advanced Practice Certificate in PeriAnesthesia Nursing. Hopefully, that will be available next year.

ASPAN's Research and Evidence Based Practice Committees have grown by leaps and bounds! Thirteen novice researchers participated in the Research at National Conference. They will be mentored throughout the year so that we can expand our resources for providing evidence-based practice for perianesthesia nursing practice.

WHICH GOLD TEAM DO YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF?

Make sure you watch for the deadlines for applying to be on an ASPAN Committee by October 31, 2008. The application is under the Members tab on the ASPAN Website.

NPANA Board of Directors

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ASPAN Region 1 Director

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Save the Date

National Conference

April 19-23, 2009
ASPAN 28th National Conference
Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center
Washington, DC Area

Future National Conferences

New Orleans, Louisiana
April 18-22, 2010

Seattle, Washington
April 3-7, 2011



Important Web Sites

Please visit these web sites

www.npana.org
www.aspan.org
www.cpancapa.org

Links at these web sites can be used to find other web sites that may be of useful to members on NPANA.



We encourage members to submit articles of interest for publication in this newsletter. Please email or call any board member.

Congratulations to Our New Certified Nurses
May 2008

CPAN

CAPA

Alaska
Carolyn Aust
Terri Donaldson
Barbara Sullivan
Joyce Thompson

Arica Carpenter
Kathleen Gillen
Kathryn Morgan
Ranee Priboski

Idaho
Sally Cutter

Leslie Cresap
Luann Townsend

Montana
Cynthia Bumgardner
Linda Franklin

Catherine Darragh
Sonya Glaus
Michelle Polson
Sallie Walter

Oregon
Lisa Bearup
Teresa Everts
Susan Greenup
Stephanie Matteson
Wynter Spencer
Michelle Zenith

Sara Burrell
Doris Patten
Nancy Simmons
Shelly Tinner
Annette Valdez

Washington
Denise Comptom
Maureen Cox
Ryangja De Sa Silva
Debra Everett
Jane Fantoni
Brian Green
Lynne Henning
Candice Hicks
Sarah Hogenson
Dori Nelmark
Dolores Rinehart
Hannah Sullivan
Catherine Tanaka
Nancy Wilder

Jamie Curtis
Dean Dridgeon
Theresa Huschka
Kim Robbins
Sylvia Smith
Anita Stuart



Tamara Orland, \$500 dollars to use for education at an upcoming ASPAN or NPANA conference. This year we were able to give a stethoscope that was donated by Beevers MFG (who carries Ren-Lor stethoscopes) to a recently certified nurse, either as a CAPA or a CPAN. Congratulations Juanita.

One of the goals of the board is to promote education. I would like to congratulate all of you are certified in CAPA or CPAN. Education is important to all us in our profession. Continue to keep up your certifications and go and encourage your fellow nurses to go out and get certified. Remember to check the website for upcoming educational offerings. Also, if you know of some in your area let Jim know so he can get it on the website so we all can share. Scholarships are available for the educational offerings and for the certification test, go to the website for applications. Take advantage of them. One of the other goals of the board is trying to go green. This is also a goal of ASPAN as well. Those of you who attended the fall conference saw that we cut down on the size of the syllabus to prevent paper waste. The board is also cutting down on the amount of travel that we do. With Jim's help we are going to start doing our board meetings by conference calls as much as possible, saving both the environment and finances.

Now begins our journey. Let's hope it's a great ride. There may be some ups and downs but I haven't found a roller coaster that I didn't like. So come along with me and enjoy.

Cheryl Gettelfinger
NPANA President



Progress Notes from the Editors Desk

As you can see, I am again changing the format for "Off the Cuff" to try and achieve a more professional look to our newsletter. I have only received feedback from people that I ask, "How do you like the look of the newsletter." They always say that it is great. I sometimes get the feeling that they are afraid to critique my efforts for fear that I might say, "If you don't like it then do it yourself." Sometimes when you shout in the dark you get no response. Please email me with suggestion or ideas that you would like to see as I don't do this newsletter for myself but you the members of NPANA.

