President's Message

SUNA: The Center for Excellence in Urologic Nursing Education

Last week a patient came up to me and asked for copies of SUNA’s latest Overactive Bladder Fact Sheet that I have on display in our patient waiting room. She wanted copies to pass on to each of her friends. I keep a copy of all of the patient education fact sheets readily accessible to patients when they come in. If I have a patient with a stone or urinary tract infection, I make sure he/she has a copy in hand before they leave. What a wonderful resource that SUNA provides.

You have told us that education is the single most important service that SUNA offers. We are listening! The first goal in our Long Range Strategic Plan is that SUNA will be recognized as the Center for Excellence in Urologic Nursing Education, and we are committed to achieving this ambitious goal. We approach it from a multifaceted perspective in terms of what we provide and how we provide it. Let me tell you about some of the new and project- ed educational projects that SUNA is working on.

Fact Sheets. Patient education fact sheets are written by SUNA members. Currently, there are facts sheets available on Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia, Chlamydia, Genital Warts, Interstitial Cystitis, Kidney Stones, Overactive Bladder, Prostatitis, and Urinary Tract Infections. If you have an interest in a particular urology specialty area, this would be a great way to contribute. Email me or give me a call with your ideas.

Urologic Nursing Journal. Did you realize that the August issue of Urologic Nursing offered 12.5 contact hours in one issue alone? And now the past journal continuing education (CE) articles have been compiled into a single resource available for purchase. Copies of the Continuing Education Articles can be ordered online at www.suna.org or by calling the SUNA national office at 1-888-TAP-SUNA.

Local Meetings and Conferences. I love the camaraderie as well as the educational offerings at chapter meetings. My own Alamo Chapter had a great dinner meeting on benign prostatic hyperplasia this month. And I was lucky enough recently to go to the Greater Dallas Forth Worth Chapter’s conference, which 45 people attended.

National Conferences. SUNA currently has two major national meetings each year – one in the spring and one in the fall. Everyone leaves re- energized! You are the ones to tell us what you want and need from these two major conferences.

continued on page 2
The holidays are approaching as you receive this issue of the Uro-Gram. It is amazing how fast the year flies by. This issue of the Uro-Gram is the Annual Report edition. In it we focus on the year-end reports of the various offices and committees of SUNA. Once again our organization has completed an unbelievable amount of work. So as you read through the reports, please recognize how much has been accomplished in such a short period of time. There is no lack of “person power” in the SUNA organization!

The January issue of the Uro-Gram will contain the Annual Conference wrap up. We will bring you stories and photos of the highlights of the meeting. This is always a fun issue to put together. Those who couldn’t attend the conference will get a look at what occurred during the meeting. And those who were there will be able to look for familiar faces in the photos and be reminded of the many fun and educational activities they enjoyed in Orlando.

I hope you have a warm and joyous holiday season.

Evey Kliever MA, RN, CRRN-A, CURN
Uro-Gram Editor
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President’s Message
continued from page 1

Certification. The Chicago Metro Chapter has paved the way for the new, improved, and intense certification review course. It has been so successful that we hope to offer a similar course, “Urology Nursing Overview and Certification Review Course On the Road,” in 2005. We also plan to provide the course on CD-ROM.

Web Site. Educational tools, articles, contacts, and resources are all readily available on the SUNA Web site (www.suna.org). It is constantly updated to provide the latest information for you. And don’t forget to participate in the chat rooms, where there is an open forum for you to submit questions and respond to ones that have already been posted.

Scholarships. If you are a SUNA member and you need financial assistance for educational endeavors, there are scholarships available to you. Information and applications are available on the Web site. Congratulations to Diana Robertson, the most recent recipient of the Jan LeBouton Scholarship.

Feel free to contact me and let me know how you would like to contribute. By writing an educational fact sheet, writing a journal article, or presenting at a conference, you are making a valuable contribution to our organization. With all of us working together, SUNA continues to be “everything we say we are.”

Nancy M. Mueller, MSN, MA, RN, CURN
2004-05 SUNA President
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SUNA has continued to maintain a healthy level of activity since The Annual Symposium: Disorders of the Bladder, Bowel, and Pelvic Floor was held in Chicago in March 2004. Several projects that were introduced at that time have come to fruition as a result of the work of many members of the Board of Directors as well as other active SUNA members.

One of the most important projects has been the completion of the Young Investigators Research Program. Chairperson Joyce Colling, along with Francie Bernier and Sandie Soldwisch, reviewed three proposals submitted for consideration. Two of these have been accepted for financial support from SUNA. The two recipients are: (1) Gwi-Ryung Son, PhD, RN, of the University of Michigan, whose proposal was entitled “Identifying Asian Women for Whom Pregnancy and Childbirth Cause Changes in Bladder Control and Pelvic Floor Muscle Function” and (2) JoAnn Kleier, PhD, RN, with Barry University in Miami Shores, FL, whose proposal was titled “Transcultural Adaptation of the Prostate Health Questionnaire: A Pilot Study to Obtain Psychometric Estimates with Jamaican and Haitian Men.” We hope this step will establish SUNA’s urologic nursing research program as an important forum for furthering evidence-based practice.

We have continued our efforts to collaborate with other professional organizations by sending representatives to the Wound, Ostomy, Continence Nurses (WOCN) National Conference in Tampa, FL, in June. Our thanks go to Lil Hormozdi, Tina Yancey, and Cindy McLean for speaking to members of WOCN who share interests served by both of our organizations. WOCN exhibited at our annual conference as well.

Another example of our efforts to be involved in collaborative ventures is a meeting with the Sexual Dysfunction group of the American Urological Association (AUA), which will be held in January in New Orleans. We will be providing nursing input as Jeff Albaugh and Susan Kellogg-Spadt will speak on male and female sexual dysfunction. SUNA will be offering continuing education (CE) credit for this meeting, which will involve family practice physicians as well.

A SUNA-sponsored Prostate Cancer Awareness Week poster was mailed out with the August issue of the Urologic Nursing Journal. A special thank you goes to Jeff Albaugh and Donna Brassil for spearheading this effort. Hopefully, our members were able to use the poster in their practices to help increase awareness of prostate cancer among their male patients and their families. At the time of this writing, we are working on a fact sheet with the help of Donna Clar. The fact sheet might be helpful for November’s Bladder Health Awareness campaign. Also produced this year was a position paper concerning bladder cancer and smoking.

Other publications now offered to SUNA members include a set of “Getting Ready for Certification” articles and a set of CE articles from past issues of the Urologic Nursing Journal. These publications provide a resource for individuals wishing to learn about basic urology, studying for the certification exam, or looking to earn additional CE credits.

This year has been a very productive and beneficial year for me. I have learned so much about the organizational functioning of SUNA through my weekly mentoring calls with President Marie Page. Our organization is growing in many different aspects, not only with increasing membership, but also in terms of collaboration with other professional organizations, legislative initiatives, increased publications, and media venues such as our Web site. Subsequently, the year of mentoring is crucial in order to maintain the momentum of our growing and dynamic organization.

