Secretary’s Message

Reflecting on the ‘SUNA Community’

Have you ever thought about what the “SUNA Community” means to you? Do you remember why you joined SUNA? Are you an active participant in local or national activities, or do you prefer the sidelines? Every 5 years, the SUNA Board of Directors (BOD) participates, with the assistance of a professional facilitator, in the development of the Long Range Strategic Plan (LRSP) for the organization. The BOD met with the facilitator during the Annual Symposium in San Francisco to begin the process for 2012. One item discussed was better defining the SUNA community. Are we welcoming, understanding, and appreciating members? We discussed having members do testimonials regarding why they joined SUNA, which led me to reflect on my early involvement with SUNA and how that led me to the position I now hold on the BOD.

Participation in professional organizations was stressed as an important component of our nursing careers in my basic nursing training. Although I won’t say how many years ago, I will note it was a hospital school of nursing! When I began working in the operating room (OR), I joined the Association of periOperative Nurses (AORN). Local chapter activities allowed me to stay current with OR best practices and guidelines. I later became active on both the local and national levels with the organization.

When I entered the urology field in 1995, I immediately searched for organizations specializing in urology. Although there was no locally based chapter, I joined SUNA and benefitted from the Urologic Nursing journal to further my urology education. I still felt something was missing. In 1998 I saw a notice in the Uro-Gram asking for reviewers for the Continuing Education Approval Unit. As I had participated on a similar committee with AORN for many years, I responded to the notice and received a quick response from Jan Giroux. It said, “Great – when can you start!” I have to say I just left the committee after becoming National Secretary last November.

My chapter remained fairly inactive during the next few years, holding a yearly seminar that was in another state and too far for me to travel at that time. As with many chapters, they struggled to get local members to volunteer for chapter offices. Jeff Albaugh contacted me in 2004 regarding interest in moving the chapter leadership to our area. At that time, we needed four local members to be officers and we had five local members. We decided, “Yes, we could do this!” That fall I attended my first Annual Conference, and I also attended the Chapter Workshop led by Jean Lewis. During the entire conference, both Jean

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I recently had a wonderful experience I would like to share with you. A senior undergraduate nursing student spent an observation day with me so she could learn about specialty nursing and the role of the advanced practice nurse (APN). She was undecided about whether or not she wanted to pursue a career in a particular specialty. I not only showed her how wonderful patient care can be, but also what other roles an APN could fill in a hospital setting, including staff education and research. I did my best to answer her questions. After her day with me she made her decision to apply for specialty staff nursing positions after graduation. Her experience with me helped me gain a better understanding of how we as experienced nurses are able to promote our nursing specialty.

This then raises the question, what are you doing to promote the next generation of urology nurses? After conferring with your manager, have you contacted any schools of nursing in your area to promote an observational day in your urology clinic, practice, or inpatient unit? Has your chapter had a booth at a student nurse program or at a student outreach? Do you have students attend your SUNA chapter meetings?

Students are only one potential source of new urology nurses. Experienced nurses could become interested in urology nursing if you invite them to a chapter dinner program or activity. Many elders have urologic disorders. Have you contacted a long-term care facility, assisted-living facility, or rehabilitation facility to invite their nursing staff to a local chapter meeting? There are so many opportunities available to reach out to nurses and promote urologic nursing. What could you do this week to invite nurses to your local chapter dinner meeting or program?

Jeanne Held-Warmkessel, MSN, RN, AOCN®, ACNS-BC

Participate in SUNA’s Elections!

The profiles of national and regional candidates for SUNA elected office in 2012-2013 appeared in the May issue of the Uro-Gram and are also available on the SUNA website at www.suna.org. Voting is being conducted electronically again this year. SUNA members should have received electronic voting (E-voting) instructions in June. If you have not yet voted, please log-in using the member number and passcode supplied in the E-voting instructions to cast your ballot.

Play an active role in selecting the leaders who will guide SUNA in the future. Exercise your privilege as an active, senior, or honorary SUNA member and vote for the candidate(s) of your choice!