The deadlines for submission of articles to "Off the Cuff" are February 10th for the Winter edition, June 10th for the Spring/Summer edition, and October 10th for the Fall edition. As always we encourage our members to submit articles, especially those involving research. I would like to express my deepest thanks to Vicki Baylock, BSN, RN, CPAN and her team for their article on research. Judy Evans BSN, RN-C, CPAN



Government Affairs

The National Nursing Network Organization is proposing that leadership provided and Office on the National Nurse who would strengthen efforts by nurses in every community to assist a nationwide shift to prevention to yield improved health outcomes. Congress would designate the existing Chief Nurse Office of the US Public Health Service be elevated to a full time position within the Office of the Surgeon General and be officially titled the National Nurse for Prevention. What would the National Nurse do. She would support the Surgeon General’s Focus on Prevention, develop nurses as community health advocates, and promote professional nursing. Why is an Office of the National Nurse Needed? To slow the growing epidemics of preventable diseases, promote health awareness, increase health literacy, and reduce health disparities, to promote health careers and increase resources and to enhance visibility and public recognition of nursing.

Source is from The National Nurse , nationalnurse.org.

Highlights of Selected Federal Legislation Impacting the Nursing Shortage from Peter Reincke, Center to Champion Nursing In America June 20, 2008

Bill number and Title	Major Features of Bill	Bill Status
HR 1585. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008	The Senate version of this bill contained an amendment which would permit active duty nurses to serve two years in active service on the faculty of a nursing school. It would also encourage retiring nurses to become nurse educators	<i>While this provision was not included in a final 2008 law, its Sponsor is exploring other possible ways to get it enacted into law.</i>
H.R. 772/S. 446 The Nurse Education, Expansion and Development (NEED) Act.	Provides capitation and formula Grants to nursing schools for hiring and retaining faculty, increasing capacity through improved equipment, Lab capacity, improving facilities and for the recruitment of students	<i>Pending before the Senate HELP and the House Energy and Commerce Committees.</i>
S. 1628. The Nurse Faculty and Physical Therapist Act.	Provides grants to nursing schools to hire and retain faculty, create distance learning programs in rural areas, increase enrollment in and graduation from doctoral programs and assist recent graduates in becoming nurse faculty.	<i>Pending before the Senate HELP Committee.</i>
H.R. 2621 The Teacher And Nurse Support Act	Expands loan forgiveness programs under the Higher Education Act to a maximum of \$17,500 over five years for nurses who agree to work fulltime in a clinical setting or as faculty.	<i>Pending before the House Education and Labor Committee</i>

NPANA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
 October 3, 2008
 Bend Riverhouse Conference Room
 Bend, Oregon

Present October 3, 2008: Jim Lehn, *President*; Cheryl Gettelfinger, *Vice President*; Arlene Kozicki, *Immediate Past-president*; Patrice Moffett, *Treasurer*; Rebecca Ettien, *Secretary*; Holly Hunt, *Education Coordinator*; Virginia Longo, *Treasurer Elect*.

0845: Meeting called to order by Jim Lehn. Minutes of BOD meeting March 14, 2008, General Meeting March 15, 2008 and BOD Meeting conference call August 2, 2008, were reviewed and approved as written.

Board of Directors Reports

Secretary (Rebecca Ettien)

- NPANA membership is 704. An increase of 4 members since last reported at the March 14, 2008 BOD meeting.
- A sample letter was handed out that will begin being sent to members who have let their ASPAN/NPANA membership has expire.

Treasurer (Patrice Moffett)

March 14,
2008

Checking	28,678.56
Savings	5,638.30
CD A	8,164.53
CD D	11,033.33
Total	53,514.72

September 30,
2008

Checking	41,145.30
Savings	5,666.56
CD A	7,824.10
CD D	10,452.35
Total	65,088.31

- These balances do not reflect expenses incurred for this board meeting or the fall conference.
- Mileage will be paid at a rate of \$.50 per mile.
- Districts are reminded that a membership list must be sent to the treasurer when requesting reimbursement not just the number of members.

Vice President (Cheryl Gettelfinger)

- \$3500.00 in scholarships has been paid out. There is a \$500.00 scholarship for the fall conference pending and two (2) CAPA/CPAN test reimbursements pending.
- A contract has been made with the Riverhaus in Bend, Oregon, for the fall conference. The dates are October 3, 4 and 5, 2008. There is already a commitment from one speaker and interest from some vendors.

