



Newsletter of the American Society
of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

Breathline

Volume 27, Number 4

July/August 2007

Be the Voice: Patient Advocacy and Safety

INSIDE:

Call to Serve
page 4

**2008 National
Conference**
page 5

**Anaheim
Conference
Highlights**
page 14

Clinical Practice
page 20

It is the morning of surgery, an event that occurs at numerous hospitals around our nation on a daily basis. The admitting nurse asks the patient all of the required preoperative questions. As usual, the morning is hectic and filled with demands that keep the nurse moving at an accelerated pace -- perhaps more rapidly than the nurse feels is safe.

This patient has several questions for the nurse. A lack of understanding regarding what will transpire on this day is heard in the questions asked and is visible in his facial expression. The nurse's assessment alerts her that time must be taken to adequately answer and clarify the questions, but the OR is calling for the patient now. What should this nurse do?

Frontline Advocates

Nurses play an important role in the prevention of errors and promotion of patient safety. As a nurse, one must speak up and speak out for the patient as his or her voice. As nursing professionals, we are guided by practice standards and are subject to federal and state consumer safety laws. In 1999 the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released a report *To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System*. IOM issued the follow-up report in 2001, *Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century*.

The IOM reports placed a focus



Susan Fossum, BSN, RN, CPAN
ASPAN President 2007-2008

on the quality of healthcare the public is receiving when cared for in health institutions. An important relationship exists between nurses at the bedside and the delivery of patient care. Nursing professionals are "bound by an ethical code to advocate for and protect the patients under their charge."¹ Our patients expect and deserve safe, quality, and competent nursing care.

Nursing advocacy involves being the voice for our patients and it plays a vital role in keeping patients safe as they navigate through the healthcare system. Each day, nurses have opportunities to serve as patient advocates. Yet, competing priorities such as a new medical device, multiple patient assignments, new technology and computerized charting frequently take our attention away from the bedside. Unfortunately, tasks sometimes receive a higher priority than advocating for patients' needs.

Perhaps our healthcare partners

are not receptive to what nurses have to say, or they neglect to respond in a timely manner. The bottom line is: nursing's voice must be present to consistently place our patients' needs and safety first. We who have chosen to deliver care to others at their most vulnerable time do so because we care, are compassionate, and desire to make a difference in the lives of patients and families. How do we, as perianesthesia nurses, use our voice to advocate for patients?

Safety Champions

Your ASPAN leaders recognize the need to be active participants in creating a safe environment of care for patients. One of ASPAN's goals is to be the influential force for perianesthesia patient safety, public policy and practice standards. Last April, at the 26th National Conference in Anaheim, your Representative Assembly voted to endorse a Position Statement on Perianesthesia Safety. This position statement identified characteristics that support a culture of safety: communication; advocacy; competency; efficiency/timeliness; and teamwork.

Safety advocacy translates into something tangible at your facility or area of practice. Handoff communication, site verification, medication reconciliation, and having the appropriate staffing levels are just a few areas of concern that we

continued on page 2

President's Message

continued from page 1

can impact at a local level. Collaboration with and the inclusion of physicians, administrators and other healthcare colleagues regarding issues affecting patient care are important for creating a safe environment for patients.

Every nurse can become involved in work teams, performance improvement projects, committee work, and drafting of policies, procedures or standards. Your presence, active participation, and voice can and does make a difference in the care your patients receive. ASPAN offers

many resources to assist you in caring for patients, and your organization is dedicated to the delivery of safe, competent patient care by providing quality education, practice standards and safe practices founded in evidence based research.

Policy and Partnerships

Patient advocacy cannot occur in a vacuum. It must move beyond the bedside. Partnerships can and must be formed with our healthcare partners. Katie Horton is a registered nurse (RN) and Washington, DC health policy advocate. She states, "Successful advocates participate in coalitions of organizations with common policy interests."² ASPAN partners with anesthesia providers, physicians and other nursing colleagues on issues affecting patient safety. ASPAN is an active participant in the Council on Surgical and Perioperative Safety (CSPS). This interdisciplinary group is working together to address core

principles that affect patient safety, and I expect that you will continue to hear very exciting news from this group.

Although our circle of patient advocacy begins with a focus on our individual patient, it must extend outward to an understanding of healthcare issues on the state and national levels. Nurses must become politically savvy about healthcare policy and how that policy translates to the care delivered at the bedside. We have a responsibility to advocate for and support legislative programs that will ensure safe, quality driven environments for our patients and their families.

Raising Your Voice

Here are suggestions on how perianesthesia nurses can use our voices to advocate for patients we care for each day:

- Be compassionate and caring while communicating with the patient and his/her family
- Form a partnership with your patient; develop a plan of care for meeting personal needs and ensure the patient is an active participant in his/her care
- Maintain vigilance on behalf of the patient
- Know your ASPAN Standards, and organization/unit policies; incorporate these into practice
- Participate in committees, work teams, and performance improvement projects
- Belong to and be active in your professional nursing organization
- Use your experience, expertise, opinions and voice to advocate for improved healthcare initiatives at the local, state, federal and international levels

Eve Franklin, an RN and state

ASPAN Breathline

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JanuaryNovember 1

MarchJanuary 1

MayMarch 1

JulyMay 1

SeptemberJuly 1

NovemberSeptember 1

Breathline

Volume 27, Number 4

July/August 2007



ASPAN COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

*Be the Voice:
Through Leadership, Membership and Advocacy*



September 7 - 9, 2007

Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown Hotel
Albuquerque, New Mexico

This year's Component Development Institute is designed to provide attendees with a roadmap for successful leadership and membership development, succession planning, governmental affairs involvement and nursing advocacy. This workshop will assist component leaders to develop and enhance current leadership practices, discuss strategies for membership recruitment and retention, and provide the rationale and process for nursing advocacy. ASPAN leaders are available throughout the weekend program for mentorship, coaching and cultivating current and future component leaders.

Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to learn, network, and grow together with your ASPAN peers. Register today!

Attendance is open to ASPAN members only. Receive up to 13 contact hours.

Go to the ASPAN Web site (www.aspan.org) for complete details and online registration services. To request a program brochure call the National Office toll free @ 877-737-9696. Ext 10.

*President's Message
continued from page 2*

senator from Montana writes: "Despite having spent all my adult professional life tending to the feelings of others, I was not at all confused about where the desire to care needed to change to a commitment to battle and, in the political context, an absolute requirement to fight. In politics, as in nursing, caring means little if you can't deliver; compassion is limited if you don't have the gumption to fight for good outcomes; and kindness is as vacuous as being 'nice' if it doesn't mean beneficent action and advocacy."³

We've all likely experienced




ASPAN Immediate Past President, Pamela Windle (left), passed the president's gavel to Susan Fossum in Sue's home state, California

that hectic, demanding, and sometimes frightening workplace I described. As perianesthesia nurses, we are positioned at the center of the healthcare delivery system. We have both the privilege and responsibility to create an environment of caring, healing, and safety that patients and their loved ones

deserve. So please make safety a priority and take every opportunity you can to advocate for patients. Your voice is wanted and needed. **Be the Voice.**

REFERENCES

1. Watson D. Introduction to safety net: Lessons Learned from close calls in the OR; *AORN Journal*, 84(1): p. 532, 2006.
2. Horton K. Lobbying: An inside view; Vignette. In Mason D, Leavitt J, Chaffee M. *Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care* (4th Ed). St. Louis: Saunders, p. 563, 2002.
3. Franklin E. Pilgrim in politics; Unit four case study. In Mason D, Leavitt J, Chaffee M. *Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care* (4th Ed). St. Louis: Saunders, p. 591, 2002. 

Breathline
Volume 27, Number 4
July/August 2007

3

ASPAN's Legacy Involves YOU! Call for Member Participation

Lois Schick, MN, MBA, RN, CPAN, CAPA

We are all leaders who make decisions and choices that influence our environment, our practice, our patients, and our profession. We transform values into action, vision into reality, obstacles into innovations and dreams into lasting legacies. We understand the importance of teamwork while working toward organizational goals that were established to ensure ASPAN's success. Each of you is a leader that can make a real difference because of your unique and diverse skills.

Choose Your Path

Individual dreams, actions, skills and talents collectively become ASPAN's lasting legacy. Your contributions are essential to the success of ASPAN and to the practice of



**Lois Schick,
ASPAN Vice President/
President-Elect**

perianesthesia nursing. There are many opportunities to participate and contribute your special talents. Our standing committees and strategic work teams need your input. For information on and descriptions of ASPAN's committees and work groups, please visit the ASPAN Web site. Let your service and leadership help shape and direct ASPAN's future.


For a copy of the 2008-2009 WTS form, go to the ASPAN home page (www.aspan.org), click on the "Members" tab and select "Willingness to Serve."