Members must cast their votes by July 31, 2012. Results of the election will be announced at the 2012 Annual Conference in Washington, DC, and published in the Uro-Gram.
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The FTC has expressed opinions on proposed regulation and legislation affecting the use of APRNs. Some of these measures would allow APRNs to provide services under their full scope of practice, while other measures would have restricted the use of APRNs and patient access to their services. Such anticompetitive restrictions on patient access to care diminish competition, impair free markets for healthcare services, risk cost increases to our already expensive health system, and fail to improve patient safety. By responding to state-based requests to evaluate regulatory and legislative proposals that risk patient access to quality healthcare, the FTC is fulfilling its duty to promote market competition and its benefits. Ensuring competition in healthcare is more important than ever as the U.S. spends twice as much on healthcare services as our industrialized competitors, without enjoying twice the beneficial outcomes. Restraint of trade and anticompetitive initiatives promoted through legislation and regulation cannot be allowed to be implemented because such measures preclude registered nurses and APRNs from performing the full range of services that they are educated and clinically prepared to deliver.

Francie Bernier, PhD, RNC
Legislative Committee Chairperson

Secretary’s Message
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and Jeff greeted me when they saw me, asked how things were going, and generally made me feel very welcome and part of the SUNA community. I told Jean that I would be coming to the SUNA Annual Conference from then on. I am happy to say I have not missed a conference since 2004. I look forward to seeing my “mentors” at each conference and have used those and subsequent experiences to expand my sense of community to the national level.

Our local chapter has grown in all geographic areas. We cover 3 states, and I have served as chapter president several times. Like other chapters, we struggle to get volunteers to run for offices each year while having a stable attendance at our various chapter events. The LRSP discussion has caused me to reflect on my time as chapter officer. Did I greet members when they arrived, or was I busy with chapter business? Was the time used to promote SUNA and welcome members, or did I “catch up” with acquaintances? I wish I could say it was always the former but have to admit it was not.

At a recent chapter meeting I asked members to write down their thoughts on what the term “SUNA community” means to them. These are their thoughts:

- education and contact hours; a chance to ask questions, advance my knowledge in urology and regarding new drugs;
- then share knowledge gained with coworkers; networking – support and advice; social – lasting friendships; team effort to achieve goals; energizing others to be part of a specialty;
- motivating others to be involved, prioritize the idea of welcoming, motivating, and educating; and SUNA has become friends and family to me.

I end this message with several challenges for all of us, including myself. Share what the “SUNA community” means to you. Send testimonials to your regional director or any BOD member. How does your chapter welcome and appreciate members? Share that information with us. When you attend a chapter or national conference, say hello to someone you don’t know. Seek them out at meals and breaks. If you see BOD members, don’t be afraid to stop us to chat and share why SUNA is important to you. For me, SUNA is not only my education resource but it is an “extended family.” I can’t count how many members have influenced where I am today, but I thank them all. I personally have grown so much because of the “SUNA community.” I hope you are able to say the same.

Debbie Buback, ANP
SUNA Secretary

Uro-Gram
July 2012

Over the last several months, The Nursing Community has been very active in its pursuit to ensure that Congress does not cut any funding for nursing in 2013. SUNA supported all endeavors by endorsing every letter sent to members of the House of Representatives and the Senate explaining the role of nurses in 2013, asking for their support of our budget request, and validating the budget requirements.

In addition, we are now faced with the decision of the Supreme Court regarding the legitimacy of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The decision is due next month. Assuming the ACA goes into effect, by 2015 there will be a tremendous need for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to assume the role of primary care physicians. These nurses will have more advanced degrees and will be able to evaluate patients, refer patients for more specialized care, write prescriptions, and order tests. APRNs are able to take on greater responsibilities with greater autonomy.

Another initiative of The Nursing Community is to address the expressed opinions about proposed regulation related to advanced practice nursing by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). A letter written by AARP and The Nursing Community to the FTC states:
SUNA’s 43rd Annual Conference will provide you with many opportunities for education, networking, and professional development. The program includes optional preconference workshops; a choice of concurrent sessions in areas such as general urologic care, inpatient care, office practice, outpatient care, pediatrics, operating room, urodynamics, and advanced practice; Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings; social events; and an exhibit hall featuring the latest products and services in the specialty. Personalize your educational program by selecting the sessions most applicable to your practice.