I was responsible for reviewing and revising our bylaws this year. The revised bylaws were approved by the Board of Directors and then by the general membership this summer. The Long Range Strategic Planning Committee had suggested revisions of our mission state-
ment, and those were incorporated into our bylaw revisions as well. I will focus my presidency on SUNA’s mission of being “committed to excellence in clinical practice and research through education of its members, patients, families, and community.”

As the Bylaws Chair, I am happy to report that new chapter bylaws were reviewed and approved for the Tidewater (VA), Mohawk Valley (NY), and Florida Treasure Coast Chapters, all of whom attained probationary chapter status. Five chapters successfully completed their 1-year probation and were granted full chapter status: Arizona, Big Sky (Montana), Twin State/New Hampshire, West Texas Whirlwinds, and Central California Chapters. The Mississippi Valley Chapter moved its headquarters from Iowa to St Louis, but their name, bylaws, and geographic area remain unchanged. The Delaware Valley Chapter was reactivated and also attained probationary chapter status.

I attended the Nursing Organizations Alliance (NOA) meeting in November along with SUNA President Marie Page and Executive Director Tony Jannetti. Key leaders from 56 professional nursing organizations attended this dynamic meeting. Such a show of power directly affects the organization’s potential to increase nursing’s visibility and have an impact on health. This organization is a critical one for SUNA leaders to participate in and collaborate with. The meeting time also was a wonderful opportunity for Marie, Tony, and myself to make plans for SUNA’s future. As a side note, we met Linda Shinn (a dynamic speaker and group facilitator), who conducted a working session with the Board of Directors as well as the chapter presidents during SUNA’s Annual Conference.

I am impressed and sometimes amazed at the success and growth of our organization. As SUNA grows, I see the corresponding growth and maturity of our board. I could not ask to work with a finer group of professionals. I also am grateful that we have such outstanding support from our management company. A special thanks to Cheryl Underhill, Director of Association Services, who always keeps us right on track! I am proud to be a part of this great organization and am honored to serve our membership as president in this coming year.

Nancy M. Mueller, MSN, MA, RN, CURN
President-Elect

Immediate Past President

In my role as Immediate Past President, the creation of the E-news has been quite fun, and I have continued to enjoy a consultant role to others within SUNA. The task of Nominations Chair has certainly been a challenge as my predecessors had forewarned me. Once again, the results of the elections will be rewarding to the growing activities of our organization. Hopefully, the Chapters Leadership Workshop at the Annual Conference was of great value to our leaders.

I have been proud to be in a position to influence some important decisions for SUNA and to help shape SUNA’s future. I am grateful to the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers of SUNA and the staff at Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc., in their efforts to help SUNA grow and prosper. My participation on the Board has been a pleasure, an honor, and a rewarding professional experience.

Donna F. Brassil, MA, RN, CURN
Immediate Past President

Secretary

I was amazed and impressed with everything that SUNA chapters accomplished this year. Seven chapters were recognized for their outstanding work. Chicago Metro SUNA received the “Chapter of the Year Award” for the work they have done with continuing education, new member recruitment, participation at the national level, and commitment to certification. The chapter offered 9 educational events (over 30.7 CEs) in 2003, including dinner symposia, a certification review course, and a 2-day conference. This chapter was involved in 14 community events. The chapter has several new certified members. Each participant in the review course who took the certification exam the same year passed! They increased membership by 58 members through an aggressive membership campaign. They also were the host chapter for SUNA’s Annual Symposium and brought in a professional drama troupe to perform at the event.

The Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter received the “Most Improved Chapter Award” for going from being inactive to holding several CE events. President Tamara Dickinson
breathed new life into this chapter in 2003. The chapter had 2 educational events and offered participants 5 CEs. The chapter has 7 certified members.

The Big Sky and Florida Sunshine Chapters received awards for being outstanding new chapters. Big Sky has 15 members, yet they held three educational events offering 12 CEs. Five members are certified. President Penny Smoot has done an outstanding job of leading this chapter! President Lillian Hormozdi and her chapter have done incredible things in the Florida Sunshine Chapter, including 2 educational events offering 9.9 CEs. They participated in 3 community events and have 26 certified members.

Central New York Chapter is a small, but active chapter. They received the “Little Chapter with a Big Heart Award.” This chapter has only 12 members (up from 5 the previous year), but they offered 5 CEs at a full-day urology conference with 51 attendees! They also held a community prostate cancer screening event.

Both the Central California Chapter and the Southeast Nebraska Chapters received awards for exceptional education. Central California, headed by President Kathryn Villareal, held 4 educational events offering 8 CEs. Southeast Nebraska held 4 events offering 4 CEs.

There were many other chapters that did a great job over the past year, and I commend you all for your efforts!

**Web Site**

It has been my pleasure to serve as SUNA's Web editor since February 2004. The Web editor responsibilities include:

- reviewing the E-news and determining which articles are to be posted to the Web site,
- reviewing requests for links and determining whether or not to post them on the Web site,
- reviewing items of interest related to urology sent to me by the Director of Association Services and the Board of Directors, and
- collaborating on the development and refinement of the site design and organizational structure with the Internet Manager.

On March 28 I flew to the SUNA national office in Pitman, NJ, and met with Scott Johnson, Internet Manager, and Cheryl Underhill, Director of Association Services, to devise the 2004 Internet Services Plan. A great deal of work has been done to the site since then, including the following:

- Site reorganization of the following tabs – Certification, Chapter, About SUNA, Resources, and Education.
- Work is continuing on the Legislative, Mentoring, Discussions, and Research tabs.
- The first Web site activation campaign (May 1-August 1, 2004) was successful with a 51% increase in members with accounts.
- A second activation campaign will be held from October 22-December 31, 2004.
- A brief overview of the Web site and information on starting a chapter Web site was presented at this year's Leadership Workshop in Orlando.
- Member polls are added each month.
- Links are reviewed on a regular basis as to appropriateness for inclusion on the site.
- The home page includes two new articles each month, including the latest news and information regarding SUNA, urologic nursing, and general nursing.
- A Web site “How to” Guide has been developed by the Internet Manager.

A legislative conference call was held mid-August that included Scott Johnson, Penny Noto, SUNA Legislative Representative, and myself to discuss the development of the Legislative tab. Work continues on this tab as well as the Mentoring tab.

**Treasurer**

SUNA's fiscal year runs April 1 through March 31. We are on target for another successful year. At the time of this report (5 months into the fiscal year), our assets are $1,327,688.36 and our liabilities are $65,859.68. Our year-to-date revenue is $695,607.83 and expenses are $374,351.70 with a difference of $320,956.19.

