

OFF THE CUFF

A publication of the Northwest Peri Anesthesia Nurses Association



Northwest Perianesthesia Nurses Association

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The Presidents Letter

Cheryl Gettelfinger, RN, CAPA, President NPANA

Hello NPANA Members,

Well, spring is almost here. I know that I, for one, am ready for some sun and warmer weather. This means it's time for another newsletter.

Remember to check the website for upcoming conferences. Just to mention a few. On March 7, 2009 NPANA-Greater Portland District will be putting on a half day conference featuring Marti Moore.

Her topic is "Patient Safety: One Conversation at a Time or How to have the Right Conversation at the Right Time". The topic is based on the Crucial Conversations classes that I'm sure many of you have heard about. If interested in attending and can't find anything on the website or didn't receive a flyer feel free to contact me at cagettelfinger@aol.com.

On May 2, 2009 ASPAN's presenting a conference in Federal Way, (Seattle), Washington. The topic of this conference is "Complexities and Challenges of Perianesthesia Nursing: Across the Ambulatory and Peri-anesthesia Continuum". The speaker at this conference is Denise O'Brien. To sign up for this conference go to the link: Complexities & Challenges of Perianesthesia Nursing Seminar on the ASPAN website. The Fall NPANA Conference will be held September 26 and 27, 2009, in Missoula Montana. We will get

out more information as we get closer to the dates. Again, remember to go to the ASPAN and NPANA websites for more conference opportunities.

The National Conference is quickly approaching. The dates are April 19-23, 2009. It is being held at the Gaylord National in Washington D.C. For those of you who are planning on attending please stop by the NPANA table during component night, which is Sunday night. I'm not sure where our table will be located until the day of the happening. It seems like the last couple of years we have been located to the back of the room, usually on the right hand side of the room. Please stop by and introduce yourself to the NPANA Board of Directors. We would love to meet you all. If, you already know us please stop by and just say hi. We love to see all our old friends. We are also talking about having a lunch get together event on Tuesday; so that we can all meet and talk about what is new in your area of the component. We will post information on the communication board, usually located by the registration booth, as to time and location of the lunch. Also, if you are planning on attending, ASPAN is still looking for members to assist with registering attendees of the conference as well as hostesses to introduce the speakers and be ticket takers at the doors for the

"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)

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Save the Date

Patient Safety: One Conversation at a Time-Or How to Have the
 Right Conversation at the Right Time
 March 7, 2009
 Clackamas, OR
 Monarch Hotel and Convention Conference Center

Pediatrics: Little Bodies, Big Differences
 March 28, 2009
 Missoula, MT

Complexities and Challenges of Perianesthesia Nursing:
 Across the Ambulatory and Perianesthesia Continuum
 May 2, 2009
 Federal Way, WA

Foundations of Perianesthesia Practice
 Pediatrics: little Bodies, Big Differences
 May 16-17, 2009
 Juneau, Alaska
 Bartlett Regional Hospital

NPANA Fall Conference
 September 26-27, 2009
 Missoula, MT

National Conference
 April 19-23, 2009

ASPAN 28th National Conference
 Gaylord National Resort and Con-
 vention 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 use to members
 of NPANA.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER-FALL/WINTER, 2008

Nancy O'Malley, MA RN CPAN CAPA

The year 2008 has been a very full one! I attended conferences in PANAC, PANANM, NPANA, RMPANA, NevPANA, and HIPAN and have met many wonderful nurses who share my passion for perianesthesia nursing and our patients. My dream for Region I is that all of our components will feel connected to each other, share ideas, support each other, and collaborate to provide the best education and net-working opportunities for our members. Your Region I leaders are exceeding my dreams! They are incredible and they are **VOLUNTEERS!!**

I just returned from ASPAN's mid-year Board of Directors meeting and want to share some of this information with you. Hopefully, by the time you get this, the new **ASPAN WEBSITE** will be up and running. It will be easier to navigate and offer many new links while providing our members with special areas to link to JoPAN and Breathline as well as other resources for you. We will be **GOING GREEN** and are looking into all the ways we can do this, including National Conference, Breathline, and newsletters. Access to your **Specialty Practice Groups (SPGs)** will be through the website. The **Clinical Practice Committee** will continue to answer questions from members and non-members and new FAQs will be posted. The **ASPAN Forums** where members can post questions for discussion will still be available. The **Governmental Affairs Primer** and the **Research Primer** will be available to members online.