Optional Preconference Workshops

Enhance your conference experience by attending one of the four optional preconference workshops being offered on Friday, November 2:

- **Certification Review** – Designed as a study session to prepare participants for the urology certification exam, this course examines pediatric anomalies, urinary tract inflammations, voiding dysfunction, obstructive uropathies, male infertility and sexual dysfunction, as well as urologic cancers.

- **Advanced Practice Diagnostic Imaging Evaluation** – This half-day course identifies appropriate imaging for diagnosing normal and abnormal urologic conditions.

- **Basic Urology** – The session covers basic urology 101, including anatomy and physiology, diagnostic tests, terms, definitions, bladder and urethra disorders, kidney and ureter disorders, prostate, and male reproductive/genitalia disorders.

- **Advanced Practice Workshop: Cystoscopy** – Part of the conference Advanced Practice Track, this program focuses on normal anatomy and physiology as well as pathophysiology within the bladder. Participants will receive hands-on training with cystoscopes.

- **The Basics of Urodynamics** – Case studies enhance this informative workshop, which reviews the urodynamics process from set up to interpretation. Preconference courses are full-day programs (unless otherwise noted) requiring a separate registration fee.

Conference Highlights

The conference kicks off on Saturday morning, November 3, with the Keynote Address entitled *Hot Topics for Nurses in the Current Health Care Environment*, which will focus on the latest happenings on Capitol Hill. Next, Dr. Carrington Mason, urologist and surgeon, will discuss the impact of being diagnosed with prostate cancer and how it affected his role as a physician as well as his relationship with patients in a presentation entitled *Prostate Cancer: My Experience on Both Ends of the Knife*. Additional features include the SUNA Regional Meetings, the Grand Opening of the Exhibit Hall, and the SUNA Party / SUNA Foundation Silent Auction.

Sunday’s program will include the SUNA Awards Luncheon and Business Meeting; SIG meetings; exhibit and poster viewing; and general sessions on sexual dysfunction and the AUA/SUNA White Paper on the Incidence, Prevention, and Treatment of Complications Related to Prostate Needle Biopsy. Monday, November 5, will open with SIG meetings and a general session on *CyberKnife – Robotic Surgery*.

A choice of concurrent sessions will be offered on each day of the conference. Topics include:

- Sacral neuromodulation for voiding dysfunction
- Testicular cancer in children
- Prostate cancer screening
- Caring for patients with urinary diversions
- Erectile dysfunction
- Advanced pharmacology: prostate medications and androgen deprivation therapy
- Urologic prosthetics
- Robotic cystectomy
- Metabolic/kidney stone evaluation and management

Advanced Practice Track

Back by popular demand is the conference advanced practice track. This year will offer even more exciting advanced practice nurse (APN) and physician assistant (PA) education. The 2012 Advanced Practice Track will feature workshops, educational sessions, and networking designed specifically for advanced practice clinical knowledge and skills.

Registration Information

Conference registration brochures were mailed to all SUNA members in June. Online registration and a downloadable conference brochure are available at www.suna.org. Register by September 27, 2012, to take advantage of reduced registration rates.
Explore Savannah, Site of 2013 SUNA Symposium

SUNA’s Annual Symposium: Incontinence and Pelvic Floor Disorders will be held March 7-9, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, GA. Join your colleagues for an exciting educational and professional networking experience at SUNA’s 2013 Annual Symposium, and be sure to set aside some time to enjoy the unique sights of Savannah, Georgia’s First City. Discover the splendor of historic mansions, churches, and the moss-draped oaks throughout this enchanting city. Below is a brief list of some places you may want to visit:

**Historic River Street.** Found in the heart of Savannah’s Historic District along the river, this world-renowned stretch of entertainment, dining, and shopping offers charming cobblestone roads and regional attractions, such as the Waving Girl Statue and plenty of great southern cooking.