Some items of note include:

- Symposium exhibit revenue, corporate grants, and attendance made for a successful end to our last fiscal year.
- Successful membership development campaigns continue to increase our membership.
- I traveled to the SUNA national office and had the opportunity to tour the facility and see the office staff in action. I had the opportunity to meet with Patti Fortney, SUNA’s controller, and Lou Monnoletto from Legg Mason. At the October 2004 Board of Directors meeting, Lou presented an overview of his services to SUNA and led us in a discussion of our asset allocation.
Education Services

Education

Annual Conference. The committee for the Annual Conference has worked exceedingly hard to provide a slate of sessions, both general and concurrent, that provide current, cutting edge information for our members and colleagues. Again, the work that this committee does is outstanding, and I commend SUNA for the quality of the volunteers as well as the commitment to excellence they all demonstrate. I am confident that the evaluations from this conference will be high, and that SUNA will benefit from the dedication of these volunteers.

Annual Symposium. The brochure for the Annual Symposium, to be held in March 2005, is in the final stages of preparation. This group of highly dedicated individuals has been working to confirm speakers that are capable of providing the “cutting edge” information desired by SUNA members and our other attendees.

Approver Unit. I have continued to work closely with Deni von Merveldt in assuring that our chapters and members have decreased frustration in achieving contact hours for their programs while maintaining ANCC criteria. The numbers of applications received have been relatively stable, but it appears that they are becoming more complex – more from corporate sponsors that are CD-ROMs or are multiday offerings.

Deni and all the reviewers work hard to turn the reviews around as quickly as possible, and have at times gone out of their way to accommodate those who are unable to get their applications submitted in the preferred time span. However, there are a few that have had to be turned away as the submission of the application comes within a week of the activity, and getting it reviewed, and any problems resolved, is not possible in that span of time. This is always regretted, but it is difficult when the reviewers are also volunteers in their own chapters as well as having full-time jobs in addition to the work they do with the Approver Unit. They deserve thanks for all those that do get done in less than ideal time!

Journal Continuing Education Articles. An article was placed in Urologic Nursing several months ago describing the new evaluation questions being used and summarizing some of the responses received. The summarization has been done again for the Editorial Board, with a plan to have this repeated every 6 months, in order for the Editorial Board members to have the evaluation data available for making decisions about articles, authors, etc., for future Journal issues.

Monographs. Author guidelines were drafted and sent for review/comments to Jeff Albaugh for use with monographs.

Thank you to the Board of Directors for allowing me the pleasure of continuing to work with you and to assist in your education activities. Also a thanks for the support you have all shown as the role of the Education Director evolves into a support to SUNA’s growth and development.

Sally Russell, MN, CMSRN
Director of Education

Approver Unit

Below are highlights of recent activities of the Approver Unit.

- 34 programs for a total of 160.2 contact hours have been reviewed and approved for the year 2004. Programs 35, 36, and 37 have been sent out for review. One program was received at the national office less than 30 days prior to date of scheduled program and was, therefore, not sent out for review.

- Educational programs are now being submitted via email, albeit the number of email submissions is low. There have been no problems encountered via this route. Email submission requirements are: only one copy of the application is necessary; acknowledgment that the fee has been mailed is necessary; signed vested interest forms for speaker(s)/faculty/content experts must be submitted via fax.

- Currently, there are eight members (reviewers) on the Approver Unit representing three of the four regions within SUNA.

- Revisions to the current Guidelines for Education Approval Manual have been finalized, and initial distribution of the revised manual occurred at the SUNA Annual Conference in Orlando.

- The reviewer checklist has been revised in accordance with ANCC criteria.

- Policy 50-507 has been reviewed with no changes suggested.

On behalf of the Approver Unit, I wish to thank the Board of Directors for its decision to provide complimentary registration to the Annual Conference as a benefit for Approver Unit members.

Deni von Merveldt, MSN, RN
Approver Unit Chairperson
It has been a pleasure to complete another year as the Uro-Gram Editor. The pages of the Uro-Gram continue to grow. We have been able to fill the Uro-Gram's 16 pages with articles for and by members of SUNA. It is no longer a challenge to find enough copy to fill the issue. As a matter of fact, there have been times we have held copy for another issue because we haven’t had enough room to run it! This reflects the commitment of SUNA to educate and inform its members.

I want to thank all the contributors over the past year for being so willing to supply articles for the Uro-Gram. And a special thanks goes to our Managing Editor Kathy Thomas and to Layout Designer Bob Taylor, who get the issues put together and keep the Uro-Gram looking fresh. I appreciate everyone’s work.

Evey Kliever MA, RN, CRRN-A, CURN
Uro-Gram Editor

The special geriatrics issue published in August 2004 was the largest issue of the journal published to date. Joyce Colling was instrumental in the planning and solicitation of the manuscripts. The Editor assigned all manuscript reviewers and upon acceptance of a manuscript, each was assigned to an Editorial Board member or the Editor for necessary edits.

The October 2004 issue of the Journal included seven regular columns and articles on laser vaporization of the prostate, prostate patient education tool, urodynamics and autonomic dysreflexia in spinal cord injury patients, orthotopic bladder substitution, and TRUS-Bx patient perspectives. The editorial was related to open access publications (author pays).

The regular columns continue to include infectious disease, Professional Nursing Today, Professional Enhancement, Abstracts/Issues, Medication Minute, Comic Relief, and Complementary and Preventive Medicine. The Editor is working with a potential candidate as a possible co-author to work with Jeff Albaugh or Susanne Quallich on their columns. A new column on wound care is planned for introduction in February 2005, and will cover a milieu of topics related to skin care in urologic patients for 5-8 issues.

Manuscripts have tentatively been slated through June 2005, with a few additional articles out for peer review that will be slated for following issues. The June issue will be a special issue with a pediatric focus. In June 2004, when the Editor was in Philadelphia for a meeting at the journal office, she also met with two pediatric urology nurse practitioners from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). At that time five manuscripts were decided upon and a manuscript timeline developed to target a June 2005 issue. All manuscripts have currently been read by the Editor and feedback provided for revisions. The manuscripts went out for review in October.

The December issue will include articles on post-micturition dribble and pelvic floor exercises, urinary incontinence following radical prostatectomy, STD update, research related to women with bladder control disorders, and patient evaluation of a discharge program following radical prostatectomy. February 2005 issue topics include irritable bowel and bladder considerations, ambiguous genitalia, risk factors for urinary incontinence in African-American women, and vaginal pessaries. April 2005 issue topics include incontinence, quality of life following radical prostatectomy, exceptional rhabdomyolysis, and laparoscopic nephrectomy.

Other Items of Interest. Jan Giroux and Karen Karlowicz have been reappointed to the Editorial Board for 2005-06. Susanne Quallich continues to write the Abstracts/Issues columns as well as edit manuscripts as a member of the Editorial Board.

The Editor and Editorial Board members had two abstracts accepted for presentations at the Annual Conference in Orlando in October.