During **PeriAnesthesia Nurses Awareness Week (PANAW)** and for a few weeks after, free contact hours courses will again be available through the website. The **RN Competency-Based Orientation** should be available in early 2009. Work is continuing to develop a **Master's level course or certificate** in perianesthesia nursing. The **Education Committee** is looking at developing both public as well as nurse-oriented education on the website. New educational seminars are being developed and will be presented across the country. The **Safety Committee** is working to publish a "Safety Link" and a Surgical Safety Kit" on the ASPAN website. The **PeriAnesthesia Data Elements Committee (PDE)** plans to showcase their final product at National Conference, 2009.

The **Research Committee** is beginning to find ways to incorporate our members in actually participating in research in our hospitals. I do not know if you saw an article indicating the *perioperative* nurses (OR and PACU combined!) had the lowest job satisfaction ratings when compared to others in the nursing profession. I just do not believe that and neither does your leadership! So our Research Committee is going to take a look at that just for *perianesthesia* nurses. You may be asked to participate if you already have not done so.

The **Hypothermia Guidelines** and the **Pain and Comfort Guidelines** are being reviewed based on current evidence, and revised according to new studies. Information will be presented at National Conference and then be available on the website. The **Evidence-Based Practice Committee** is looking to launch an **Online Journal Club**.

We are looking at expanding our vision to include more actively the **military nurses** as well as perianesthesia nurses in other countries perhaps through an International Perianesthesia Nursing Conference! The **Development Committee** is developing the guidelines for scholarships for those engaging in international or national humanitarian work.

Folks, all this work and much more is being done by volunteers because they believe that together we can make a better, safer environment for our patients and ourselves. Come join us!

Happy 2009, PANAW week, and hope to see you in Washington, DC!

Congratulations to Our New Certified Nurses
November 2008

CPAN

CAPA

Idaho Denna J Shiveler

Connie S Powell

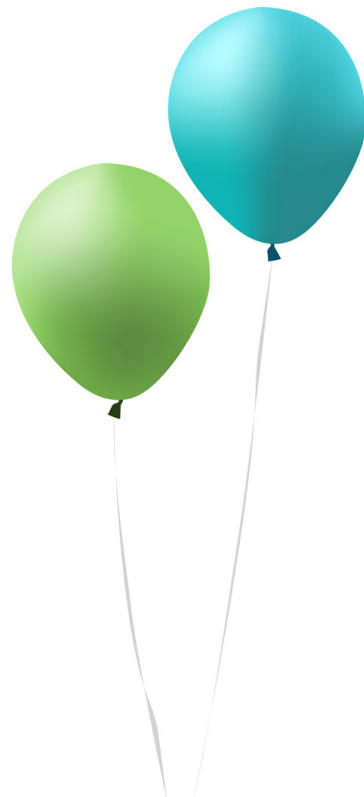
Montana Jeffery M Kenney
Peggy L Shumsky
Debbie R Smith

Oregon Judy K Bradshaw
Mary L Carroll
Amy M Cohee
Pamela S Lindgren
Susan B Watts
Vicky L Williams

Goldena M Gardell
Deanna L Giubbini

Washington Kelly M Banner
Olwin Bode
Amiee L Cadrera
Julius Fernandez
Karen E Henderson
Liza Karyavyy
Mary J Kanno
Elizabeth G Lemoon
Richard Malicdem
Nadene S Mohammed
Inger L Nordahl
Andrea L Olsby
Adena L Shull
Laverne M Will
Lyubov Zakharov
Remia L Zhong

Elna L Benoit
Lalaine B Rodriquez
Jan M Rust



NPANA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
 January 31, 2009
 Phone Teleconference

Present: Cheryl Gettelfinger, *President*; Patrice Moffett, *Vice President*; Virginia Longo, *Treasurer*; Rebecca Ettien, *Secretary*. Absent: Jim Lehn, *Immediate past-President*; Holly Hunt, *Education Coordinator*.
 0804 Pacific Time: Meeting called to order by Cheryl Gettelfinger.