To request a WTS form call the National Office toll free @ 877-737-9696. Ext 13.

**Postmark DEADLINE is
OCTOBER 31, 2007**

"The legacy you leave is the life you lead. We lead our lives daily. We leave our legacy daily."¹ I invite you to become a part of ASPAN's legacy by filling out a Willingness to Serve (WTS) form. Please note the application deadline and submit your WTS form as soon as possible, allowing us to strategically plan for next year. Your willingness to serve will honor your and ASPAN's legacy.

REFERENCE

1. Kouzes J, Posner B. *A Leader's Legacy*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, p. 180, 2006. 

Call for Nominations: Join and Create ASPAN's Legacies

Pamela E. Windle, MS, RN, CNA, BC, CPAN, CAPA—ASPAN Immediate Past President

ASPAN embarked on an advocacy theme this year in order to educate and mentor perianesthesia nurses on the need to speak out and "Be the Voice" for our patients and our profession. I am calling highly motivated and committed ASPAN members to join in creating and developing lasting legacies for our organization.

Remember, a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Please step forward and reach out to help create a shared destiny -- one that will ensure our status as the premier organization for perianesthesia nursing education, practice, standards and research. It is time to take that step and join other ASPAN leaders already making a difference in professional nursing!

Call for Nominations


Members who are current and/or past Officers, Directors, Editors, Committee Chairs or Representative Assembly members who have been active in ASPAN for a minimum of two years are welcome to accept this challenge of running for office. Qualified candidates are needed for the following positions on the 2008-2009 ASPAN Board of Directors:

- **Vice President/President-Elect** (three-year term)
- **Secretary** (two-year term)
- **Director for Clinical Practice** (two-year term)
- **Director for Development** (two-year term)
- **Regional Director, Region 2** (two-year term)
- **Regional Director, Region 4** (two-year term)

- Five positions on the **Nominating Committee** (one-year term)

Deadline for Action: October 1, 2007

- A Candidate Profile Sheet must be submitted electronically by e-mail only with a date stamp no later than October 1, 2007. No hard copies or faxes of the profile sheet will be accepted for any reason
- An **Intent to Place Name for Nomination Form** must be signed and mailed, postmarked no later than October 1, 2007.

To receive more information and declare your candidacy, please contact Pamela E. Windle (pwindle@aspan.org or pwindle@slh.com), or Jane Certo at the National Office (jcerto@aspan.org) or 1-877-737-9696 ext. 13. 

Experience Texas ... It's Like a Whole Other Country!

2008 NATIONAL
CONFERENCE

Susan McDonald, RN, CPAN, CAPA – 2008 National Conference Strategic Work Team Coordinator

When you think of the Lone Star State, some stereotypes might come to mind. After all, Texans are often portrayed as big, boisterous and boastful. Well, perhaps that's with good reason! Until Alaska joined the union, Texas was the largest state, and many Texans are convinced we will recapture bragging rights if the ice melts up north!

Texans are big hearted and hospitable. We know how to have a good time and are never remiss to extol the virtues of being Texan to those not fortunate enough to live in our part of the country! We are thrilled to be welcoming you to our whole other country when we host ASPAN's 27th Annual Conference at the Gaylord Texan Resort, located on Lake Grapevine in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Live Large, Think Big

The Conference location is just minutes from Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. From the moment you arrive at our host hotel, you will be embraced by the spirit and heritage of Texas. The Gaylord Texan Resort features a giant Texas Star beneath the signature glass atrium, accompanied by beautiful landscaping featuring rugged

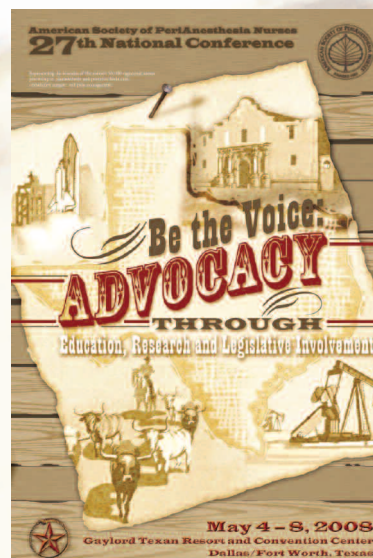
canyons, the Texas Hill Country, a replica of the legendary San Antonio Riverwalk, and an outdoor pool reminiscent of a West Texas spring-fed pool. Every day is picture perfect because this veritable microcosm of Texas is completely contained within a climate controlled environment.

A short, complimentary trolley ride takes you to downtown Grapevine's Main Street Historic District where turn of the century buildings are home to a variety of art galleries, antique stores, gift shops, boutiques and restaurants. Shuttles operate between the hotel, Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World and the Grapevine Mills Mall, which is the largest retail and entertainment mall in the Southwest.

Even More to Boast About

In addition to the great educational opportunities during National Conference, you can fill your free time with water activities on Lake Grapevine, tee off on three championship-rated public golf courses, or make a visit to vineyards, wineries and tasting rooms. The more adventurous at heart can ride back in time aboard a vintage train.

Daily excursions from the Grapevine Depot into Fort Worth's historic stockyards offer a window to the world's only Longhorn cattle drive featuring real cowboys. You can enjoy Texas barbeque, Tex-Mex or a Texas sized steak meal in one of the many restaurants, or casually shop for authen-



ASPAN 27th National Conference
"Be the Voice: Advocacy through Education, Research and Legislative Involvement"

May 4-8, 2008
Dallas/Fort Worth, TX

tic Western wear. The Glass Cactus Nightclub, located on the Gaylord Resort property, provides a convenient place to meet up with friends at the end of the day to enjoy a beverage while watching the sun set over the lake, and then dance the night away to live music.

This is just the beginning of many opportunities for fun and exploration awaiting you in the Lone Star State. With so much to see and do, you may want to bring the family and plan to spend some extra time around the Conference. After all, Texas ... it's like a whole other country! 🌵

We'll see y'all in Texas next May!



Breathline

Volume 27, Number 4
July/August 2007

5

Board of Directors and Representative Assembly *Highlights*

Anaheim, California ~ April 14-20, 2007

Gena Near, BSN, RN, CPAN-ASPAN Secretary



STRATEGIC WORK TEAM/COMMITTEE UPDATES

Evidence Based Practice: Committee members are participating in the review of on the Online Journal Club. An article on the journal club was written for component newsletters.

Crisis Management: This Strategic Work Team (SWT) examined internal and external forces or events that could profoundly impact ASPAN's ability to execute its mission resulting in the creation of ASPAN Crisis Management Manual.

Bylaws, Policy & Procedure, RA Standard Procedures: The Bylaws and Policies & Procedures (P&P) have been available online since November 2006. Bylaws are open to general view while P&P is password-protected for leaders' access only. The Bylaws, P&Ps, and Representative Assembly Standard Procedures will undergo a review this year.

Governmental Affairs: ASPAN is maintaining effective strategic public policy coalitions by participating with Americans for Nursing Shortage Relief (ANSR) and the American Nurses Association. ASPAN, with other ANSR members, again signed on to a letter urging Congress to appropriate funding for Title VIII Workforce Development. ASPAN continues to offer a NIWI Scholarship each year.

COMPONENT REPORT/ REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Regional Portals on ASPAN's Web site: For over a year, Region 1 has maintained a portal on the ASPAN Web site. Region 2's portal is now up and functioning. The

plan is to continue adding components/regions until all regions have portals on the Web site.

Component Financial Aid: The Component Financial Aid Form has been updated and is now available. Please contact Susan Carter, ASPAN Treasurer, at scarter@aspan.org for further information.

Component Recognition Program: A program will be developed to recognized components reaching milestone anniversaries. Look for upcoming information in *Breathline*.

SPECIALTY PRACTICE GROUP (SPG) REVITALIZATION

The current orientation/resource manual was discussed with new SPG leaders. The manual will be reviewed and revised in the coming months with input on best practices solicited from SPG leaders.

UP AND COMERS (SUCCESSION PLANNING) PROGRAM

A reception for mentors and "mentees" was held during Conference. Forty current mentees will embark on the next phase of succession planning with their mentors.


2011 ASPAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Seattle, Washington was selected as the 2011 National Conference site.

REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

Presentations given during the assembly included a Perianesthe-

sia Data Elements Committee status update, Safety Committee and Technology Informatics Guiding Education Reform (TIGER) initiative updates, and a Safe Staffing SWT update. The Representative Assembly approved the following resolutions:

- Resolution 2007-1: Bylaws Amendments to Change the Name of the Director for the Foundation to Director for Development
- Resolution 2007-2: Position Statement on Perianesthesia Safety 



A credentialed 2007 Representative Assembly (RA) member casts her ballot during the election of new Board and Nominating Committee members



Every ASPAN component has two member representatives in the RA. Mary Simpson (left) and Sue Meier voted on behalf of the Nebraska Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

Trowbridge Honored with Secretary's Award for Excellence

Linda Trowbridge, MSA, BSN, RN, CPAN, a member of ASPAN and the Perianesthesia Nurses Association of New Mexico (PANANM), was honored with a Secretary's Award for Excellence at the New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System (NMVAHCS) in Albuquerque. The Secretary's Awards Program for Excellence in Nursing annually honors one registered nurse in a staff nurse role whose contributions to care are patient centered and demonstrate a level of excellence that merits recognition from peers.