The journal is in need of additional manuscript reviewers and will focus on developing more of them throughout 2004 and 2005. We held a session at the Annual Conference for potential, new, and existing reviewers. In addition, plans were created for giving reviewers 2 free CE activities of their choice for articles read in the journal. The Editor has secured several new reviewers through personal contacts and through contacts made at the Annual Symposium in Chicago in March 2004. In addition, three manuscripts have been received that were recruited in Chicago. Hopefully, the Editor or a few Editorial Board members can represent Urologic Nursing at this conference in San Diego.
The Editor visited the journal office in June. During this time, she was able to plan the pediatric issue as described above with the pediatric urology nurses from CHOP and discuss several journal issues with journal staff: Carol Ford, Ken Thomas, and Sally Russell. Sally and I reviewed the continuing education (CE) data. A summary of 2003 CE activities related to the journal appeared in the October 2004 issue. At this time, it was decided that manuscript reviewers would be offered the opportunity to complete 2 CE activities published in the journal at no charge as a reward for the time they donate to manuscript review. A list of manuscript reviewers will continue to appear in the journal each year.

The Editor attended the 2004 International Academy of Nursing Editors (INANE) meeting held August 5-7 in the Bahamas. Over 100 nursing editors attended the meeting. One topic that I led the discussion about for the business meeting was open access publication. I have been asked and agreed to present on this topic at the 2005 INANE meeting.

At the Editorial Board meeting in Chicago in March 2004, the strategic plan was reviewed and all projected goals from the strategic planning meeting in 2001 have been achieved. Another strategic planning session is being considered for 2005 or 2006.

The Editor presented “Publishing While You are Running” at the Rocky Mountain Nurse Educator’s Conference in Breckenridge, CO, in July. The presentation resulted in recruitment of at least four manuscripts, up to eight manuscript reviewers, and possibly a back-up columnist for the Issues and Professional Nursing Today columns.

Jan Giroux

Congratulations to Susan Fanske, RN, who won free registration to a SUNA national meeting of her choice by simply activating her SUNA Web site member account by August 31, 2004. Susan is from Maryland and works at Johns Hopkins.

Watch for information on the next “Activate Your Member Account” campaign. The number of SUNA members who had accounts at the beginning of the first campaign was 431. That number rose to 650 during the campaign.

The SUNA Web site is a valuable member benefit, featuring the latest news in SUNA. It is also a great reference for finding other members, registering for conferences, and buying SUNA products. Visit www.suna.org today!

This past year has been very productive for the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA). The board met in Washington, DC, in fall 2003 where our major task was the revision of the Certified Urologic Registered Nurse (CURN) exam. The revised RN exam was administered starting in October 2004. CBUNA reviews and evaluates each certification exam every 3 years. Up for review this coming year is the advanced practice exam.

The CBUNA Nursing Examination Preparation Guide was revised by the board and is now ready for purchase. Minor revisions may need to be completed in the Associate and Advanced Practice Examination Preparation Guides.

With the expert assistance of Jean Lewis, BSN, RN, CNP, the certification section on the SUNA Web site was reorganized and updated in order to make it more user friendly. Let us know what you think.

There are 434 CBUNA certified members as of September 2004: RN - 305, Advanced Practice - 52, and Associate - 77. This marks an increase from 409 in February 2004. A total of 54 individuals became certified in 2003-04. Twenty-three (23) individuals applied for exams in October 2004: RN - 16, Advanced Practice - 6, and Associate - 1. One hundred twenty-eight (128) are up for recertification this year. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2004. A reminder postcard will be sent shortly from the CBUNA national office. Remember to get your application in on time so your certification doesn’t lapse!

CBUNA presented a concurrent session in Orlando entitled “Chart Your Course for Certification.” We hope that this session answered some of your questions and encouraged you to think about studying for a future exam.

CBUNA welcomed two new board members at the conclusion of the Orlando meeting: Karen Sellers, LPN, CUA, CRC, and Susanne Quallich, APRN-BC, NP-C, CUNP. Karen Graf, BSN, CURN, and Judy Secrist, RN, CURN, CNOR, rotated off the certification board. CBUNA extends our appreciation and gratitude for their outstanding service.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the SUNA Board of Directors for their continued support of CBUNA this past year and their ongoing promotion of certification. I also
would like to recognize the other members of the certification board: Treasurer Vicki Johnson, CUCNS, Secretary Miki Ribbeck, CUNP, Mary Linn, CURN, Phyllis Matthews, CUNP, Tina Yancey, CURN, and Patrick Scoles, CUA, for their dedication and hard work in promoting the highest standards of urologic nursing through the certification process.

Jan Giroux, MSN, CURN  
CBUNA President

Committees and Special Interest Groups

History Committee

Earlier this year a request was received from Pat Hanson to share information about SUNA’s history for a presentation she had been invited to give at the AUA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Copies of the UroGram and information from our history were provided to her. From all reports, she presented an excellent PowerPoint program.

We are continuing to provide articles for the Uro-Gram but need some fresh ideas. We have covered the Uro-Gram, the Urologic Nursing Journal, lectureships, awards, the Allied Health Professions Committee, and sponsors.

The exhibit for the Annual Conference was a condensed version of what I would have liked, but shipping and available space were big factors.

I intend to keep researching for facts that might have been overlooked. An attempt will be made to include any people who have contributed in one way or another to bring SUNA to the organization that it is today.

I am grateful to Patti Bates, Carralee Sueppell, and Agnes Yost for sending me AUAA publications and programs to supplement my collection.

Ardeth S. Hale, CURN(Ret)  
History Committee Chairperson

Legislative Committee

Since assuming the position of Legislative Representative for SUNA in February 2004, I have been involved in the following activities:

- Attended the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) in Washington, DC.
- Monitored legislative issues on an ongoing basis.
- Advised the Board of Directors of issues for consideration/participation.
- Advised the Board of issues requiring membership email alerts.
- Contributed to the Web site and the Uro-Gram.
- Participated in teleconference for development of Web site content.
- Worked on development of liaison with American Nurses Association governmental affairs department.

Penny F. Noto, MN, RN, CCRC, CPNP  
Legislative Representative

Urodynamics Special Interest Group

SIG members have participated in urodynamic presentations (at national SUNA meetings and also with private industry) throughout the past year. The “How to” task force is continuing work, and Chairperson Dan Lemmens presented an update at the SIG meeting at the Annual Conference in October. He will make another presentation at the breakfast networking meeting at the Annual Symposium in San Diego in March.

Articles have been contributed to the Uro-Gram and many emails answered related to clinical issues. An informal survey related to clinical practice was taken at the SIG meeting in Orlando in October.

I will be vacating the co-leader position to assume SUNA National Secretary responsibilities, and Melissa Morrison has agreed to continue as the SIG leader.