Immediate Past-president (Arlene Kozicki)

- Working with the Webmaster (Ashley Bowell) has been going well. This requires good communication to keep him on track.
- No receipt of any future board position "Willingness to Serve" forms.
- An orientation CD designed to familiarize newly elected board members to NPANA was completed by Arlene Kozicki and presented to Virginia Longo.
- The question was raised if each board member needs their own computer. The discussion in-

cluded new to simplify information and to reduce paper usage as well as decrease burden of carrying the large portfolio now used. A motion was made to buy the treasurer a new computer with the appropriate accounting software added (currently Quicken) and the treasurer's former computer given to the Immediate Past-president. Motion passed.

Education Coordinator (Holly Hunt)

- For future conferences, one of the committee members needs to be someone living in the community where the conference is being held that also has good rapport with any potential speakers. This will assist the education coordinator with getting the appropriate information from the speaker needed to obtain approval of the content for awarding CEU's.

President (Jim Lehn)

- New Business

New Business

- ASPAN Spring Seminars will be held in each state in lieu of an NPANA spring conference. A tentative schedule is as follows:
 - ☐ March 7, 2009 at the Embassy Suites in Tukwila, Washington. The topic will be "Complexities and challenges of peri-anesthesia nurses."
 - ☐ March 2009 in Missoula, Montana. The topic will be caring for the pediatric peri-anesthesia patient.
 - ☐ May 2009 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The

topic will be "Complexities and challenges of peri-anesthesia nurses."

- ☐ May 2009 in Anchorage, Alaska. Conference to be announced.
- ☐ These conferences require a minimum of 25 participants.
- ☐ The Greater Portland District will continue to host two (2) half day breakfast conferences twice a year.
- ☐ Jim Lehn will supply the webmaster with information for the NPANA web-site.
- ☐ Holly Hunt will coordinate the dates so there are no conflicts.
- Jim Lehn made a motion to begin a practice of using as needed teleconferencing to conduct NPANA business. The discussion was made that since there will no longer be a spring conference and the expense of bringing everyone to a January BOD meeting is becoming quite costly, teleconferencing presents a cost-effective and more resource responsible way to conduct business.
 - ☐ Synchron Services, the same service ASPAN uses for their teleconferencing, will give us a rate of \$.08 per minute, making a ninety (90) minute meeting cost about \$44.00. And they are offering to set up the service for NPANA at no charge. Synchron supplies a number to call and passwords to login to the conference call. The charge is per phone line for each participant. There is also the option for anyone to listen only for no additional cost.
 - ☐ The NPANA President will coordinate the date for the conference call.
 - ☐ Motion passed.
- In an effort to reduce costs and decrease waste, a

motion was made to assess the feasibility to elect future board of directors using online voting. It was discussed that other components are going to online voting (RMPANA was mentioned) and Arlene Kozicki is under the impression that the webmaster could set up the platform. If a successful platform is created the general membership present at the 2009 fall conference in Missoula, Montana, will be asked to vote to change bylaw 8.0 to read that elections will take place electronically rather than through the mail as is currently the process. Motion passed.

- Suggestions were requested for making the online newsletter, “*Off the Cuff*,” less “cumbersome.”

- ☐ Pages need to contain pertinent information. Education and research topics could be included.

- ☐ Rebecca Ettien and Arlene Kozicki created a questionnaire to be handed out at this fall conference for members to give feedback about the website, newsletter, and for future conference topics.

- Rebecca Ettien discussed combining the Secretary and Treasurer positions. Discussion included the information that the duties for the secretary would be increasing with the addition of teleconferencing and sending member expiration notifications. No motion was made to change the structure of the board.
- Holly Hunt discussed that vendor booths must be in a completely different location than where the education is being held at conferences. The idea was discussed that we change the fee we charge vendors (currently \$200.00.) Instead of giving vendors a booth space have them sponsor the wine and cheese event through a donation and then post an acknowledgement at the social event thanking them for their contribution.
- The BOD conducted a line item review of the

budget for 2009. The budget was reviewed and revised. The board will review and discuss the budget at a teleconference meeting, tentatively, December 15, 2008. Approval will be made and submitted for the budget beginning January 1, 2009.