Ms. Trowbridge is employed in the ASU and PACU. Her work spans the full perianesthesia spectrum from preadmission,



(NMVAHCS Photo by Jim Cocklin)

Pictured from left: Alan Jones, NMVAHCS Acting Nurse Executive; Linda Trowbridge; Vicki Niazi, Nurse Manager ASU/PACU; and George Marnell, NMVAHCS Director

preoperative and postoperative day surgery to Phase I recovery, interventional radiology and interventional pain management procedures. She was praised for her preceptor skills, special proj-

ects and professional contributions in the workplace, and professional activism in ASPAN and PANANM. Congratulations to Linda Trowbridge! 🌿

Call for Interest: New Specialty Practice Groups Forming

The purpose of ASPAN's Specialty Practice Groups (SPG) is to bring together sub-specialty nurses who share a special practice in perianesthesia nursing. SPGs are member-driven and offer a variety of networking and educational opportunities, serve as a resource on practice and professional issues and facilitate research within the organization. Fifty (50) ASPAN members are needed to establish each SPG and receive Board charter approval. Two new SPGs are in the formation stages: **Perianesthesia Nurse Educator SPG** and **Integrative Medicine SPG**.

If you work with nurses who are new to perianesthesia nursing practice, teach or assess perianesthesia competencies, and/or provide ongoing education in your unit or work place, then we invite you to learn more about joining a **Perianesthesia Nurse Educator Specialty Practice Group (SPG)**.

The group's purpose will be to promote collaboration among perianesthesia nurse educators and share resources related to perianesthesia orientation to practice, competencies and continuing education. *For more information, please contact Sara Waldron, BSN, RN, CPAN (snwaldron@cox.net).*

Patients in increasing numbers are experimenting with and using various complementary therapies. Perhaps it's time to embrace Eastern medicine modalities and find ways to incorporate these into daily perianesthesia practice? There is interest among ASPAN members to organize an **Integrative Medicine SPG**, with a goal of establishing this SPG prior to the 2008 National Conference.

If you are interested in participating, or for more information, please contact Barbara Ochampaugh, BSN, RN, CPAN (Barbochampaugh@verizon.net). 🌿

Congratulations to these ASPAN members who were recognized in nomination by their colleagues for the following awards this year:

Excellence in Clinical Practice

- ★ Martha Clark, MSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Karen DiLorenzo-Thames, MSN, RN, CAPA, CCRN
- ★ Anne Dunning, RN, CPAN
- ★ Trudy Istre, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Kim Kraft, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Lynda Marks, RN, CAPA
- ★ Denise O'Brien, MSN, APRN, BC, CPAN, CAPA, FAAN

Award for Outstanding Achievement

- ★ Maureen Iacono, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Jacqueline Ross, MSN, RN, CPAN

Call for Submissions

2008 NATIONAL CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

ASPAN's 27th National Conference in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas will feature abstract/posters displayed in two categories: the Celebrate Successful Practice (CSP) category and the Research category. There are very specific guidelines and requirements for each grouping. It is the members' responsibility to select the appropriate category and to meet the appropriate calendar deadline for submission.

2008 Celebrate Successful Practices

“Celebrate Successful Practices” is your opportunity to present quality nursing practice with other ASPAN colleagues. This program offers a great way for members to share solutions to some common day-to-day practice dilemmas with colleagues, because the challenges occurring in your unit are often similar to those experienced by perianesthesia nurses all over the country.


Have you had success at implementing a formal handoff communication method that has improved patient safety? Would you consider sharing a new change in your perianesthesia practice that has made a difference in patient outcomes? Have you found a successful multi-

disciplinary strategy for implementing ASPAN's *Guideline for the Prevention and/or Management of Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting (PONV) and Postdischarge Nausea and Vomiting (PDNV)* within your perianesthesia setting?

These are just some ideas to start you thinking, because submissions may be derived from any successful practice related to perianesthesia nursing. Please consider submitting your best practices to the Successful Practices team for review. Abstracts undergo an anonymous peer review process, and if the abstract meets the specified criteria, you will be invited to display your practice in a poster session at the 27th National Con-

Important CSP information and dates:

- There are specific guidelines regarding abstract format and content
- Identified project leaders must be ASPAN members
- **Applications MUST be postmarked by the November 15, 2007 deadline to be considered.** Any applications received postmarked after this date are returned and not reviewed
- Applicants are contacted with a notification of acceptance by December 31, 2007

ference. Active ASPAN members should begin submitting abstracts as soon as possible. 

2008 Research Abstracts

The Research Committee provides active perianesthesia nurses with the opportunity to present previously completed, unreported, original research findings from studies pertaining to all phases of perianesthesia nursing at National Conference. A choice of oral and/or poster format may be selected for presentations of perianesthesia research. Oral papers will be presented on Tuesday, May 6th during the afternoon session, “Oral Research Presentations.” Poster displays will occur on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Conference week, with poster grand rounds scheduled on Tuesday. Poster presenters are requested to be in attendance on these days.


Research abstracts for oral and poster presentations from past

conferences are published electronically (www.jopan.org) in the June issue of the *Journal of Peri-Anesthesia Nursing (JOPAN)*, and may be helpful in the development of your abstract. Other helpful resources are available on the Research section of the ASPAN Web site. If you are interested in presenting your research findings, please submit an application for anonymous peer review.

Acceptance of abstracts is based on scientific merit and adherence to the submission guidelines. Abstracts not adhering to these guidelines will not be reviewed. First authors in both formats will receive an honorarium and all contributors will receive an award certificate. The Research Committee looks forward to receiving your

Important Research Abstract information and dates:

- If interested in presenting research findings at the 27th National Conference, please follow the guidelines for abstract submission
- Complete and submit the ASPAN Research Abstract Submission Checklist Form
- **Application for Oral Paper Presentation and Poster Display Presentation MUST be postmarked by November 1, 2007.** Any applications received postmarked after this date are returned and not reviewed
- Applicants will receive notification from the reviewers by December 17, 2007

abstract and thanks you in advance for your interest, participation and support in perianesthesia research. 

For complete Celebrate Successful Practices application information, visit the ASPAN Web site (www.aspan.org), click on the “Clinical Practice” tab, and then click “CSP Call for Abstracts”.



For complete Research Abstract application information, visit the ASPAN Web site, click on the “Research” tab, and then click “Call for Research Abstracts”.



Breathline

Volume 27, Number 4
July/August 2007

Component Editors Pen an Achievement

Barbara Putrycus, MSN, RN, CCRN
ASPAN Publications Committee Chair, 2002-2007

Sixteen editors participated in this year's ASPAN Component Newsletter Contest. The newsletter submissions highlight the editors' and components' commitment to convey vital information to their membership. Each year, the contest judges note continuing improvement and professionalism in the newsletters. Every editor deserves our respect and gratitude for the important job he or she performs on behalf of ASPAN's components.

The submissions were divided into three page count categories.

In addition, every person attending the National Conference had the opportunity to review twenty newsletter submissions competing for the People's Choice Award, and then cast one ballot for their favorite publication. The awards were announced during the Closing Ceremonies at the ASPAN National Conference in Anaheim. ASPAN congratulates every component that submitted a newsletter for review and encourages the editors to continue providing such excellent communication at the component level. 🌿

The winners of the 2007 newsletter contest:



1-8 pages
TSPAN, Eye Opener
Mary Ellen Patterson, Editor



9-14 pages
NYSPANA, Up to PAR
Michele Rossignol, Editor



15+ pages
TAPAN, The Eyeopener
Cyndi Mocek, Editor



People's Choice
PANAC, Pulseline
Ernestine Nunes, Editor

2007 Mary Hanna Memorial Journalism Award Winners

CLINICAL ARTICLE CATEGORY

★ 1st Place ★

Evidence-Based Interventions for Post Discharge Nausea and Vomiting: A Review of the Literature

Jan Odom-Forren, MS, RN, CPAN, FAAN
Susan J. Fetzer, MBA, PhD, RN
Debra K. Moser, DNSc, RN, FAAN

★ 2nd Place ★

Pharmacological Prophylaxis and Management of Adult Postoperative/Postdischarge Nausea and Vomiting

Julie Golembiewski, PharmD
Sheri Tokumaru, PharmD

★ 3rd Place ★

Identification of Risk Factors for Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting in the Perianesthesia Adult Patient