**The Historic Savannah Theatre.** Since it first opened its doors in 1818, it has become the oldest, still-operating theater in America. Visit the theatre for the gorgeous art-deco architecture, and stay for a musical!

**Birthplace of Juliette Gordon Low.** The pioneering founder of the Girl Scouts, Juliette Gordon Low, was born in Savannah. Her family home is maintained to appear as it was in the late 19th century and is available for guided tours. This sight marks Savannah’s first National Historic Landmark.

**Forsyth Park.** Named for John Forsyth, Georgia’s governor from 1834-1841 and originally called Forsyth Place, Forsyth Park is an ideal place for a casual walk and some beautiful photo opportunities, including the moss-lined trees and the Forsyth Park Fountain, which is modeled after the Place de la Concorde fountain in Paris, France.

**Mercer House.** The book Midnight in the Garden of Good & Evil by John Berendt made many things about Savannah famous, including the life and times of Jim Williams. Be sure to visit Monterey Square and the Mercer House where Jim Williams lived.

**Old Fort Jackson.** Standing since 1808, Old Fort Jackson is the oldest fort in Georgia still standing. It kept Savannah safe during the War of 1812 and was the Savannah River Defenses’ Headquarters in the Civil War. Today, it offers military exhibits, a beautiful view of the river, and daily cannon shows.

**Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum.** This museum offers a fascinating display of artifacts from the Atlantic trade between America and England during centuries past. The collection includes paintings, models, and antiques from the ships themselves.

**Tybee Island Light Station and Museum.** This is one of a few lighthouses built in the 1700s still in operation today. It’s just a 20-minute drive from the heart of Savannah. Be sure to take the self-guided tour; a mere 178 steps to get to the top!

**The Pirates’ House.** When it first opened in the 1750s, the Pirates’ House was a meeting place for all manner of pirates. Today, it offers a dozen unique dining rooms featuring plenty of food, drink, and fun.

Plan now to attend the Annual Symposium, and stay a few extra days to enjoy the city’s many unique sites and attractions. Start planning your itinerary now! For more information about events and activities in and around Savannah, go to the Savannah Convention & Visitor Bureau website at savannahvisit.com.

**References**
- savannahvisit.com
- www.savannahga.net

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**Attend the Annual Symposium for FREE!**
Apply for an educational scholarship through the SUNA Foundation. Two scholarships are available to assist in covering the cost of attending the symposium. Each scholarship provides expenses up to $1,200. The deadline for submitting scholarship applications is November 1. For more information, see the article on page 7 or visit www.suna.org and click on the Foundation tab.

**Interested in presenting at the meeting?** See the Call for Abstracts on page 14.
Scholarship Update

New Scholarship Available! The SUNA Foundation Trustees have been busy. In collaboration with the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA), the Foundation has created another scholarship for SUNA members. Annually, the SUNA Foundation Recertification Scholarship will reimburse one SUNA member’s recertification fee. Additional information, including eligibility criteria and an application form, is available online at www.suna.org (click on the Certification tab and select “SUNA Foundation Recertification Scholarship”). The deadline for application submissions is August 1.

Multiple applications were submitted for the 2012 SUNA Annual Conference Scholarship. The Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee had a lengthy deliberation prior to making the final decision regarding recipients. Congratulations to the following individuals who were selected to receive a scholarship to attend the 2012 Annual Conference in Washington, DC: Darla Cleaves, CURN, CRNFA, MLSO; Louise Nora, CURN, CUNP; and Julie Wells, ADN.

A very descriptive article about the awards and scholarships available to SUNA members was published in the March issue of the Uro-Gram. The criteria and applications for all of these awards also are available online at www.suna.org (click on the Foundation tab and select “What We Provide”).

There is still time to apply for the Urodynamics Workshops sponsored by Life-Tech and Laborie. It is also a good time to consider applying for the Annual Symposium Scholarship. Two scholarships are available to cover the cost of attending the 2013 Annual Symposium in Savannah, GA. Each scholarship provides expenses up to $1,200. This is a great opportunity to attend a national SUNA meeting for FREE!