Saundra Seidel, APN, BC  
Urodynamics SIG Co-Leader

WOCN Releases Ostomy Skin Care Guide

The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society (WOCN) has released a new best practice guide for skin care for persons with ostomies. Basic Ostomy Skin Care: A Guide for Patients and Healthcare Providers is a booklet that features 19 questions and answers on topics such as pouch changing, care of skin and equipment, as well as tips on a variety of products. This document provides answers to some of the common questions that people ask about the day-to-day care of the stoma and surrounding skin. The publication also addresses some problems that can occur, for example, from perspiration and shaving. This brochure will help patients with a new ostomy and also will be a resource for health care providers who work with patients with ostomies. For more information, visit the WOCN Web site at www.wocn.org.
I have been active in my role as Regional Director for a little over a year now, and I have had the opportunity to meet with many of our region’s members as well as correspond regularly with the chapter presidents. First, I would like to say how impressive your presidents are. When I ask for their help, they always come through. They devote a lot of time to keeping your chapters exciting. When I read about the educational programs being offered by your local chapters I’m quite impressed.

The national meetings continue to offer great networking and educational programs; however, the local chapters are the backbone of this organization. Attendance at local meetings isn’t always so local either. Chapters are publishing Web pages inviting members from all over the country to attend local meetings. I learned Chicago Metro recently offered a certification review course and an attendee traveled all the way from Colorado!

Now one might think the local chapter presidents and their membership would be content with all the great educational programs, but they are relentless. The local chapters are active in promoting health awareness to their local communities. The Upper Midwest Chapter informed me of a booth they had at the Minnesota Twins baseball game promoting prostate cancer awareness. I know some chapters are struggling with keeping things going, especially the geographically large chapters, but even when a chapter like the Mississippi Valley was in fear of vanishing, great presidents like Helen Rittenmeyer held things together. I’m glad to report that the folks from St. Louis are pitching in to keep this chapter alive.

My time as Regional Director has been an eye-opening experience. I had been content with my own little chapter in Chicago and didn’t realize all the great things other chapters are doing. Now a question to all those members out there who aren’t active in your local chapters, what are you waiting for? I encourage you to look into what your local chapters are offering and join them for some great programs.

Vic Senese

North Central Regional Director
v.senese@att.net

Southern

The Central Oklahoma Chapter held a dinner meeting on September 28 with a presentation by Lori Steele entitled “A Scientific Update on the Evaluation and Treatment of Overactive Bladder.” Chapter President Genevieve Zerger can be contacted for more information about her chapter, membership, and upcoming events at genzerg@cox.net.

The Dallas Forth Worth Chapter hosted a tremendous Urology Symposium on September 11 with approximately 50 in attendance. I had the pleasure of attending. The board’s dedication to the success of the chapter was very apparent. Newly elected chapter president, Allison Ahrens, is eager to continue the quality educational offerings and member recruitment activities. You can contact Allison for more information about the chapter at allison.ahrens@utsouthwestern.edu.

The Rocky Mountain Chapter reported a successful seminar held on August 21. The newly elected officers are eager to begin planning future seminars and quality educational meetings. Dr. Mark Moyad presented “A to Z in Nutrition for Cancer” at the Lakeside Cultural Center on September 29. For information about the chapter and upcoming events, please contact Carolyn North at jnnorth1@comcast.net.

Debbie Claborn of Lilborn, GA, is very interested in getting a chapter developed in Georgia. Debbie is planning an organizational meeting and would like to hear from SUNA members in the area. Debbie is eager to hear from current members and is recruiting new members. For more information, please contact her at debbie.claborn@northside.com.

Rachel Franz is the current president of the Magnolia Chapter in New Orleans, LA. Rachel can be reached at rfranz@ochsner.org for information on upcoming events.

Lauri McKell is actively working on the formation of a chapter in Mississippi. Lauri is a nurse practitioner in Starkville, MS. Lauri can be reached at Starkville Urology (662-324-1097) for more information.

Colleen Layton, president of the Florida Treasure Coast Chapter, reports that chapter members are pulling together and planning a fall educational meeting. Please contact Colleen at teltale445@yahoo.com for information on the chapter and upcoming events. The Florida Treasure Coast Chapter is completing its probationary period, and chapter members are enthusiastically looking forward to active status.

Jody Purifoy, president of the newly developing Razorback Chapter in Arkansas, reports that members are eager and enthusiastic to begin their probationary period with SUNA. Jody’s schedule has been busy with studying for national certification as an acute care nurse practitioner and forming the chapter. I wish her success...
in her exam, and look forward to an exciting year ahead for the Razorback Chapter. Jody can be reached at puri-fojodya@uams.edu for information about the chapter and meetings.

Chapter success is a goal for everyone across the country. Chapter involvement is an integral part of continued local and national growth. Become an active member in your local chapter. Recruit and mentor new members. Together we can have a positive impact on urologic care and patient education in our communities.

Carolyn North, RN
Southeast Regional Director
jmnorth1@comcast.net

Western

I am thrilled and honored to have been selected as your new Western Regional Director. This will be a hard role to fill following Joyce Colling’s footsteps. However, this is also a role that I embrace with enthusiasm and willingness to do what Western members need in order to meet your goals for the next 2 years.

I am open, honest, a proactive worker, a wife, a mother, and a urology nurse who loves her career choice. My goal in this position is to meet the Western members, as many as I can, in order to help you accomplish your goals. I will strive to impart necessary information from the Board of Directors to chapter presidents in a timely manner, encourage educational and/or research endeavors, troubleshoot concerns and questions, and work on membership retention as well as recruitment for all chapters. My email addresses are listed below. Feel free to contact me at any time.

I hope to find a way to make the next 2 years fun and rewarding for all involved along the way. I plan to contact several new areas of our Western Region (I have already been in contact with Boise, ID) in an effort to recruit even more chapters for our region. If you know of any interested areas, please let me know.

I would like to thank all current presidents in the Western Region for their hard work as well as all of the members who assist in chapter activities. I look forward to meeting with you personally in the near future.

I will summarize current Western Region chapter activities in the next issue of the Uro-Gram.

Our future involvement, as we move forward with creating new goals for the Western Region over the next 2 years, depends on every single member! I look forward to my role – now let me know what I can do for you, your patients, and your communities!

Donna Clar, MSN/MBA-HCM, RN, PHN, CRRN
Western Regional Director
rpclars@aol.com or donna.clar@med.va.gov

Northeast

Activities are in motion for the fall meetings across the region. The region’s new chapters – the Mohawk Valley Chapter in Utica, NY, and the Tidewater Chapter in Virginia Beach, VA – are preparing their calendars of events. Kim Barnes and Valerie Reed are the chapter leaders. Please contact them regarding meetings and events in your area.

Julia Bowens at Penn is busy returning from Guard duty and getting the Delaware Valley Chapter back on track after a period of chapter inactivity. Thank you, Julia, for service to your country and to SUNA. Julia and her colleagues have taken on the task of reactivating this chapter and are doing a wonderful job.