Marguerite J. Murphy, DNP, RN
Vallire D. Hooper, MSN, RN, CPAN, FAAN
Ellen Sullivan, BSN, RN, CPAN
Theresa Clifford, MSN, RN, CPAN
Christian C. Apfel, MD, PhD

RESEARCH CATEGORY

★ 1st Place ★

Comparison of Bacteriostatic Normal Saline and Lidocaine Used as Intradermal Anesthesia for Placement of Intravenous Lines

Pamela E. Windle, MS, RN, CNA, BC, CPAN, CAPA
Meggie L. Kwan, BSN, RN, CAPA
Honey Warwick, BSN, RN, CAPA
Agnes Sibayan, BSN, RN, CPAN
Charito Espiritu, BSN, RN, CAPA
Jennifer Vergara, BSN, RN, CAPA

★ 2nd Place ★

Effectiveness of Femoral Nerve Blockade for Pain Control after Total Knee Arthroplasty

Victor M. Duarte, BA, RN, RNFA
Wendy M. Fallis, PhD, RN
Dean Slonowsky, PhD
Kwadwo Kwarteng, MSc
Colin K.L. Yeung, BSc

★ 3rd Place ★

A Description of Intraoperative and Postanesthesia Complication Rates
Shauna Ely Tarrac, MSN, RN, CPAN

BEST PRACTICE CATEGORY

★ 1st Place ★

The ASPAN EBP Conceptual Model: Framework for Perianesthesia Practice & Research

Myrna Mamaril, MS, RN, CPAN, CAPA
Jacqueline M. Ross, MSN, RN, CPAN
Dina Krenzischek, MAS, RN, CPAN
Denise O'Brien, MSN, APRN, BC, CPAN, CAPA, FAAN
Linda Wilson, PhD, RN, CPAN, CAPA, BC
Martha Clark, MSN, RN, CPAN
Terry Clifford, MSN, RN, CPAN
Vallire D. Hooper, MSN, RN, CPAN, FAAN

★ 2nd Place ★

Impact of Average Patient Acuity on Staffing of the Phase I PACU

Franklin Dexter, MD, PhD
Ruth E. Wachtel, PhD, MBA
Richard H. Epstein, MD

★ 3rd Place ★

Applying Cultural Competence to Perianesthesia Nursing
Geri-Ann Galanti, PhD 🌿

JoPAN Awards

ASPAN gratefully
acknowledges
Elsevier for its
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Mary Hanna
Journalism Awards

Breathline

Volume 27, Number 4
July/August 2007

The ASPAN Board of Directors

Meet your perianesthesia colleagues who were elected to lead ASPAN for the 2007-2008 business years.

President

Susan Fossum, BSN, RN, CPAN, is the Staff Developer in a university surgery center operating room and PACU. Her nursing experience includes clinical and managerial roles, and she served twelve years in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps Reserves. She served the California component in several capacities, to include president, and was the ASPAN Regional Director, Region 1. Sue has a passion for the advancement of nursing advocacy issues and brings this vision to her position as a leader of perianesthesia nurses.

Vice President/President-Elect

Lois Schick, MN, MBA, RN, CPAN, CAPA, has twenty-seven years of administrative experience as a Director of Perianesthesia/Ambulatory Surgery, Director of Surgical Services, and Director of the Emergency Department. She has since returned to patient care at the bedside while developing an entrepreneurial nursing education business. Lois completed two terms as ASPAN Treasurer, is a charter member of ASPAN and the Rocky Mountain PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association, and was co-chair of the 17th ASPAN National Conference held in Denver.

Secretary

Gena Near, BSN, RN, CPAN, is serving the second year of a two-year term. She is a nursing informatics clinician who designs computerized patient records while supporting educational needs of perioperative and perianesthesia nurses. Gena served as ASPAN's Governmental Affairs and Credentials Team Leader, and has been a member of Bylaws and PR/Marketing Committees, and the Diversity SWT. She has active-

ly served her North Carolina component for many years.

Treasurer

Susan Carter, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, was elected to a two year term. She has over twenty-one years of perianesthesia experience including managerial, educator, and staff nurse positions. Sue served for four years as ASPAN Regional Director, Region One, and is currently a committee member on several ASPAN committees. She was the 2007 National Conference Strategic Work Team Coordinator. Active in her PANAC component, she held the offices of president, secretary, and district director.

Immediate Past President

Pamela Windle, MS, RN, CNA, BC, CPAN, CAPA, a perianesthesia nurse manager, has enthusiastically served ASPAN to advance perianesthesia nursing practice with a focus on research, mentorship and the promotion of "Our Journey to Excellence." Pam readily shares her wisdom and passion for nursing. In addition to occupying ASPAN leadership positions, she has participated in many ASPAN programs and committees for over a decade. Pam has also served her Texas component in several leadership roles.

Regional Director-Region 1

Nancy O'Malley, MA, RN, CPAN, CAPA, was elected to a two year term. She began practicing perianesthesia nursing in 1981, became her hospital's first CPAN, and was involved in the first CAPA test group. Nancy has been active in the Rocky Mountain component where she served in both district and leadership positions, while working on

ASPAN's 1996 National Conference Committee and the ASPAN Clinical Practice Committee. She is employed as a surgical services clinical staff educator and hospital education specialist.

Regional Director-Region 2

Twilla Shrout, BSN, MBA, RN, CAPA, is serving the second year of a two-year term. A Staff Nurse V and manager in the pre-operative unit and PACU, she is involved in education, the mentorship program, performance improvement, and pain management initiatives. She served MOKAN PANA as president, treasurer, and as a delegate to the ASPAN Representative Assembly. Twilla brings extensive hands on experience to this position from many years of membership and participation on various ASPAN committees.

Regional Director-Region 3

Kim Kraft, BSN, RN, CPAN, was elected to a second two-year term. As a nurse clinician for preadmission screening, ambulatory surgery, preoperative holding and the PACU, she brings total knowledge of the scope of perianesthesia nursing to her director position. Kim has served as ASPAN's Membership/Marketing Committee Chair and she actively contributes to ASPAN and ILSpan on several committees. Nominated by her peers, Kim was honored with the 2007 ASPAN Excellence in Clinical Practice Award.

Regional Director-Region 4

Maryanne Carollo, BS, RN, CAPA, is serving the second year of a two-year term. She is the nurse education manager in a preadmission and ambulatory surgery center. Maryanne's profes-

sional experience encompasses all phases of perianesthesia care and she coordinated implementation of a clinical electronic documentation project. She served NYS-PANA as the component and district president, and brings skill and experience from leading and serving on several ASPAN committees to her director position.

Regional Director-Region 5

Christine Price, MSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, was elected to a second two-year term. She is the perioperative services director for a medical center system with accountability for overall management of nursing practice, nursing research, nursing education and professional development. Chris, a former CBSPAN president, is an inspiring and supportive leader who shares knowledge, aptitude and energy in her role as regional director.

Director for Education

Linda Ziolkowski, MSN, RN, CPAN, APRN, BC, was elected to a two-year term. She has been involved in the care, management and education of perianesthesia patients and staff for over twenty years. An accomplished perianesthesia lecturer and published author, she is currently a perianesthesia education specialist working with nurses throughout the continuum of perianesthesia care. Linda served as secretary, president and the education chair in her Michigan component, and was an ABPANC board member from 1992-1998. She served as ASPAN Director for Education from 2002-2005, and is an active member of several ASPAN committees.

Director for Clinical Practice

Theresa Clifford, MSN, RN, CPAN, is serving the second year of a two-year term. She is a perianesthesia resource nurse and edu-



Board of Directors members participating in the Anaheim Representative Assembly proceedings: (from left) Maryanne Carollo, Christine Price, and Theresa Clifford

cator in a small community hospital. Terry has served MeSPAN as component president, and enthusiastically contributed to ASPAN's mission for many years. She is valued for her multi-skilled talents and reasoned approach. She has served as the Standards and Guidelines Committee Chair, and is a member of the Safety Committee, Evidence Based Practice (EBP) Committee, Perianesthesia Data Elements Committee, and the Staffing Strategic Work Team.

Director for Research

Jacqueline Ross, MSN, RN, CPAN, was elected to a two year term. She has over twenty years of perianesthesia nursing experience as a bedside nurse and manager, and is currently a perianesthesia consultant for education, legal issues, and research. A fulltime PhD student, her research interests include nursing burnout and turnover, and information literacy. Jackie has served as OPANA president, and on ASPAN's Research, Governmental Affairs, and Publications Committee. She was *Breathline* Editor for ten years, is the outgoing EBP Committee Chair, and was recipient of the 2003 ASPAN President's Award.