SUNA member Kathleen Hinterlong, RNC, received a scholarship from the SUNA Foundation to attend the 2012 Annual Symposium in San Francisco. Read her reflection on this educational experience below.

Testimonial from 2012 Annual Symposium Scholarship Recipient

I would like to thank the SUNA Board of Directors for accepting me as a scholarship recipient for the 2012 SUNA Annual Symposium that took place in San Francisco. I have been a SUNA member since 2008 and had previously attended three symposia. The content of the classes and the desire to further my education kept me coming back for more. Due to financial challenges in 2011, I was unable to attend. I assumed I would be unable to attend again in 2012, but when I was scanning over the information for this year’s symposium, I noticed that the scholarship was available!

My goal is to become certified under CBUNA and take the test within the next year. To help better prepare me for the test, I chose sessions specific to areas of urology that I have not recently had exposure to. My current role is based on caring for the female patient so I attended many sessions that involved both male and pediatric urology.

Overall, what a great symposium! Beautiful location, upscale hotel. It was quite an honor and a pleasure to have attended as a scholarship recipient.

Being a recipient made the symposium possible for me, and I would like to again thank the Board of Directors for this generous opportunity.

Kathleen Hinterlong, RNC
Clinical Coordinator
Pelvic Medicine & Urogynecology Center
Rush Copley Medical Center

2012 Silent Auction

The most pressing issue now is the SUNA Foundation Silent Auction to be held November 3 in conjunction with the SUNA Party at the Annual Conference in Washington, DC. The SUNA Foundation is accepting donations for the auction. If you have a hobby such as painting, sewing, quilting, beading, knitting, crocheting, etc., we would be grateful for the opportunity to include your donated items in the auction. Donation forms are available on the Foundation tab on the SUNA website.

If you are interested in donating an item for the auction, please complete and return the Silent Auction Donation Form by October 3, 2012. Donated items must arrive in Washington, DC, by November 1, 2012.

Suggestions for the SUNA Foundation Board of Trustees’ consideration are always welcome. We want to help.

Ardeth Hale, RN, CURN
SUNA Foundation Chair & Trustee
ardeth.hale270@comcast.net
Who are SUNA’s Northeast chapters? They are a vital component of the larger national SUNA organization. Our local chapters are the most important avenue for representing our membership; providing local education; networking with colleagues; and communicating the needs, concerns, and interests of our members to the SUNA Board of Directors. Chapters offer opportunities to network with others in urology and to become involved in community activities. They are a place to make new friends and get more involved. Please become involved in your local chapter and bring along a friend!

The Metropolitan Washington, DC Chapter is busy planning upcoming dinner meetings. They are also preparing to serve as the host chapter for SUNA’s Annual Conference, which will be held in Washington, DC, in November. For more information on upcoming events, contact Francie Bernier at fbernier@su.edu. Help would be greatly appreciated in preparation for the Annual Conference.

Dianne Oleksiuk and the Metropolitan Baltimore Chapter held a dinner meeting in May that featured a discussion on intermittent catheterization presented by a rehab specialist who is also a paraplegic. It was quite an educational experience to learn about neurogenic bladder and CIC from a patient’s perspective. The chapter had great attendance at the meeting, and everyone learned new information and had fun while learning. If you are interested in upcoming events, contact Diane at doleksi1@jhmi.edu.

President Josephine Finnerty and the Northern New Jersey Chapter held an educational event on ileoconduit and neobladder care in May. The chapter has implemented and organized quarterly educational events at Hackensack University Medical Center. They will sponsor breakfast or lunch, provide a location for these events, and help with distributing the flyers to get as many attendees as possible. They are also utilizing conference calls to have board meetings. Congratulations to chapter member Joan Colella (former president), who just received her DNP! For more information on upcoming events or to volunteer, contact Josephine at gfinnerty@humed.com.