Board of Directors Reports

Secretary (Rebecca Ettien)

- NPANA membership is between 650 and 700. ASPAN is installing a new computer system and they have not been able to generate membership rosters since September. I will make our membership list available as soon as ASPAN makes it available to me.

Treasurer (Virginia Longo)

August 2,
2008

Checking	23,220
Savings	5,655
CD A	8,100
CD D	11,000
Total	47,975

January
31,2009

Checking	30,793. 29
Savings	5,672.2 3
CD A	8,295.3 9
CD D	11,386. 01
Total	56,146. 92

- The maturity date for CD A is February 2, 2009 and for CD D is June 20, 2009. Ms. Longo will be evaluating options for what to do when the CD's mature.
- A CAPA certification reimbursement scholarship was paid out to Catherine Darragh of Missoula, MT and a CAPA certification reimbursement scholarship was paid out to Philip Lehigh of Missoula, MT.
- Some revisions were made to the 2008 budget and Ms. Longo will be mailing the revised budget to the BOD.

Vice President (Patrice Moffett)

- Ms. Moffett is negotiating with an insurance company to obtain a reasonable price for the bond we need to protect our assets.
- Ms. Moffett alerted the BOD to the need to update the scholarship application on the NPANA website to reflect the increase of the scholarship amount from \$350.00 to \$500.00. Also, members are reminded they have one year from the time they complete the educational offering or successful certification exam to apply for and receive a scholarship.
- A contract has been made with the Doubletree Hotel in Missoula, MT, for the fall conference. The dates are September 25, 26 and 27, 2008. The committee has contacted several potential speakers and there is a financial commitment from at least two sponsors. Conference information has been provided to the education coordinator and to the newsletter editor.

President (Cheryl Gettelfinger)

- Ms. Moffett and Ms. Gettelfinger will be attending the Representative Assembly at the National Conference in Washington, D.C. April 19 -23, 2009. If needed, Ms. Longo and Ms. Ettien are available as alternates.
- Component night at National conference was discussed. The theme is “Celebrating American Legends.”

NPANA will be giving out logo key chains and hand sanitizer. We will also be raffling off a \$100.00 bill.

New Business

- There will be an NPANA member lunch planned for Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at the National conference.
- Ms. Gettelfinger made a motion and it was approved that NPANA’s contribution to the ASPAN Development Fund would be to pay for the BOD to attend the Development Luncheon April 22, 2009 at the national convention.
- Next teleconference board meeting scheduled March 21, 2009, 0900 Pacific Time.

1011 Pacific Time: Meeting adjourned by Cheryl Gettelfinger.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Ettien BSN, CAPA

NPANA Secretary

ASPAN is GOING GREEN

It no longer just refers to the color of our logo! The term really has taken on a whole new meaning for us, as the American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses is **GOING GREEN!**

Nationally, ‘going green’ has become more than just a feel good slogan. Corporations are changing their business models for growing and retooling with a green component. So, accordingly, ASPAN is joining the corporate movement to change how we think and act, environmentally. As an organization, we are committed to improving the health of our environment, conserve resources, and reduce our overall energy consumption.

Members have recently been provided information on this initiative, including an introductory article by ASPAN President Lois Schick in the November/December issues of *Breathline*, and an email announcement from the National Office.

Currently, the *Go Green Strategic Work Team* is working toward developing a clear operational definition of what *is* ‘green’ and a methodology for accomplishing it. As we move forward, you’ll receive timely, informative updates about what we’re planning, how we’ll get there, and what’ll be the end result.