- Patrice Moffett tutored Treasure-elect Virginia Longo with some of her future duties as treasurer.

1730: Meeting adjourned by Jim Lehn.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Ettien

NPANA Secretary



NPANA General Body Meeting Minutes
 October 4, 2008
 The Riverhouse Convention Center
 Bend, Oregon

Present October 4, 2008: Jim Lehn, *President*; Cheryl Gettelfinger, *Vice President*; Arlene Kozicki, *Immediate Past President*; Patrice Moffett, *Treasurer*; Rebecca Ettien, *Secretary*; Holly Hunt, *Education Coordinator* and registered conference attendees.

1222: Meeting called to order by Jim Lehn.

Board of Directors Reports

Education Coordinator (Holly Hunt)

- Announced that in place of the spring NPANA conference, each state will host a seminar presented by ASPAN. In March, Missoula, Montana will host a seminar on caring for the pediatric patient. In May, A seminar titled “Complexities and challenges of peri-anesthesia nurses” will be held in March in Tukwila, Washington and in May in Coeur D’Alene, Idaho in May. Information will be posted on the NPANA and ASPAN websites.

Vice President (Cheryl Gettelfinger)

- The Greater Portland District will continue to offer a half day breakfast conference twice a year.
- NPANA has paid out \$3000.00 in scholarships with another \$1000.00 in scholarships pending. There is still scholarship money available for assistance with certification and the National conference.

Immediate Past President (Arlene Kozicki)

- Members are encouraged to run for upcoming 2009 Board of Director positions.
- The Immediate Past President is responsible for helping maintain accurate and current information on the NPANA website. Members are encouraged to participate in the website’s quality by submitting pertinent pictures, relevant articles and suggestions for improving the website and the online newsletter, “*Off the Cuff.*”

Treasurer (Patrice Moffett)

Balance as of September 30, 2008

Checking	41,145.30
Savings	5,666.56
CD A	7,824.10
CD D	10,452.35
Total	65,088.31

- These balances do not reflect expenses incurred at the 2008 fall conference.

Secretary (Rebecca Ettien)

- As of September NPANA membership is 704 members. An increase of 4 members since last reported March 15, 2008, at the General Body Meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska.

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NPANA General Body Meeting Minutes
 October 4, 2008
 The Riverhouse Convention Center
 Bend, Oregon

President (Jim Lehn)

- Members were encouraged to submit a “Willingness to Serve” form for the Vice President and Secretary board member positions that will be available in 2009.
- The motion was made to change Bylaw 8.5 to read that the swearing in of new Board members take place at the General Body Meeting at the annual fall conference instead of at the January Board of Directors’ meeting. It was discussed that for the travel expense of sending one person to a January Board of Directors’ meeting the board could conduct 12 teleconference meetings a year. This leads to a significant financial savings. It was also discussed that the scholarship award had been increased from \$350.00 to \$500.00 per scholarship and that the budgeted scholarship money was raised from \$5000.00 this year to \$7000.00 for 2009. Maria Bell seconded the motion and the general body voted in favor. Motion passed.
- Presentation of the following awards:
 Recruiter of the Year: Leslie Thomason RN.

One year of dues for ASPAN/NPANA.

Ruth Foster Award: Rebecca Ettien BSN, CAPA. One year of dues for ASPAN/NPANA.

Jean Sutton Service Award: Sheri Bowell RN, CAPA. One year of dues for ASPAN/NPANA and \$500.00 for education.

Plaque awarded to Arlene Kozicki RN, CPAN, recognizing five (5) years of service as an NPANA Board member from 2003 to 2008.

Two (2) years as Secretary followed by one (1) year each as Vice-president, President and Immediate Past-president.

Plaque awarded to Patrice Moffett RN, CAPA, CPAN, in recognition of two (2) years of service As Treasurer of NPANA from 2006 to 2008.

- In an effort to reduce costs and decrease waste, an effort will be made to create a way to vote online for the election of board members. If a way is created, members present at the 2009 fall conference in Missoula, Montana will be asked to vote to change bylaw 8.0 to read that elections will take place electronically rather than through the mail as is currently the process.
- The following members were sworn into office by Jim Lehn RN, CAPA:

Virginia Longo RN, CAPA to the office of Treasurer.