The New England Chapter recently held an evening dinner education session entitled A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Care of the Pelvic Medicine Patient. The event was well attended with 60 participants. The evaluations were very positive, and the chapter hopes to continue to offer these types of dinner events. Chapter members also busy participated in a “Men’s Health Week” awareness campaign by staffing a table at the local hospital with brochures, give-aways, popcorn, etc., leading up to Father’s Day. In other exciting news, the chapter is currently working with the leadership of the New England section of the American Urological Association (AUA) to plan for a joint session during the New England AUA’s meeting in September in Boston. They hope that this program will be well attended, informative, and offer the opportunity to hold specific SUNA/Allied sessions as well as joint sessions. If you are interested in upcoming events or volunteering, contact President Kris Green at kgreen@crhc.org.

The Garden State Chapter and President Teresa Lennon-Giles are planning a community educational program for the fall. They are also in the planning stages for upcoming events. For information on upcoming events or to be a part of the planning process, contact President Kris Green at kgreen@crhc.org.

Monica Davis and the Delaware Valley Chapter continue to keep the chapter active and involved even though Monica broke her wrist this winter! She is healing and getting “back in the saddle.” Congratulations to Joanne Robinson, PhD, RN, GCNS-BC, FAAN, who was appointed the inaugural dean of the Rutgers School of Nursing-Camden in December. As dean, she will lead the growth of the Rutgers-Camden nursing school as it expands enrollment of its existing BSN and RN undergraduate student populations, while also developing MSN programs in targeted clinical specialties and a PhD program. For information on upcoming chapter activities or if you are interested in any chapter leadership or educational planning sessions, contact Monica at monicadavis@verizon.net.

The Central Virginia Chapter and President Stacy Clark held a dinner meeting on denosumab (Xgeva®), a medication for prostate cancer patients. The program was well attended. For more information on upcoming events or to help plan future events, contact Stacy at siclark@uro.com.

President Sue Lipsy and the Syracuse Chapter continue to offer a variety of interesting and informative monthly educational programs, including caring for patients with hypogonadism, learning about the Coloplast Care Program, and the new Dale catheter holding devices. The chapter would like to thank both the local and national SUNA corporate and sustaining sponsors from Coloplast Corporation, Dale Medical Group, Endo Pharmaceuticals, and Watson Pharmaceuticals for their generous support of these programs. The chapter participated in a bladder and continence awareness community health fair on June 23 in conjunction with World Continence Week. They are anxious to report all the exciting details. If you want
to become involved in this active chapter or need information on upcoming events, contact President Sue Lipsy at slipsy@twcny.rr.com.

Jeff Guse, president of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter, needed to improvise for a recent chapter meeting. The speaker cancelled so he utilized SUNA’s Online Library! The members “watched” the presentation on Using Meditation, Progressive Muscle Relaxation, Paradoxical Relaxation, Imagery, and Other Mind-Body Strategies in the Treatment of Chronic Pelvic Pain and Irritable Bowel Syndromes. If you would like more information on upcoming events, contact Jeff at wildgeese4@juno.com.

Cheryl LeCroy, MSN, RN
Northeast Regional Director
clecroy@vwcenter.com

Southeast

If you do not find a chapter below that is nearby, I encourage you to contact me about starting your own local SUNA chapter. All you need is five other SUNA members and one educational meeting each year. There are step-by-step directions on how to start a chapter on the SUNA website under the Chapters tab, and you can contact me for guidance. Otherwise, find the nearest chapter below and join in the fun!

The Greater Dallas Ft. Worth Chapter will have their annual meeting at Harris Methodist in Ft. Worth on October 13. Five contact hours will be offered, and topics include surgical pathology, surgical interventions for advanced bladder cancer, wound care, skin care and ostomies, male infertility, and renal cell carcinoma. They would love to have you attend! Contact President Tamara Dickinson at tamara.dickinson@utsouthwestern.edu for details about the event or if you would like to help plan future events.

Lorie Grant, Felonese Harp, Debbie Hensley, Allison Beaver, and Jan Scott from the UTSW Urology Clinic (and members of the Greater Dallas Ft. Worth Chapter) participated in a Walk for Bladder Cancer to support Bladder Cancer Awareness Day on May 5.