By highlighting these new chapters and the re-activation of a chapter, I want to emphasize the importance of a few people working together. We have one chapter in this region, the South Central Pennsylvania Chapter, that is due for deactivation. Leadership relies on shared activity. When members move on, move out of urology or retire, or just get tired (life is busy), often a core group of individuals can be found to keep the chapter going. And sometimes that does not happen. The Delaware Valley was once in that position. Now it is under new leadership and gaining momentum. My hope is that over the next season, someone in the southern Pennsylvania area will see the need and answer the call to reactivate this chapter. Reactivation requires a few steps and a small number of people to come together, appoint officers, rewrite bylaws, and organize a meeting or two. It’s really easier than starting a new chapter. It’s kind of like buying a house – you get to add fresh paint and decorate! Anyone in this chapter interested in pursuing this further should contact Susan Lipsy, the newly elected Regional Director, or Julia Bowens. Julia will share with you how she got her group together and moved forward to the vital and thriving group they are today.

As I close this report, I’d like to encourage everyone to communicate with one another. Electronic capabilities allow us to support and encourage one another with the click of a mouse. It also can greatly aid in the sharing of information in a timely fashion. For the chapter presidents there is the chapter listserv, which connects the leadership on the local level, allowing them to ask questions and share ideas with one another. SUNA’s Board of Directors and Regional Directors also are available to anyone in the organization. While phone calls may be tricky for some, emails are always a great place to share ideas, ask for guidance, and file a complaint. Yes, all feedback is encouraged and is taken seriously for the betterment and growth of your chapter and your organization. Communication is everyone’s right, and for

continued on page 12
One of the neat things about being a Regional Director is it forces me to network with other SUNA members. As director I find myself phoning or usually emailing members from my region quite a bit. At the national conferences I get to put a face with the email! One of the faces I got to meet recently was Susanne Quallich, the president of the Great Lakes Chapter. I had read an article she published in the Urologic Nursing journal and decided I wanted to know more about her, so here's the inside story on this dynamic nurse.

Susanne is one of a minority of nurse practitioners (NPs) certified by both the American Nurses Credentialing Center and American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She is a Certified Urology Nurse Practitioner (CUNP) by the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates. She is our certification role model.

Susanne is employed as an Andrology Nurse Practitioner for the Division of Andrology and Microsurgery at the University of Michigan Health System. She told me this job was created for her as she was recruited away from the Ann Arbor VA. As far as she is aware, Susanne is unique in that she may be about the only NP who focuses exclusively on andrology. She describes her job by saying, “I love it – it makes such a huge quality of life impact for patients, couples in particular. It affords me the opportunity to really impact my patients very positively, and do a huge amount of one-on-one teaching.”

Her previous employment included working as an NP at both the Detroit VA in primary care and the Ann Arbor VA primarily in urology. She worked as a staff RN for only a short period of time in telemetry/cardiac step-down. She also worked as an agency nurse during that time, which she states “I absolutely loved, in part because I got to work at a bunch of different hospitals in the Cleveland area.”

I remember JFK stating, “Ask not what SUNA can do for you, but what you can do for SUNA.” Well maybe JFK didn’t say that, but he should have because SUNA involvement has been a big part of Susanne’s life. She is the Great Lakes Chapter President, recent appointee to the Urologic Nursing Editorial Board, an “Abstracts” column writer/editor and “Issues” column writer for Urologic Nursing, a past manuscript reviewer for Urologic Nursing, and winner of the 2002 Urologic Nursing Literary Excellence Award for first-time authors for “Penile Prosthesis: Patient Teaching and Perioperative Care.”

She presented twice at the SUNA conference in 2001 and also was a presenter at this year’s conference in Orlando. In her spare time she does presentations locally, largely about erectile dysfunction and other male reproductive issues. She has published, with six more book chapters that she has authored/coauthored due to be published this year. She also belongs to a variety of organizations, including the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, American College of Clinicians, Michigan Reproductive Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, and Michigan Council of Nurse Practitioners. Susanne is the first NP ever to be up for election to the Society of Male Reproduction in Urology.

Yes, Susanne has a life outside of urology. She is married to Len, a gastroenterologist, and the couple does take a lot of teasing about the nature of their jobs. Generally they tell everyone “that if you have a problem below the ribs and above the thighs, one of us can help!” They have two daughters, Danielle (6.5) and Brianna (1). Susanne states “the most amazing thing about them is watching them relate to each other. They are great fun, a constant source of joy, and my excuse for buying Barbies and feather boas . . . the adventure never ends! My goal is to provide a strong, intelligent role model for my girls.”

Susanne’s hobbies are weightlifting, Pilates, swimming, and reading. She tells me “I will read almost anything.” She also states “we are Food Network junkies in my house and love to do gourmet cooking and wine tasting.” She and Danielle also love to play SimCity on the computer.

I found it fun to learn more about this interesting colleague of ours. I think Susanne’s energy and excitement for her career is contagious. She told me, “I hope never to leave urology. My experience has been that urology patients are generally a fun bunch, and there is such opportunity for quality of life interventions. Basically, I cannot believe that I get paid for my job. I enjoy it to that degree!”

Vic Senese, BSN, RN, CURN
North Central Regional Director

Regional News
continued from page 11

leaders it is an obligation to your chapter. For a Regional Director to fulfill his/her responsibility as your representative, your comments, concerns, and accessibility are crucial. Share your chapter’s activity calendars before they take place so more support, assistance, and attendance may be provided. Share special events and upcoming events with your Regional Director or Assistant Regional Director. Get re-energized by sharing the exciting things going on in your area. It often inspires many throughout SUNA!

I look forward to many exciting events reported in the Uro-Gram and at area meetings.

Lisa Neu, BS, RN, CRNP-BC, CURN
Northeast Regional Director
bad2bne@aol.com
I hope each and every one of you exercised your right to vote in the Presidential election this month. The elections represent a pivotal time for organizations across the country. Each organization has its own agenda and knows which elected officials are willing and able to lend support. SUNA is no exception. I encourage you to check out the new legislative section of the SUNA Web site to learn more about what your organization is doing for you. Contact us and tell us what issues are important to you. We would love to hear from you.

**Overtime Pay Regulations**

On April 20, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) issued a revised Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) rule that, as currently written, threatens the rights of registered nurses to receive overtime compensation. This new rule went into effect on August 23, 2004.

On September 9, 2004, the House of Representatives passed (223-193), an amendment by Representative David Obey (D-WI) that would block the newly released Department of Labor overtime pay regulations by barring the use of funds for their implementation. The amendment, which was offered to the House Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill, received bipartisan support.