One of the first ‘Green advancements’ is *Breathline*. Starting with the March/April issue, it will go ‘paperless.’ Possible options to receive each issue include direct access via the ASPAN Web site and/or emailed hyperlink. We’ll soon have more on this advancement, and other paperless process at ASPAN meetings and seminars, and at National Conference.

Aside from reducing our volume of printed paper output, other areas for initial consideration are:

- increased energy efficiency in the office (lighting, equipment, etc)
- working with office building maintenance regarding cleaning and landscaping products, recycling (newspapers, magazines, office products, printing paper, etc.)
- Using recyclable tote bags at National Conference
- ? (Members should make suggestions to rspina@aspan.org)

Additionally we’ll keep you updated regularly about or-

From the Desk of the Past President

James Lehn RN CAPA

As your past President of NPANA, one of the responsibilities of this Board position is to manage the nomination process for Board positions as they become open for new members. This year we need to fill the positions of Vice-President /President Elect and that of Secretary.

I encourage all NPANA members to consider running for one of these positions. This is a great learning experience and a chance for networking with others in the area of Peri Anesthesia nursing. Currently NPANA provides reimbursement for NPANA sponsored conferences /seminars as well as attendance at ASPAN's annual National Conference.

NPANA has over 650 members and many of you have received educational scholarships. I look forward to applications for these positions and encourage those members who have benefited from the scholarship funds to consider re-investing your time and talents as a candidate to one of these positions.

To apply; complete the 'Willingness to serve' form, found on the NPANA Web site: NPANA.org. Completed forms, along with a recent picture and short Bio, can be returned to:

James Lehn RN,CAPA
17619 19th Ave East
Spanaway, WA 98387-2913

Applications must be received by April 25, 2009 to ensure timely mailing of the ballots.

Members have indicated that they would appreciate information as to the candidate's information and that is why I am requesting the recent picture and Bio. This will be included in the ballots for the voting members as a means to 'get to know' the candidate.

PANAW Celebration at Alaska Regional Hospital

For PANAW we had our pictures taken beneath banners in Pre and Post Op as well as a pot luck lunch and one of the orthopedic doc-



tors brought us lunch. Pre op nurses in picture on right and post op nurses above.

CERTIFICATION

ABPANC NEWS FLASH! The new online application process for registering for the Spring CPAN® and CAPA® certification examinations is up and running! The registration window is open through March 9th. Examinations will be administered by computer form April 6th through May 16th at Prometric Test Centers.

For complete information visit the ABPANC website at www.cpancapa.org and click the *Certification* link on the home page. Follow the instructions for viewing/downloading the newly revised *Candidate Handbook and Appendices* as well as registering for an examination online.

While candidates may still apply by mail using a scannable paper application and Appendix E (Verification of RN Licensure and Clinical Practice Form), we highly encourage them to use the online application—it's easier, faster, and has many benefits! If applying by mail, re-

fer to the *Candidate Handbook* and Appendix F for submission postmark deadline dates, which are earlier than those for applying online.

A special paper/pencil version of the CPAN® and CAPA® examinations will be administered at the 2009 ASPAN National Conference on April 19th. Candidates registering for this special administration must do so by mailing in a scannable paper application and Appendix E (Verification of RN Licensure and Clinical Practice Form) post marked no later than February 17th.

ABPANC's Vision statement: Recognizing and respecting the unequalled excellence in the mark of the CPAN® and CAPA® credential, perianesthesia nurses will seek it, managers will require it, employers will support it, and the public will demand it!

Attention NPANA Members

ASPAN wants to be sure they have all member's valid e-mail addresses. Online activities will require this valid e-mail address to proceed with transactions such as registration, memberships, renewals, etc.