The Research Triangle Chapter in North Carolina is holding its annual CE meeting on September 8 in Wilmington, NC. Unfortunately, they will not be meeting at the Atlantic Beach Sheraton due to incomplete hurricane repairs. Final plans and location will be announced on the chapter website at www.trianglesuna.org. There will be a “Meet and Greet” at 6:30 pm on September 7. The chapter’s 2013 CE meeting will be held in Charleston, SC. The date will be announced soon. The chapter is also working on a meeting in the Greenville, NC, area to help get members active in that area. For more information about the upcoming CE events or if you want to get involved in the chapter, contact President Fran Bryant at fbryant52@hotmail.com.

The Florida Sunshine Chapter is planning a full-day meeting in Ft. Meyers for October; details to follow in the next issue of the Uro-Gram. They would love to get more members involved! If you would like to help to plan or attend this chapter activity, contact President Cindy McLean at cmclean4566@comcast.net.

The Magnolia Chapter in Louisiana is planning its annual meeting for November 3. They would love to have you participate in the planning of the meeting, or just have you attend! For more information about the November educational event or if you would like to participate in planning, contact President Rachel Graham at RGraham@oschner.org.

The Greater Houston Chapter is planning their next educational activity, which includes some great speakers on new trends in kidney transplantation/organ sharing. Dates to come! They would love you to help plan the activity, participate in the chapter leadership, or just come and attend. Being active in your local chapter is a great way to get involved in SUNA at the local level. Contact President Randee Regan at randeereg@aol.com to find out about upcoming meetings and get involved!

The West Texas Whirlwinds Chapter has been successful in getting industry support for several dinner meetings in the past and is in the process of planning some for the near future. They have a lot of fun and
would love to have you participate in planning or attending the meetings. Contact Stacy Brothers at sbrothers88@yahoo.com if you are interested.

The Rocky Mountain Chapter is planning a couple of sponsored dinner meetings and it looks like this year their annual meeting may take place on the Western Slope. Contact President Carolyn North at carolyn7176@comcast.net if you would like to participate in planning or attending the events.

The Central Oklahoma Chapter held its fourth annual Urology Update conference in conjunction with the Oklahoma State Urology Association (their first-ever joint meeting with the physician group) on March 9-10 in Oklahoma City. It was a very successful meeting and was well received by the physicians and the nurses. We hope you all got to attend. For future activities and contact information, visit www.oksuna.org.

The Razorback (Arkansas) Chapter is looking for great people to become active in their chapter. For more information, contact President Jody Purifoy at jodypurifoy@sbcglobal.net.

Shanna Atnip, MSN, WHNP-BC
Southeast Regional Director
satnip@swbell.net

North Central

North Central Pearl. When giving an Eligard® (leuprolide acetate) injection, educate the patient that the delivery system will leave a small “jelly bean”-shaped lump in the abdomen. This will prevent phone calls from patients thinking that the prostate cancer has spread to their abdomen. A little patient education goes a long way.

Welcome to the summer! The year is half over, and this region has been busy installing new officers and many chapters are already thinking about fall conferences. World Continence Week, June 18-24, was celebrated in various ways through educational events and handouts at many chapters.

The Great Lakes Chapter held its annual business meeting on March 15. Election results were announced, and Silvia Maxwell was elected chapter president. The bylaws were discussed; non-voting Board members will now be voting members. A scholarship committee was established. The chapter has accrued funds to send at least one chapter member to the SUNA Annual Conference this fall. Regional directors for Michigan and Ohio were appointed and will be responsible for holding at least one meeting in their area during the next year: Leslie Wooldridge – Grand Rapids, MI; Gale Gillespie – Dayton, OH; and Diana Baker – Cleveland, OH. Michelle Lajiness and Paulina Carnevale will schedule at least two meetings for the Detroit area.

As part of a new membership recruitment campaign, the chapter will host an educational/membership booth at the WOCN Mideast Regional Conference in September.