Director for Development

Dolly Ireland, MSN, RN, CAPA, CPN, is serving the second year of a two-year term. Currently a hospital nursing department Director of Education, she

has twenty-nine years of perianesthesia specialty experience. Dolly performs legal consultation while serving as an expert witness on medical malpractice in the perianesthesia environment. She lectures on a variety of perianesthesia topics, and frequently publishes her work. As a past ASPAN President and active member in her Michigan component, Dolly is devoted to supporting ASPAN's organizational mission and goals.

ABPANC President

Ann Beldia Smith, MSN, RN, CAPA, has been a perianesthesia nurse and a member of ASPAN since 1984. She served the Georgia component as president, and subsequently moved to California in 2005 to accept a position as a surgical services manager. Ann has served the ABPANC Board of Directors in various capacities since 2002. The ABPANC President is an Ex-Officio member of the ASPAN Board of Directors.

ASPAN CEO

Kevin Dill is ASPAN's Chief Executive Officer and an Ex-Officio member of the Board of Directors. He maintains oversight of organizational business and manages operations at the ASPAN National Office, located in Cherry Hill, NJ. Kevin's quick wit and sense of humor is always appreciated, as is his deep dedication to the ASPAN organization. 🌿

The Politics of Nursing *The Nurse in Washington Internship*

Maureen McLaughlin, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA-Chair; ASPAN Governmental Affairs Committee; Susan Fossum, BSN, RN, CPAN-ASPAN President; and Nancy Meronuck, RN, CPAN-Member, ASPAN Governmental Affairs Committee

The Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) is an exciting, informative orientation to the political process in our nation's capitol. This annual program offers nurses an opportunity to learn the basics of political activism and hone political skills. We three authors had the opportunity to attend the 2007 NIWI program, held last March in Washington, D.C.

The NIWI event is sponsored by the Nursing Organizations Alliance, a consortium of specialty nursing organizations which

session included two nurses whose vision led to the first NIWI program held twenty-five years ago. Other topics included coalition building, advocacy training, mock lobbying sessions and an update from Denise H. Geolot, PhD, RN, FAAN, Director, Division of Nursing, Bureau of Health Resources and Services Administration. The conference schedule concluded with a visit to "the Hill" to meet with our respective state senators and representatives.

Coalition Building

Imagine over two million registered nurses residing in the United States connecting on a particular concern, and then flooding Congress with the same message. This action would certainly get the legislators' attention and the message would be clear: this is an area of concern to healthcare experts - and lawmakers need to pay attention. Unfortunately, this degree of uniformity rarely occurs, so NIWI provided a modified approach. The attendees comprise a variety of specialty nursing practices, and many organizations have lobbyists that nurses can network with while in Washington. However, the initial phase of the NIWI process was to gather with nurses from our state and formulate a strategy for the meeting with our senator and representative.

Every participating nurse was asked to deliver the same talking points related to funding for the Nurse Reinvestment Act and the National Institute for Nursing Research. We were asked to prepare to discuss these points with the legislators and, if time permit-



The Governmental Affairs Committee offers several resources on the ASPAN Web site. These include the free publication, *Governmental Affairs: A Primer for Political Action*, information on the legislative process and policy issues, plus monthly legislative updates. Visit www.aspan.org, click on the "Members" tab, and then select "Governmental Affairs" from the dropdown menu.

ted, address any other pertinent concerns related to our nursing specialty. Each nurse would then leave the same written information with his or her legislator with a goal that our message would be heard and shared among the members of Congress.

Responsible Advocacy

As defined in our Standards of Care, nurses have a responsibility

continued on page 13



(From left) Maureen McLaughlin, Sue Fossum, and ASPAN NIWI Scholarship recipient Nancy Meronuck represented ASPAN at the 2007 NIWI

includes ASPAN as a member. This year's program involved 86 registered nurse attendees representing 33 states and 35 specialty organizations. All conference attendees receive information prior to the conference to assist us in arriving prepared. Many nurses began the networking process, so essential for coalition building, prior to arriving in Washington.

Nursing Politics 101

The NIWI program began on Sunday with a gathering where we met our hosts and fellow conference attendees. The four-day agenda began with a lecture on the role of nurses in health policy. The speakers for this informative

Inspiring Others to Join ASPAN

Jane Lind, BS, RN-Chair, ASPAN Membership/Marketing Committee

ASPAN membership now exceeds 13,000 perianesthesia nurses, to include 1,286 new members recruited by over 900 recruiters over the past year. Terri Gray, this year's recipient of the Recruiter of the Year Award, recruited 37 new ASPAN members! Congratulations, Terri! As the top member recruiter, Terri received an engraved plaque, a complimentary one year ASPAN membership, and complimentary registration to the 2008 National Conference in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas.

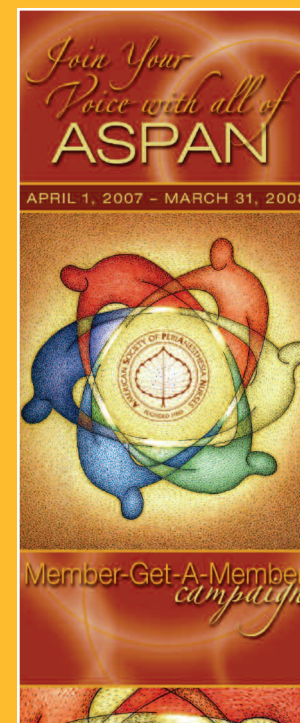
The Tennessee Society of Perianesthesia Nurses (TSPAN) was awarded the Top Component Recruiter Award, with 11.11% of their members serving as recruiters. TSPAN was given two complimentary registrations for the 2008 National Conference which can be used to reward their top recruiters, or they may be disbursed in a component drawing.

For every newly recruited



Jane Lind (left) presents MAPAN's Terri Gray with the 2007 Recruiter of the Year Award

member, the recruiter's name was entered into a random drawing for a complimentary 2008 National Conference registration. Rachel Knight was this year's lucky winner! Thank you to all of our recruiters for encouraging others to join "Our Journey to Excellence" last year. 🌿



**The 2007-2008
Member-Get-A-Member Campaign
is now underway.**

*"Join Your Voice with
all of ASPAN" and
start recruiting today!*

Governmental Affairs
continued from page 12

to advocate for patients. Many nurses interpret that statement to apply only when the patient is in our care. But patient advocacy is effectively accomplished by engaging in fundamental lobbying efforts at the federal level, which can ensure that patients will have a licensed nurse to deliver their care.

Continued funding is essential for the Nurse Reinvestment Act to ensure that sufficient nursing faculty will be available to educate student nurses and prevent qualified nursing program appli-

cants from being turned away. This Act is necessary to keep our nation supplied with an adequate number of nurses to deliver care to an aging population.

Talk the Talk

As experts, nurses must share our professional stories with legislators. Real life descriptions of how the nursing shortage directly affects patients, such as long waits in emergency rooms, delays in care delivery, or protracted stays in the PACU due to unavailable inpatient beds or nursing staff give a powerful voice to healthcare delivery challenges.

These stories, with suggestions for potential solutions, must be told to protect and support our colleagues and patients.

ASPAN provides ongoing advocacy education and mentoring through our Governmental Affairs Committee network. The NIWI program is designed to empower nurses' understanding of and participation in the legislative arena. We urge you to become more active in nursing advocacy efforts as an ASPAN member, and consider attending a future NIWI program to learn how to become an effective voice in Washington! 🌿

Membership

To download a membership brochure, go to www.aspan.org, click on the "Members" tab, then select the "Member-Get-A-Member" option

Breathline

Volume 27, Number 4
July/August 2007

Great “Developments” in Anaheim

Sunday morning dawned slightly cool and damp, but the weather did not dampen the spirits of 172 Dream Walkers who met under the Disney Sorcerer's Hat to kick off the 2007 ASPAN Dream Walk! The MSPAN, PANAC and RMPANA components tied for having the most participants, and the Northwest PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association (NPANA) registered the most pledges.

This year, a new award was introduced for the member collecting the most Dream Walk pledges. The inaugural Dream Walker Award was presented to Anchorage, Alaska's Judy Evans, who raised almost \$2000 in pledges. Judy was given a beautiful commemorative plaque and complimentary registration to the 2008 National Conference in Texas.

The basketball “hoops” contest, held in the Exhibit Hall, provided laughter and fun for everyone ... but professional teams need not worry about our competition! Approximately \$800 in additional development activity funds were raised through many good shots that passed through the rim. Nice going, everyone!

The Exhibit Hall Silent Auction was a complete success story that earned over \$1500. So many wonderful items were donated by ASPAN members and components, and many excited bidders waited for the final bid bell to see if they would take home a coveted item. A very big THANK YOU goes to all who donated items in support of the Silent Auction.