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

ganizational direction and progress via:

- bi-monthly update articles to members in *Breathline* and/or *JOPAN*
- online banner announcements to members as needed
- postcard announcements to members as needed
- quarterly emails to members from the National Office

Being aware of our environment and taking steps to protect it is a good place to be. Going Green is here to stay, and it's important for us to be 'green champions' for ASPAN and this most critical cause.

ASPAN's *Going Green* journey is every member's journey

Government Affairs

House Bill No 50 In the Legislature of the State of Alaska Twenty-six Legislation –First Session was introduced 1/20/2009 by Representatives Wilson, Gara, Tuck, Peterson, Lynn, Seaton, Gatto, Cissna, Munoz, Gardner, Ramras, Foster and Kerttula. **Senate Bill 12** was introduced 1/21/2009 by Senator Bettye Davis. Both bills deal with limitations on mandatory overtime for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses in health care facilities.

In the last legislative session the bill was tied up in the finance committee in the House of Representatives when the legislative session ended. It had passed in the State Senate. Several of the nurses in the PACU at Alaska Regional Hospital went to the Legislative offices in Anchorage and testify for the bill during hearings in several of the Committees it passed through before the governor could sign it into law.

ASPAN 2008 YEAR END REPORT

Lois Schick MN, MBA, RN, CPAN, CAPA
ASPAN President 2008-2009

Goal A: ASPAN will be its members' indispensable resource for perianesthesia education and knowledge exchange worldwide

Six, Yes, 6 MORE YEARS. ASPAN has been awarded 6 more years of accreditation by American Nurses Credentialing Center – Center on Accreditation (ANCC-COA) for BOTH our Education Approver and Provider programs. KUDOS to our National office Staff, Linda Ziolkowski, -Director of Education, Barbara Hannah – Chair of Education Approver and Linda Wilson our Nurse Liaison in the office for Education, Research and Clinical Practice. Because of their dedication, complete, detailed record keeping, ASPAN was successful in it's endeavor to receive accreditation for 6 years in BOTH Education Approver and Provider. CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

The Education Provider committee met in August and look forward to some new programs and development of combination programs over the next year. Changes with paper handout availability will be occurring with the initiative of **Going Green**. ASPAN again will provide FREE contact hours for educational programs during PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week (PANAW) February 2-8, 2009. These will be available ONLY for those programs submitted for contact hours Online. GET YOUR Free CONTACT HOURS!!

ASPAN had a very successful Leadership Component Development Institute (CDI) in Salt Lake City in September. Back to the Basics was the major theme but from the conference blossomed the GO GREEN Theme. ASPAN is going Green this year and looking at ways to decrease our uses of paper, ways to recycle and opportunities to preserve our environment. A Strategic Work team led by Twilla Shrouf (Region II Director) is working on initiatives to address this issue. You will hear more! Breathline after the first of the year will be available only on the Web. Education program handouts can be downloaded from the web 2 weeks before and one week after seminars and workshops. How Exciting this is for ASPAN!!!!

31 Components had their annual meetings or workshops during this quarter (August-October). Our Regional Directors or their representative ambassador recognized milestones of 20 years for Hawaii; and 25 year milestones for Iowa, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia. Kentucky and Mississippi were the other 2 states recognized in 2008 for the 25 year Milestone. CONGRATS to All! Sue Fossum, ASPAN President 2007-2008 and Joni Brady, ASPAN Breathline Editor represented ASPAN at the Ireland Anesthetic Recovery Nurses Association meeting in Limerick, Ireland in late October.

The Meetings with ASPAN Representation from August to December included:

August: American Association Nurse Anesthetists meeting in Minneapolis; ASPAN Education meeting in Philadelphia; Nurse Alliance Leadership Academy (NALA) meeting in Louisville, KY.

September: CDI in Salt Lake City.

October: American College of Surgeons (ACS) meeting in San Francisco; Council on Surgical and Perioperative Safety (CSPS) meeting in conjunction with the ACS. American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) in Orlando, Florida. Hypothermia Guideline Development in Saint Louis, Missouri; Peri-Anesthesia Data Element (PDE) Meeting in Indiana.