Once both the House and Senate have approved versions of the appropriations bill, a conference committee will decide the fate of the Obey amendment by establishing whether it will remain a part of the final bill. Republican supporters of the overtime regulations have already pledged to strip the amendment from the conference report, and President Bush has promised a veto of the appropriations bill if it contains language blocking the new overtime regulations.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) believes it is essential to preserve the right to overtime compensation for registered nurses, and has strongly supported past measures including the Harkin (D-IA) amendment in the Senate and a previous amendment in the House by Representatives Obey and George Miller (D-CA) to protect nurses and other workers from the DOL regulations.

We need your help to make sure Congress acts to protect nurses and other workers from these new regulations. Contact your members of Congress today. Make the voice of nursing heard.

- **Contact your members of Congress.** You can reach them by phone using the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 or by emailing them directly through the ANA Government Affairs Web site by clicking on the “Write a Message” button (see details below).

  - House of Representatives: Learn how your Representative voted on the Obey amendment. If they voted in favor of the amendment, be sure to thank them for their support. If they opposed the amendment, share your disappointment and your concerns about the new rules potential impact on nurses.
  - Senate: Urge your Senators to support efforts to protect nurses and other workers currently eligible for overtime pay this fall.

- **Get more information** on the new Overtime Rule and how it affects RNs (see below).

- **Help spread the word** by telling a friend about this important issue.

- **Let ANA know** if you have been denied overtime pay due to the new regulations by emailing them at overtime@ana.org.

The preceding information is from the American Nurses Association Web site and can be accessed online. Go to www.ana.org/gova, click on “Federal Advocacy,” and follow the link to take action. You can find more information on this and other issues and easily contact your elected officials with just a few clicks of your mouse. You do not have to be a member to access this site.

**Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2003**

On July 22, 2004, the Senate joined the House in passing legislation designed to improve reporting and research on medical errors. The House and Senate are now conferencing their versions of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2003 (S. 720, H.R. 663). Both bills would establish a framework for the voluntary reporting of medical errors to entities known as patient safety organizations (PSOs) and create a national patient safety database within the Department of Health and Human Services to catalog these reports and identify trends in medical mistakes. Whistleblower protections are granted in both bills to protect nurses and other providers from retaliation for good faith reporting of medical errors to the PSOs.

**Nursing Workforce Development Programs of Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act**

On July 14, the House Appropriations Committee approved a funding bill that would provide a $5 million increase for nursing workforce development programs administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration. If enacted, this would bring total fiscal year (FY) 2005 funding for Title VIII to $147 million. The full House of Representatives voted on this bill in mid September. The Senate was expected to delay action on this bill until after the November elections.

ANA is asking Congress to provide at least $205 million in FY 2005 funding for Title VIII. ANA maintains that the need for this $63 million increase is borne out by the growing nursing shortage and the inability of current Title VIII funding to meet the demand for nursing programs.

For more information on these and other issues, please go to the American Nurses Association Web site at www.ana.org/gova and click on “Capitol Update.” Individual bills can be accessed through the Thomas Web site at thomas.loc.gov.
Training and Research in Urology Act

The Training and Research in Urology (TRU) Act (S. 2361, H.R. 1002) has the following provisions:

- Amends the Public Health Service Act to establish a Division Director for Urologic Diseases in the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (the “Institute”).
- Requires the Director of the Institute (the “Director”) to give particular attention to supporting research and training programs geared to the needs of urology residents and fellows.
- Directs the Director to submit to Congress a national urologic research plan and to review this plan every 3 years.
- Requires the Director to establish a National Urologic Diseases Data System for collecting and disseminating data from patients with urologic data, and a National Urologic Diseases Information Clearinghouse to facilitate and enhance knowledge and understanding of urologic diseases.
- Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to form a Urologic Diseases Interagency Coordinating Committee to further urology research and a National Urologic Diseases Advisory Board.
- Directs that of the centers developed for research in kidney and urologic diseases under the Act, at least 15 shall focus exclusively on urologic diseases.
- Establishes within the advisory council for the Institute a subcommittee on urologic diseases.
- Directs the Secretary to establish a loan repayment program for urology research, with certain provisions of the Act to apply to the new program as such provisions apply to the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program.

For more information, please go to the American Urological Association Web site at [www.auanet.org/advocacy/action.cfm](http://www.auanet.org/advocacy/action.cfm) and click on “legislative action center.” You must register to access the site but you do not need to be a member. You also may access the text of the bill through the Thomas Web site at [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov).

These are just a few of the national level issues affecting nursing and health care that are important to know. Please check out the legislative section of the SUNA Web site for more issues and follow the links. Happy clicking.

Penny F. Noto, MN, RN, CCRC, CPNP
SUNA Legislative Representative

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We’re Everything We Say We Are

Membership Campaign

Congratulations to the following recruiters for a job well done! 204 new members have joined SUNA in the 2004 Phase II “We’re Everything We Say We Are” Membership Campaign, thanks to these hard working recruiters!

**SUNA Champion**

- Angela Adams
- Olive C. Adriano
- Allison Ahrens
- Jeffrey A. Albright
- Frances Allen-Martinez
- Pamela A. Avery
- Beverley H. Baerg
- Cheryl Bothwell
- Kami Bourque
- Denise M. Bryan
- John Carballo
- Pamela D. Ceci
- Tamara Chasar-Swartzout
- Lori Cheney
- Donna A. Clar
- Diane E. Clowers
- Amanda L. Denmark
- Mary Ann DiCamillo
- Susan Dulczak
- Robert J. Evans
- Kristine Evavold
- Emily Feeney
- Leasa Fishburn
- Zaleha Fuller
- Bernadette Galli
- Dawn d. Germann
- Kelly M. Gollar
- Shaundra Gordon
- Kristine A. Green
- Joan Guillianelli
- Maria Hedstrom
- Priscilla M. Horvath
- Barbara Houdek
- Ruth D. Hughes
- Kathy Iger
- Irene Ingullio
- Donna Johnson
- Janice Johnson
- Grace Jones
- Nancy L. Keeler
- Charlotte Kelley
- Maureen Kiernan
- Sherri Killian
- Kim Killinger
- Penny Kogan
- Janice Krohn
- Joanne Larson
- Colleen Layton
- Terrilyn Lefeu
- Theresa A. Lesher
- Susanne Linton
- Christine J. Llewellyn
- Deborah Mastrolia
- Barbara J. Mathias
- Janis M. Miller
- Nancy K. Moser
- Nancy McFadin
- Mueller
- Genevieve E. Murphy
- Mary Nunn
- Danella Parkes
- Nannette Perez
- Kelli D. Perry
- Tracy A. Powell
- Mary R. Randall
- Sabrina Ray
- Sharon Robinson
- Christina Rogers
- Phillip Rupp
- Joan Ruttle-King
- Robin Rye
- Karen Sasso
- Olinga W. Scales
- Judith T. Secrist
- Karen Sellers
- Carole Shirk
- Diane A. Smith
- Joanie Sparks
- Terry J. Spear
- Kevin R. Stanton
- Shanna Vail
- Charlene Vollmer
- Jeanne A. Waldon
- Karen B. Wall
- Patricia Watson
- Eileen B. Wilson
- Eileen C. Young
- Kathy Young
- Deborah Zinser
- Penny F. Noto, MN, RN, CCRC, CPNP