Patrice Moffett RN, CAPA, CPAN to the office of Vice-president/President-elect.

Cheryl Gettelfinger RN, BS, CAPA to the office of President.

1245: Meeting adjourned by Jim Lehn.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Ettien BSN, CAPA

The fall conference was a great success! The location was lovely, the facilities were extra nice. The conference ran like a clock. Our attendees were pleased with the topics and speakers. Some wondered if we only chose good looking speakers! Some of the comments on the evaluations suggested that we have more PACU related topics.

From the Desk of Holly Hunt Education Coordinator

Introducing the new Board of Directors



Rebecca Ettien, Secretary, Cheryl Gettelfinger, President, James (Jim) Lehn, Past President, Holly Hunt, Education Coordinator, Ginny Longo, Treasurer, and Patrice (Pat) Moffett, Vice President/President Elect.



NPANA members at the Fall Conference in Bend, Oregon at the Bend Riverhouse, Bend, Oregon, October, 2008.

THE PERFECT STORM?

The ups and downs of doing a research project

The storm began in July of 2005. Nine brains got together to choose a topic we often encounter in PACU.....pulse oximetry on the wild, the clammy and the vasoconstricted. Great. We'll run with it! Oh, but we can't. First, we had to battle the completion of the IRB testing. In a word...fun. What could possibly top that?

Having felt an accomplishment with just getting the right words for the title, we knew our journey had just begun. Article reviews, what's in- what's out, who's in-who's out and the appropriate use of the words "descriptive statistics" and "method-comparison design"...huh? No worries, we have Jen Leger. No, we don't. Jen was being pulled in 20 different directions and we had a hard time getting together. We were now out to sea, no GPS.

Then along came our Mentor, Christine Schulman. Yes! We were now back in action! We obtained the IRB's approval, noting that we did need to consent our patients. Not an issue. My first assignment:the patient doesn't speak English. Perfect. Not in the plan.

November of 2007, our manuscript was submitted to JoPAN and they assigned us a number! Were we really just in the eye of the storm? It seems serene.....Then more good news, our poster was accepted for oral presentation at the Seattle Nursing Research Conference in Jan. 2008. Yeehaw!.....Oral?...

Come December we were informed of some needed minor revisions in our abstract. Don't panic, they said "minor". We knew we had not only Christine to help out, but also the talented Marianne Chulay. Whew!

In January of 2008, our abstract was accepted for poster presentation at ASPAN's 27th National Conference in May 2008. Nice. We can be Vanna White and point to our masterpiece!

By the end of February, our revised manuscript was sent for reconsideration, but not without encountering technical difficulties with the editing program. Well of course. No surprise there! Even the computer savvy, needed more savvy.

In June of this year, our unit received the annual nursing research award. Wow. Didn't expect that! Finally, July 13, 2008, we received notice from JoPAN that our paper was accepted for publication in late 2008, early 2009.

Now we're ridin' the wave.....

Vicki Blaylock, BSN, RN, CPAN

With team members: Penny Mclain

Ruth Pettit

Mary Brinkman

Stephanie Matteson

Willy Van Schijndel

Sheri Watson

Pam Newland

Sharon Carver



Letter From Vice-President, President-Elect

I look forward to this coming year and the privilege I have to serve on the NPANA Board and to serve our members. I have two years of experience serving as Treasurer for NPANA. I have been able to meet many of our members and share stories and experiences.

I remember thinking that it would be impossible for me to be active in ASPAN and our component by serving on the Board. I thought that "those people" on the Board were extra smart and talented.

Arlene Kozicki asked me if I would be interested in running for office in 2006. She gave me encouragement and had confidence in my ability to do the job. That made all the difference in the world to me. I thank her for that.

I have enjoyed working with our Board members and have learned much about our great component. I look forward to continue my learning process and to serving our members.

We have scholarships and certification reimbursements available. For more information on the scholarship and certification reimbursements, please view NPANA's web site. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me.

Patrice Moffett
Vice-President/President-Elect