November: American Board of Perianesthesia Nursing Certification (ABPANC) Board meeting in Charleston, South Carolina; ASPAN's Mid Year Board Meeting; and Nursing Organization Alliance (NOA) in Albuquerque, NM.

December: Post Graduate Academy/New York State Society Anes-

thesiologists (PGA/NYSSA)

Goal B: ASPAN will be the influential force for perianesthesia patient safety, public policy and practice standards.

Clinical Practice Questions the second quarter were 891. This includes 59 answered by Linda Wilson in the office. Of the 832 answered by the committee, 438 (53%) were from ASPAN members and 394 (47%) were from Non members.

The Perianesthesia Data Elements (PDE) committee met in October and there will be a means for nurses to purchase and capture this information for usage with your computer systems at the National Conference in April 2009. These Data Elements can be utilized within your perianesthesia setting with your computer charting.

The Council on Surgical Perioperative Safety (CSPS) meeting was held in conjunction with the American College of Surgeons meeting in San Francisco. Pam Windle and Kevin Dill are ASPAN's representatives to this group.

ASPAN wants to thank Denise O'Brien for her past 6 years participation on the American Society Anesthesiologists (ASA) Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation, (APSF) and wants to congratulate Sue Fossum on her election to the ASA APSF at the October meeting.

Goal C: ASPAN will be the recognized voice and source of perianesthesia information to the public.

ASPAN held a Scope of Practice Meeting in August collaborating with representatives from other organizations to discuss the common threads in the care of our patients. Organizations represented included: Association for Radiologic & Imaging Nursing (ARIN), American Society for Pain Management Nursing (ASPMN), Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates (SGNA) and the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) and ASPAN.

GO Green Campaign. ASPAN is "**Going Green**" to help preserve our environment. Breathline's last printed edition to be mailed will take place in January. After that it will be available on the ASPAN Web site to download. How exciting is that!!!!

Goal D: The art and science of perianesthesia nursing will be advanced through ASPAN's evidence-based practice and research activities.

The Hypothermia Guideline Meeting was held in October with the review and re-write of the guideline. This Guideline will be available for the RA to approve in April 2009.

Jackie Ross, ASPAN's Research Director is diligently working on some Research projects to include ASPAN grass roots members. – More to come at National Conference. The Research committee is getting involved with a study on workplace environment that you may hear about and be asked to participate in.

Goal E: Infrastructure and Customer Service

- Total ASPAN membership as of December 2008 is 13076 decrease from the first quarter report by 639 members. What is happening? We do know that we are in the process of upgrading and switching out our computer systems so not all data has been entered, but, 639 members in the wrong direction???? Yes, we are in a recession – Depression, so it will Let's Each go get a Member to join our organization. Think of all the benefits Available to each of you. MY CHALLENGE: Every current member get a New member. Think of all the programs we can give back to You the member.

- We continued with ASPAN Web Redesign – signed contract with JL Systems to implement computer support and the new site is scheduled to be available after the first of the year.

Thanks to all Board Members, Committees, Strategic Work Teams, Specialty Practice Groups, Liaisons, Ambassadors, Past Presidents, Component Leaders and Members for your support.

ASPAN Continues to be Great because of YOU.

THANK YOU!

Lois Schick MN, MBA, RN, CPAN, CAPA
ASPAN 2008-2009 President

Keep on dreamin' as



ASPAN Development News

It's almost time to head for Washington D.C. and ASPAN's 28th National Conference at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center. Do you have your "I must visit these historical sites" list ready? The Development team wanted to take this opportunity to let every component, and every single individual know about all of the Development activities.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE SUPPORT – First of all, as a component you are more than welcome to participate in the sponsorship of the National Conference through the donation of any amount of money. You may designate monies to a specific project (i.e. highlighters, pocket planners, etc.) or just indicate in a letter or on the check that it is a donation for national conference support. All components will be acknowledged for conference support regardless of the amount donated. **Send conference donations to the attention of Rob Spina, Marketing & Exhibits Manager.**

ASPAN DREAM WALK – Judy Evans from Alaska has been the individual raising the most monies for the Dream Walk for the last three years!!! She puts out her "walker pledge" sheet early and actually approaches each and every anesthesiologist at her hospital and asks them to support her walk. I am going to throw out a good old Washington D.C. challenge and say "Who's going to topple Judy?" Let's make this a DREAM WALK of historical proportions!!