ASPAN awarded over \$17,000 in scholarships to eligible ASPAN members in various categories this past year. Congratulations to all scholarship winners, whose names were displayed on a sign in the Exhibit Hall during Confer-



Dream Walkers gathered early Sunday morning to kick off Conference week with a brisk walk and support ASPAN Development



The walkers sported Dream Walk gifts that included Mickey Mouse ears and ergonomic backpacks

ence. The Development team looks forward to reviewing more scholarship submissions this year!

The ASPAN Development Luncheon, held on Wednesday of Conference week, offered a sparkling atmosphere for nearly four hundred attendees. Past ASPAN President, Susan Sheldner, delivered an emotional and inspiring presentation on your life's message and leaving a legacy.

While Susan was receiving a resounding standing ovation, ASPAN members began pledging “Hail, Honor and Salute!” (HHS) donations to acknowledge a special person who shared or helped in their life's journey. The HHS pledges totaled over \$7,800 and will greatly assist with future development activities. Thank you, everyone, for your wonderful generosity! 🌿

2007 Exhibits



Pamela Windle (right) performs the ceremonial ribbon cutting to open the 2007 Exhibit Hall



Shooting hoops in the Exhibit Hall



Industry representatives were on hand in the Exhibit Hall to demonstrate the latest and greatest healthcare wares

26th National Conference Sponsors

ASPAN is deeply appreciative for the support and generous contributions made by these organizations. We thank you for helping to make the Anaheim Conference such a success!

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists

Arizant Healthcare, Inc.

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Elsevier

Cerner Corporation

Hill-Rom Co., Inc.

Merck & Co., Inc.

Ortho-McNeil, Inc.

Stryker

Thank You!

Component Sponsors

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OSPAN
PANAC
PANANM
PAPAN
RMPANA
TAPAN
USPAN
VSPAN
VT/NH APAN

**ASPAN
Development**

Foundation Gets a New Name

Dolly Ireland, MSN, RN, CAPA, CPN-Director for Development

The 2007 Representative Assembly voted to change the name of the ASPAN Foundation to ASPAN Development. This change was made to better clarify and describe the actual business that takes place. Monies donated to the former Foundation supported ASPAN educational programs, scholarships, clinically based research, and public awareness programs. The new title of ASPAN Development encompasses all of these activities

and allows ASPAN to develop new ideas under this workgroup.

Along with the name change, it was also decided that the director title would change. In keeping with the three ASPAN divisions of education, clinical practice, and research, this elected board position is now called Director for Development. The Development team looks forward to seamlessly carrying on the role that the Foundation supported within ASPAN. 🌿



2007 Development Luncheon speaker, Susan Shelander (left) sharing a legacy moment with NYSPAN's Maureen Iacono

Breathline

*Volume 27, Number 4
July/August 2007*

15

2007 ASPAN Honors

During Opening Ceremonies, held at the 26th National Conference in Anaheim, the following individuals and components were recognized with prestigious ASPAN awards.



Kim Kraft, BSN, RN, CPAN (left), is ASPAN's 2007 Excellence in Clinical Practice Award winner

Excellence in Clinical Practice

Kim Kraft was nominated by her colleagues at St. John's Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis, Missouri. She contributes immensely to the clinical areas by researching and developing protocols, providing clinical orientation to the perianesthesia areas, and through active participation on several hospital committees. Her far reaching accomplishments extend beyond the perianesthesia spectrum and cross over to many nursing units in the facility. Kim is described as model of professionalism, possessing a gift to be both a respected expert nurse at the bedside and a teacher and advisor who improves the quality of nursing care delivered.

ASPAN President's Award

Ellen Sullivan is a sensitive, kind, extremely insightful and diplomatic colleague. She reflects on diverse issues and always thinks ahead by asking, "What if/what happens when ...?" Ellen took to heart Pam's presidential theme of Our Journey to Excellence: advocate safety by improving safe staffing. She is exceptionally knowledgeable on perianesthesia safety practice concerns. As the project coordinator she helped achieve the goal of raising awareness regarding the importance of patient safety and safe staffing in everyday practice. With her kind and persistent advice, Ellen supported this legacy. Standing tall, she exemplifies the true meaning of caring and professionalism.



Ellen Sullivan, BSN, RN, CPAN (right), was the deserving 2007 ASPAN President's Award recipient



Maureen Iacono, BSN, RN, CPAN (left), receiving this year's ASPAN Award for Outstanding Achievement

Award for Outstanding Achievement

The Award for Outstanding Achievement is presented to an individual whose excellence and dedication has furthered the art and science of perianesthesia nursing. Maureen Iacono is described as the consummate perianesthesia nursing leader. Her ability to effectively communicate through the written word and eloquent oral presentations serve as outstanding leadership qualities. Maureen is an ardent advocate for ASPAN to be recognized at the table as the premier nursing specialty and the voice of perianesthesia nursing. As the 1998-1999 ASPAN President, Maureen effectively "set the table" at which ASPAN now sits. Her personal qualities, such as knowledge, skill, and a passion for nursing make Maureen an inspiration to all.

Distinguished Service Award of the Past Presidents' Council

Jane Ehrhardt, one of ASPAN's cherished charter members, has a long history of dedicated service to our organization. Her participation on committees and her former service as ASPAN Secretary and Director for the Foundation is highly valued. Jane is articulate, respectful and kind. Colleagues and friends describe her as a "gung ho" individual with plenty of southern hospitality and a winning smile. Her presence is positive and genuine. Her keen sense of pride and passion has given Jane the confidence to be the voice of ASPAN - recruiting, retaining and mentoring members.

Her belief in ASPAN's core values of family and community helped her to remain strong when Hurricane Katrina hit home in New Orleans and on the Gulf Coast. Despite this tragedy, and with resulting personal losses, she continued to support ASPAN and her component, LAPAN. Jane is truly an ASPAN champion!



Jane Ehrhardt, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA (left), accepts the 2007 Distinguished Service Award of the Past Presidents' Council



Michelle Honeywell (left), President of the Oklahoma Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses, proudly accepted her component's Gold Leaf Award from Jane Lind

Gold Leaf Component of the Year Award

The Gold Leaf Award recognizes a component for its commitment to excellence in leadership and membership development, education, and community relations. The Gold Leaf Award criteria serves as a road map for components embarking on a quest for their "Journey to Excellence." The Oklahoma Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (OSPAN) Gold Leaf application documented many accomplishments on their successful journey. ASPAN congratulates OSPAN on this wonderful accomplishment. The Gold Leaf Component of the Year was awarded an engraved plaque, a check for \$500 and a certificate for a book or publication to be used for membership recruitment or component member use. OSPAN members proudly donned "Component of the Year" ribbons throughout Conference week.

The evidence based work of many dedicated perianesthesia professionals was displayed and presented at the 26th National Conference in Anaheim, California.

This year, ASPAN received and accepted a record number of Celebrate Successful Practices and Research Abstract submissions, to include collaborative partnering research works. We invite you to visit the ASPAN Web site (www.aspan.org), select 'National Conference' under the 'Education' tab, and scroll down the page to view complete listings (in .pdf format) of these abstracts and their respective investigators.

ASPAN 26TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE

There's something very special about National Conference. Perhaps it's reconnecting with old friends and colleagues while making new friends, learning something exceptional, or realizing that we nurses share the same passions and challenges in our career no matter where we practice our profession.

This year, a record number of first time attendees came to Anaheim to experience ASPAN's Conference. They learned a lot about perianesthesia nursing science,

care delivery, and practice trends. And they also found out how fun and exciting this annual trek can be! We hope to see you all again next year, and be sure to bring along a first timer too.

Thank You 2007 National Conference Strategic Work Team

Many people work tirelessly to organize and execute the National Conference. We would like to recognize the fantastic team that made this year's "Magical Journey

to Excellence" soar to the highest heights. Congratulations on making the Anaheim conference a resounding success!

- Susan Carter, *Coordinator*
- Helen Buss
- Kathy DeLeskey
- Susan Fossum
- Susan McDonald
- Ernestine Nunes
- Nancy Saufl
- Lois Schick
- Cherie Sloan
- Linda Trowbridge
- Pamela Windle

Component Night

ASPAN gratefully acknowledges Arizant for its support of Component Night

It's time for lights – camera – ACTION! ▼



▲ These fun loving California gals led the way for the Component Night "Walk with the Stars"



▲ Who didn't "know Jack" on Component Night?