**SUNA Champion – Bronze**

- Edith Acey
- Valerie Boeldt-Umbricht
- Dorothy A. Calabrese
- Sarah Champion
- Cherl Elliott
- Genevieve N. Jacobs
- Jean Jones
- Peggy M. King
- Charlene P. Kirkpatrick
- Lee Ann Knutson
- Michelle J. Latiness
- Amy LoPresti
- Grace Machi
- Diane Mathison
- Silvia Maxwell
- Laura C. Mazzenga
- Jody Purifoy
- Susanne A. Quallisch
- Valerie Reed
- Julie Rutland
- Frank W. Salazar Jr.
- Wendy C. Smith
- Suzann St. Marie
- Faye Tuttle
- Wilma Walters
- Mary Anne Wasner
- Glenda B. Wilkinson
- Anita Williams
- Delia Williams

**SUNA Champion – Silver**

- Darla Cleaves
- Jennifer K. Eckerman
- Cheryl A. LeCroy
- Delia Williams
- Kimberly M. Lajoie
- Raymond E. Lindsey
- Peggy M. King
- Charlene P. Kirkpatrick
- Lee Ann Knutson
- Michelle J. Latiness
- Amy LoPresti
- Penny F. Noto, MN, RN, CCRC, CPNP

**SUNA Champion – Bronze**

- Darla Cleaves
- Jennifer K. Eckerman
- Cheryl A. LeCroy
- Susan Baum Lipsy
- Sara Kolasinski
- Irma Moodt
CBUNA Welcomes New Board Members

The members of the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA) are varied in geographic location, areas of specialty, and levels of educational training. This diverse representation is very important for the balance of knowledge and expertise in the many areas of urology. The board is pleased to introduce two new members, Susanne Quallich and Karen Sellers, to CBUNA who will add their experience and information to the work of the board.

Susanne Quallich is a nurse practitioner with the Division of Andrology and Microsurgery at Michigan Urology Center, University of Michigan Health System. Her subspecialty role as andrology nurse practitioner focuses almost exclusively on evaluation and management of patients with male sexual and reproductive health issues. She also was responsible for the creation of the male sexual and reproductive health educational materials on the department Web site.

Susanne graduated from John Carroll University in University Heights, OH, with a bachelor’s degree in biology in 1993. She then was awarded a BSN in 1994 from the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University, in Cleveland, OH, followed by an MSN as an Adult Nurse Practitioner in 1996. She is one of a minority of nurse practitioners certified by both the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (February 1996) and American Nurses Credentialing Center (June 1996). Susanne became a Certified Urology Nurse Practitioner (CUNP) through CBUNA in October 2000.

Susanne currently functions in a variety of roles outside her job. She is a Urologic Nursing Journal Editorial Board member as well as the “Issues” and “Abstracts” column writer. She is president of SUNA’s Great Lakes Chapter. She thinks that “certification is the single best way to let health care colleagues at all levels of practice, as well as patients, know that you are interested in providing the highest quality care to your urologic patients. It also shows that you are serious about acting as a resource for and mentor to others, as you have taken the time to prepare for an exam.”

Karen Sellers is a single mother of three young ladies, two of whom are currently in training for nursing. She resides in Hagerstown, MD, and has been involved in urology for more than 10 years. During that time she has been instrumental in forming several support groups for prostate cancer. She has served as president for SUNA’s Washington DC Chapter. She has presented at the meetings on topics such as urologic cancers, benign prostatic hyperplasia, and prostate cancer.

Karen has multiple affiliations. She is a member of the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses, and she is currently sitting on several committees. For the past 3 years she has been a Regional Editorial Advisory Board Member for Advance for LPNs. She published “Offering Support Forming a Cancer Support Group” in November 2002. She is a member of the Association of Research Clinical Professionals (ARCP), obtaining her certification in that field in March 2004. Karen also was appointed as a member of the Maryland State Board of Nursing Executive Committee in July 2002 and has served on several committees there as well.

Karen most recently accepted a position with the Department of Defense, USAMRIID, Ft. Detrick, MD, Medical Division, as a Clinical Research Protocol Nurse. She was formerly associated with Chesapeake Urology of Baltimore, MD. Karen has been a Certified Urologic Associate (CUA) since May 1998.

The other members of CBUNA are pleased to welcome these two new members who have offered to serve and assist all of us involved in urologic certification.

Mary M. Linn, BSN, CURN

Congratulations…

to the following individuals who successfully passed one of the urologic nursing certification examinations administered by the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA) in 2004.

**Certified Urologic Associate (CUA)**
- Russell D. Clay
- Amber Coulthard
- Patricia L. Dobbins
- Dawn M. Peterson
- Pamela L. Rollins
- Debbie Sauer

**Certified Urologic Registered Nurse (CURN)**
- Alice Adam
- Lisa A. Bambaci
- Renee M. Cheal
- Trisha Lyn Kenney
- Catherine Mary Miller
- Rena Y. Pinkhasov
- Nancy L. Spilde

**Certified Urologic Nurse Practitioner (CUNP)**
- Molly W. Bartlett
- Janelle Harris
- Mary Beth Hendricks
- Elizabeth A. Lonberger
- Linda K. Sabre
- Kevin R. Ward
Exciting Program
Planned for 2005 Symposium

The Annual Symposium for Disorders of the Bladder, Bowel, and Pelvic Floor in San Diego, CA, is definitely the place to be in March 2005! Expect perfect weather, a great city, and an absolutely tremendous conference!

The symposium will be held March 3-5 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. You will not want to miss the opening keynote presentation by Dr. Jennifer Berman on Friday, March 4. She will speak on new advances and treatment strategies in the treatment of female sexual dysfunction throughout a variety of special populations.

Thursday, March 3, will feature a choice of preconference sessions on: Bladder and Bowel Basics, Advanced Urodynamics, Development of a Continenace Center, Basic Pelvic Floor Rehabilitation, Basic Pediatric Urology, and a hands-on workshop for pessaries. Back by popular demand is the all-day Basic Urodynamics Workshop. On Thursday evening, plan to join us for the opening of the exhibit hall and a reception.

Friday and Saturday, March 4 and 5, will feature presentations by many experts in the fields of urinary and fecal incontinence as well as pelvic floor dysfunction. The advanced content during these 2 days promises to be current and grounded in evidence-based practices. The popular networking breakfast will make a return this year with expert facilitators leading the discussions.

Mark your calendars now for The Annual Symposium for Disorders of the Bladder, Bowel, and Pelvic Floor to be held March 3-5, 2005 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina San Diego. Hope to see you there!

Cheryl LeCroy, BSN, RN
Symposium Planning Committee Chairperson