SILENT AUCTION – The silent auction has always been a huge success and we would definitely like to keep up the tradition! ASPAN Development will have tables set up and ready, and once again, Evelyn Medycki and Mary Betz will be coordinating this event. They will be more than ready to accept your donations. ASPAN is also conducting an online silent auction and will accept donations before National Conference. If you would like your item placed in the online silent auction please contact Rob Spina at the National Office.

HHS – Last, but certainly not least, we look forward to the Hail, Honor and Salute portion of the ASPAN Development Luncheon. This is YOUR chance to remember someone or "many someones" who have played a part in your nursing career and or your life. This year's Development Luncheon will take place while cruising the Potomac, so start thinking about who you would like to Hail, Honor or Salute.

ASPAN Development once again awarded multiple educational scholarships this last year and supports all of the educational efforts of ASPAN. We look forward to continuing this support and because of each and every one of you, we are sure this will happen

See you in historic Washington D.C

Dolly Ireland, MSN, RN, CAPA, CPN

Director for Development

Progress Notes from the Editors Desk***Judy Evans BSN, RN-C, CPAN***

Sitting here in the cold of an Alaskan February, I am looking forward to April and attending the ASPAN National Conference in Washington, DC. Looking forward to meeting NPANA members at lunch on Tuesday, April 21. Watch the communication board for time and place.

Alaska Regional Hospital celebrated PANAW week with banners in the Preop and PACU proclaiming PANAW and we had a pot luck for lunch on Tuesday and on Thursday one of the orthopedic doctors brought us lunch. Hope everyone was acknowledged by their institutions for the great work you do for your clients everyday of the year. I sent the pictures of our celebra-

seminars.

While collecting information to send to Nancy O'Malley I found out some interesting things about our component. Congratulations, to Providence Surgery Center in Missoula, where 100% of their eligible nurses in the perioperative area are certified. I would also like to congratulate the PACU nurses at Providence St. Vincent Hospital in Portland, for getting a research article published in JOPAN, December, 2008. The title of their article was "Comparison of Finger and Forehead Oximetry Sensors in Post anesthesia Care Patients. If, you have any information about news things happening in your area of NPANA please let me know. I sometimes feel that I am limited in knowledge to those around me or to the other members of the board and what they know. I would love to be able to congratulate all of you who have achieved a noteworthy feat.

I just received from ASPAN that NPANA had 660 members as of December 31, 2008. Up from 632, at the same time a year ago. We also have 179 CPAN reported members, 134 CAPA reported members and 16 dual certified reported members. Congratulations to all who are certi-

tion to Joni Brady, editor of Breathline.

Please note the numerous continuing education offerings throughout NPANA this spring. I encourage every member to attend the offering that is closest to you. This is a great way to get continuing education hours and network not only with leaders of ASPAN but with members of NPANA.

Along with Jim Lehn, Past President of NPANA, I would like to encourage members of NPANA to step out of your comfort zone and run for a position on the Board of Directors. It is a very rewarding as well as professional and personal growth opportunity.



fied. Good Luck to those of you who are planning on taking the certifications tests in the near future. Remember, if you need assistance that APSAN has conferences to help you with the studying and that we also have members who are willing to help you study for the tests.

Please enjoy your spring. Hope to see you at the National Conference in Washington D.C.

Please remember that the deadlines for "Off the Cuff" submissions are February 10, June 10 and October 10. "Off the Cuff" is published three times a year on the NPANA web site. Publication dates are March 10, July 10 and November 10.