APRIL 15-19, 2007 • ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

International and Military Reception

The reception attendees comprised seventeen active duty and reserve military officers, and thirteen international guests visiting from Ireland, Germany, Guam, and Canada ▼



▲ Jessica Inch, British Journal of Anaesthetic and Recovery Nursing Editor (on left), visits with ASPAN CEO Kevin Dill and British Anaesthetic and Recovery Nurses Association Chair, Manda Dunne



▲ Throughout the week, military members were thanked by colleagues for their service to our nation

President's Reception

Thanks to Hill-ROM for a fabulous President's Reception



▲ PAPAN members surround Pamela Windle as she welcomes attendees to the President's Reception

Hawaii members hangin' loose on the dance floor! ▼



▲ Getting the party started at the President's Reception with a circle dance



Safety Alert: Handoff Communication Providing Safe Passage through the Perianesthesia Continuum

Myrna Mamaril, MS, RN, CPAN, CAPA-Member, ASPAN Safety Committee

Have you ever aggressively treated an unstable PACU patient, only to discover that buried in the preadmission work-up the patient reported a similar problem with previous surgeries? When preoperative surgical patients report significant events or problems during the preadmission workup or health history, do hospitals or surgery centers have a communication reporting mechanism to ensure that future caregivers are supplied with all the pertinent information?

Just think about the number of times surgical or procedural patients transition through multiple care providers during the course of treatment. Currently, the Joint Commission is focusing on handoff communication during the transfer of care in healthcare facilities, whether the patient is being transferred to a higher level, same level, or lower level of care.

According to Joint Commission surveys, 70% of sentinel events that occurred in accredited healthcare organizations in 2005 were caused by communication problems.¹ "When a patient is handed off, caregivers need to pass on the information needed to

effectively care for that patient, such as the patient's current condition, ongoing treatment, recent changes in condition, and possible changes or complications to watch out for."¹

A standardized approach to communication between caregivers is recommended.¹ The Situation-Background-Assessment-Recommendation (SBAR) is one useful technique that can be applied in varied perianesthesia situations. SBAR allows the provider to effectively organize communications and enhance other caregivers' understanding. Many facilities have modified the SBAR technique to best fit their practice paradigm.¹

Here is an example of SBAR applied in the preoperative setting:

S – Situation: Mr. B is having a craniotomy under general anesthesia

B – Background: Preoperative vital signs and testing; history significant for obstructive sleep apnea and prior tracheostomy

A – Assessment: Patient meets criteria for difficult airway

protocol; review current vital signs; identify, report and document significant physical finds from review of systems

R – Recommendation: Closely monitor airway to prevent compromise; observe for oxygen desaturation; have an emergency tracheostomy tray readily available; advocate for possible admission to the intensive care unit overnight

A patient trusts that when he or she tells a healthcare team member about a specific problem or prior event, that this will be properly communicated to those managing the care. Ensuring that significant healthcare information is effectively communicated is imperative for keeping patients safe throughout their surgical experience. Clear, purposeful provider communications are critical to prevent harm and to ensure positive patient outcomes.

REFERENCE

1. The Joint Commission. Improving Handoff Communications: Meeting National Patient Safety Goal 2E. Available at <http://www.jcipa-tientsafety.org/15427/>. Accessed May 24, 2007. 

Frequently Asked Questions

Terry Clifford, MSN, RN, CPAN- ASPAN Director for Clinical Practice

The Clinical Practice Committee receives many questions via the ASPAN Web site each month. Committee members then research the answer and respond to the query. This is one frequently asked question.

Q: What is the national trend for being able to wear personal, home-laundered scrubs to work in the PACU?

A: Standard II - Environment of Care, found in the 2006-2008 Standards of Perianesthesia Nursing Practice, states: "Personnel and visitor dress codes are determined by proximity and frequency of access to operating rooms."¹ Unfortunately, no other recommendations in the Standards address attire worn by perianesthesia personnel.

In 1999, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a "Guideline for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection". This guideline indicated there were no well controlled studies relating surgical site infections to laundering of scrubs. Where and how to launder scrubs was described as an unresolved matter, and no specific recommendation was issued.³ This implies that scrubs laundered at home and worn from home do not pose a

continued on page 21

Read ASPAN's
new Position
Statement on
Perianesthesia
Safety at
[www.aspan.org/
PosStmts15.htm](http://www.aspan.org/PosStmts15.htm)

risk to patients. It also suggests that, at the end of the day, those same scrubs do not pose a health threat to the home environment.

In 2003, the CDC and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee issued guidelines for infection control in healthcare facilities. Although clothing contact is not known as a significant mechanism for transmission of pathogens, the guidelines recommend control measures to prevent healthcare associated infections related to contaminate clothing founded in hygienic principles, common sense, and consensus.² When clothing becomes contaminated with blood, emesis, urine, or any other body fluid, the clothing should be immediately removed and laundered at the healthcare facility.²

The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) does not support home laundering of surgical attire, citing a lack of evidence related to safety of healthcare workers, their families, and patients.⁴ AORN recommends that all reusable surgical attire, such as scrubs, cloth hats, and warm-up jackets be laundered after daily use in a facility approved and monitored laundry.⁴ AORN further advises that when healthcare workers are required by a facility to launder surgical scrubs at home, suggested measures for laundering the items should be observed. These include, but are not limited to: use of an automatic washer and hot air dryer; washing the scrubs separately and as the last load of wash; promoting microbial kill with a water temperature above 110° F; and the appropriate use of detergent and chlorine bleach.⁴

Regarding the use of scrubs by the perianesthesia nurse, a general

survey of clinical practice constituents from across the country revealed wide variations in opinion and practice related to scrubs. It is obvious that each healthcare institution has a tailored approach to handling scrubs based on knowledge of related research, associated costs, perceptions of staff and consumers, and cost/benefit breakdowns. Clearly, the current state of the evidence offers an expansive opportunity for studies on the implications of laundering methods. Such studies are needed to further support the decision process related to the question, "home scrubs or hospital scrubs?"

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3. Belkin NL. Home laundering of soiled surgical scrubs: Surgical site infections and the home environment. *American Journal of Infection Control*, 29(1): February 2001.
4. Association of periOperative Registered Nurses. Recommended practices for surgical attire. *AORN Journal*, 81(2): February 2005. 🌿

Dalton Acclaimed with ABPANC Advocacy Award

The 7th annual ABPANC Advocacy Award was presented at the annual CPAN/CAPA Celebration Breakfast held during the ASPAN National Conference. A very surprised Eileen Dalton, BSN, RN, CPAN, who works in the PACU at Carondelet St. Joseph's Hospital in Tucson, Arizona, accepted this ward.

The Advocacy Award publicly recognizes a CPAN or CAPA certified nurse who exemplifies leadership as a patient advocate, and is the highest accolade given to a certified nurse. Eileen was nominated by her clinical manager, Kris Ingegneri, BSN, RN, CPAN. Kris wrote a story describing only one of many instances when Eileen truly advocated for a patient.

Eileen was presented with a beautiful Lladro nurse statue and a scholarship for her next recertification fee. Kris received a \$100 cash award, and the unit in which they work received a \$350 award to use for certification/recertification fees, books, or continuing education. Eileen's nomination story can be read by logging onto the ABPANC Web site. 🌿



Eileen Dalton, BSN, RN, CPAN, accepts the 2007 ABPANC Advocacy Award at the ASPAN National Conference in Anaheim

Certification



(<http://www.cpancapa.org>)

Register now for
November 3,
2007 exams!

Contact ABPANC
for Certification
Information

ABPANC
475 Riverside Drive,
6th Floor
New York, NY
10115-0089

Phone:
1-800-6ABPANC
Fax: 212-367-4256
www.cpancapa.org

Breathline

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An ASPAN Galaxy

2007 Star Recognition Program

The ASPAN Star Recognition Program offers the opportunity for perianesthesia nurses in any practice setting to recognize unsung heroes. Stars are colleagues who raise the bar of excellence through some action, and demonstrate passion and commitment to ASPAN's core values. These individuals, recognized by a nursing peer, were honored with a star at the 26th National Conference in Anaheim.

- ★ Jennifer Allen, MSQSM, RN, CPAN
- ★ Kathleen Anderson, BSN, RN, CAPA
- ★ Julie Baker, RN, CPAN
- ★ Katrina Bickerstaff, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- ★ Deborah Bickford, BSN, RN, CPAN



ASPAN encourages members to recognize Star colleagues

- ★ Valerie Boatwright, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- ★ Clara Boudreaux, BSN, BS, RN, CAPA
- ★ Sheri Howell, RN, CAPA
- ★ Joni Brady, MSN, RN, CAPA
- ★ Holli Brousseau, BSN, RN
- ★ Beth Brown, RN, CPAN

- ★ Renee Burnsed, RN
- ★ Helen Buss, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Dorothy Byford, RN
- ★ Sue Cacibauda, RN, CAPA
- ★ Olyn Carlson, BSN, RN, CAPA
- ★ Susan Carter, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- ★ Mary Charest, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Marigrace Clarke, RN, CAPA
- ★ Jacque Crosson, MSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Janet Donoghue, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Amy Dooley, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Helen Fong, BSN, RN
- ★ Sandra Gardner, MSN, MSHSA, RN, CPAN
- ★ Kathleen Glatt, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Barbara Godden, MHS, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- ★ Gerri Graves, BS, RN, CAPA
- ★ Catherine Greulich, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- ★ Michaela Halcomb, BSN, RN, CAPA
- ★ Susan Hardway, RN
- ★ Dheзраe Herauf, RN, CAPA
- ★ Michelle Honeywell, RN
- ★ David Kay, MSN, RN, CAPA
- ★ Arlene Kozicki, RN, CPAN
- ★ Dina Krenzischek, MAS, RN, CPAN
- ★ Karla LeBlanc-Lucas, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Lynda Kay Marks, RN, CAPA
- ★ Barbara Marsh, MHS, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Maureen McLaughlin, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA



ASPAN Star
Recognition nomination
forms can be
downloaded from the
ASPAN Web site @
[http://www.aspan.org/
awards.htm](http://www.aspan.org/awards.htm)

- ★ Sue Meier, BSN, RN, CAPA
- ★ Tania Nilles, RN, CPAN
- ★ Kim Noble, PhD, RN, CPAN
- ★ Ernestine Nunes, RN, CPAN, CNOR
- ★ Nancy O'Malley, MA, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- ★ Stephanie Parson, RN, CAPA
- ★ Emma Pontenila, MA, RN, CPAN
- ★ Lauri Rosenlof, BSN, RN
- ★ Sharon Sample, RN, CPAN, CAPA
- ★ Lori Sanders, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Kathleen Sim, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Cherie Sloan, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Jenifer Thornbrugh, RN
- ★ Linda Trowbridge, MSA, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Sara Waldron, BSN, RN, CPAN
- ★ Valerie Watkins, BSN, RN
- ★ Linda Wilson, PhD, RN, CPAN, CAPA, BC, CNE

September 15, 2007 Indiana Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (INSPAN) presents "Advancing Your Perianesthesia Nursing Practice" with Deborah Dlugose, RN, CCRN, CRNA, in Indianapolis, Indiana. For more information, please contact Susan Starewicz @ 812-378-1030 or suestar14@yahoo.com

September 22, 2007 Vermont/New Hampshire Association of Perianesthesia Nurses' (VT/NH APAN) fall conference "Current Topics in Perianesthesia Care" at White River Junction Medical Center, White River Junction, VT. For information, Contact Amy Dooley at dooleylax@comcast.net

September 22, 2007 Illinois Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (ILSPAN) fall conference "Anesthesia Perils: Keeping Your Perianesthesia Patient Safe" featuring Deborah Dlugose, RN, CCRN, CRNA, in St. Louis, MO. For information, contact Marigrace Clarke at 314-423-6057 or mcrncapa@aol.com, or visit www.ilspan.org

September 22-23, 2007 Wisconsin Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (WISPAN) fall seminar in Door County, WI. For more information, contact Valerie Dethloff at valthern@hotmail.com

September 28-30, 2007 Rocky Mountain PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association's (RMPANA) 25th Anniversary celebration at the 9th annual 'Retreat In The Rockies' at Snow Mountain Ranch in CO. Speakers include Dolly Ireland, Susan Fossum, Myrna Mamaril and Lois Schick. For more information, contact Lynda Marks at lynamarks@qwest.net or www.rmpana.org

September 29, 2007 Utah Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (USPAN) fall conference and membership meeting in Provo, UT. For more information, contact David Kay at 801-728-9508, 801-387-2325, or david.kay@comcast.net

September 29, 2007 Tennessee Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (TSPAN) Fall Fling will be held from 7:30 am - 4:30 pm at the historic Chattanooga Choo Choo in Chattanooga, TN. For more information, contact Joann Wood at joann.9@comcast.net

October 6, 2007 Chesapeake Bay Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (CBSPAN) 27th Annual Fall Seminar sponsored by the Eastern Shore District. CBSPAN's '25th' Anniversary Celebration, Dover Downs Conference Center, Dover, DE. Contact Maryann Sosnowski at manyia730@aol.com or visit www.cbspan.org

October 6, 2007 New Jersey/Bermuda PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association (NJBPAN) fall conference "Perianesthesia Potpourri" featuring Barb Bancroft and Linda Wilson, at Morristown Memorial Hospital, Morristown, NJ. For more information visit www.njbpna.org

October 6-7, 2007 Pennsylvania Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (PAPAN) annual fall conference "PRIDE XV" at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem in Bethlehem, PA. For more information contact Diane Steltz at info@papanonline.org or visit www.papanonline.org

October 12-13, 2007 PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association of California (PANAC) Annual Meeting & Seminar will be held at the

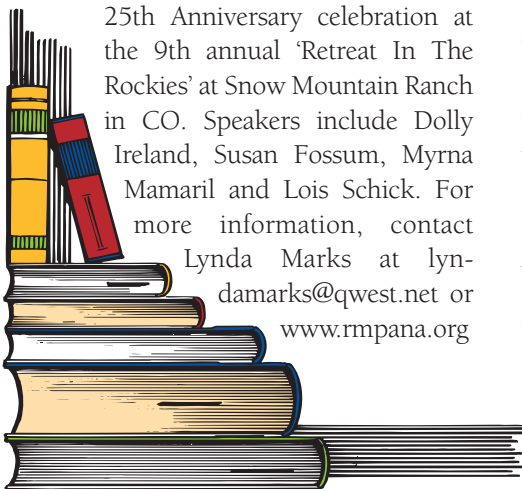
Hilton Arden West in Sacramento, CA. For information go to www.panac.org or contact Debbie Bickford @ 310-370-7978 or bickshome@aol.com

October 13-14, 2007 New York State PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association's (NYSPAN) annual conference "A New York Moment: Celebrating Perianesthesia Practice" in White Plains, NY. The program includes a variety of hot topics and a malignant hyperthermia simulation. For more information, contact Sandy Barnes at sbcpn@gmail.com or 914-232-5542, or visit www.nyspana.org

October 18-21, 2007 Florida Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (FLSPAN) fall conference "Stepping up to Professional Excellence: Education, Participation, Certification" will take place in Orlando, Florida. For more information, contact Kim Godfrey at kim.godfrey@hcahealthcare.com or pacurn32068@hotmail.com

October 20, 2007 Iowa Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses' (ISPAN) fall conference "Perianesthesia Practice: Something for Everyone" in Waterloo, IA. The featured speaker is Nancy Strzyzewski, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA. For information, contact Jennifer Goos at 319-833-5800 or goosjs@ihs.org

November 10-11, 2007 Kentucky Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (KSPAN) 25th Anniversary Fall Conference featuring Dolly Ireland, MSN, RN, CAPA, CPN, will be held at the Holiday Inn North Lexington, KY. For information, contact Donna Hagan at donna@alumalok.com





Summer/Fall ASPAN Seminars

PRST STD
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Bellmawr, NJ

August 4, 2007

Legally Speaking: Just the Facts
Grand Junction, CO
Review for Certification: CPAN
Harlingen, TX

August 25, 2007

Review for Certification: CPAN
Review for Certification: CAPA
Richmond, VA

September 8, 2007

Review for Certification: CAPA
Fresno, CA

September 15, 2007

Review for Certification: CPAN
Ontario, CA

September 21, 2007

Review for Certification: CPAN
Review for Certification: CAPA
Savannah, GA
Review for Certification: CAPA
Charlotte, NC

September 22, 2007

Perianesthesia Nursing: A Systems
Review of Pathophysiology
New York, NY

September 28, 2007

Educating the Educator
Alexandria, VA

September 29, 2007

Perianesthesia Nursing: A Systems
Review of Pathophysiology
Greenville, SC
Perianesthesia Care: Beyond the Basics
2007
Glastonbury, CT
Pediatrics: Little Bodies, Big Differences
Syracuse, NY

September 30, 2007

Review for Certification: CAPA
Chattanooga, TN

October 6, 2007

Review for Certification: CPAN
Review for Certification: CAPA
Madison, WI
Ambulatory Perianesthesia Practice:
Beyond the Basics 2007
Review for Certification: CPAN
Morgantown, WV

October 13, 2007

Review for Certification: CPAN
Biloxi, MI
Review for Certification: CPAN
Review for Certification: CAPA
Burlington, MA

October 19, 2007

Review for Certification: CPAN
Honolulu, HI

October 20, 2007

Review for Certification: CPAN
Review for Certification: CAPA
St. Louis, MO

October 26, 2007

Ambulatory Perianesthesia Practice:
Beyond the Basics 2007
Reno, NV

October 27, 2007

Legally Speaking: Just the Facts
Reno, NV
Perianesthesia Nursing: A Systems
Review of Pathophysiology
San Antonio, TX

November 10, 2007

Perianesthesia Nursing: A Systems
Review of Pathophysiology
Phoenix, AZ

For more information, contact Carol Hyman at the ASPAN
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Breathline

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24

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