The chapter held its Ninth Annual Conference on March 16. The new location exceeded expectations and received high marks from attendees. Approximately 115 attendees had a great time and enjoyed the educational experience. The conference included topics on male and female urologic conditions, pain control, and new prostate cancer medications. The chapter also incorporated some chapter building ideas into their conference. They featured a new member campaign. If you became a new member at the conference, you will receive free registration admission to the 2013 conference. The chapter added 16 new SUNA members in one day!

In order to encourage certification, the chapter agreed to pay the recertification fee for one of the CBUNA members in attendance at the conference. The lucky winner was Suzanne Parsell, CUNP, from Ann Arbor.

The chapter also raffled a 19-inch television and an iPod, raising $500 for their scholarship fund. In order to encourage participation and leadership in their chapter, they will send one chapter member to the SUNA Annual Conference each fall. This has been a chapter goal for some time.

The chapter will host a half-day Inside Urology Conference in Cleveland, OH, on September 22. They also have some exciting plans for their Tenth Annual Inside Urology Conference, which will be held March 22, 2013.

The Upper Midwest Chapter held its annual spring conference Leap Forward in Urology at the Mayo Clinic on April 21. Chapter member and former national president Amy Driscoll spoke along with physicians, physical therapists, and physician assistants on a variety of urologic topics. A food drive was held, and we collected 113 pounds of food along with cash donations for the local food bank. With the chapter’s goal of improving communication, the “E-stream” newsletter is back with four issues annually! The newsletter is available on the chapter’s website at www.umnusa.org. Members are encouraged to visit the website frequently for information on upcoming events and activities. Plans are underway for the fall conference to be held September 8 in Bloomington, MN.

The Nebraska Chapter thanks outgoing president, Amber Lee, for her service. Amber will now assume the role of secretary. The chapter also welcomes new chapter president, Teri Jizaba. Teri has served as chapter president in the past and is planning several educational dinner meetings.

Congratulations to the new officers of the Chicago Metro Chapter: President Grace Jones and the President-Elect Connie Pinto. Both have been very active members and are looking forward to the new roles that they will assume. The chapter participated in the World Continence Week activities held downtown by manning a table, handing out information, and answering questions. The chapter also had an interesting dinner meeting on the use of Botox® for the bladder. The chapter cosponsored SUNA memberships during their spring conferences by paying a portion of
the membership fees for the first 10 people to join SUNA at their conferences.

The Mississippi Valley Chapter held successful conferences at venues in St. Louis and Cedar Rapids. Despite more limited vendor support, funds for chapter operation were generated. Most importantly, educational objectives were met and a forum for networking was well provided. The Springfield, IL members will likely continue meeting monthly through the summer months. The St. Louis members will provide financial and logistical support for PSA screening following the annual Prostate Cancer Awareness Walk this August. Gina Powley, Charlene Volmer, Kate St. John, and Rachel Daniel were awarded scholarships for national and local conferences based on their willingness to do the work necessary for chapter growth and enrichment.

Vanessa Spears, MHA, BSN, RN, CURN
North Central Regional Director
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Western

Western chapters have had a busy spring and are looking forward to the summer months ahead. This is a time for chapters to take a break from activities and start making plans for the next year. There are many ways to help your local chapter by offering your talents in planning events, running for office, serving on a committee, or volunteering for community events. Local chapters are what make SUNA the strong organization it is, and your chapter leaders need your support.

I want to remind the Western Region members to cast their vote for the Western Regional Director by July 31. Take this opportunity to review the candidate profiles on the SUNA website and make your vote count.

The Yakima Chapter held a very successful Spring Urology Potpourri on April 21 with 46 attendees and 5 vendors. Six CE credits were awarded to all who attended. The conference covered topics on kidney neoplasms, kidney stones, and hyperbaric treatment for radiation cystitis, as well as robotic surgery, pelvic floor disorders, and care of the patient with a penile implant. President Julie Wells would appreciate any input from members for future meetings or community service events. Contact Julie at jwell@wucmd.com for more information on chapter activities.

Lane Biag, president of the Puget Sound Chapter, has been busy with final preparations for the Western Section SUNA Conference to be held October 8-10 at the Hilton Waikoloa Village, Kona on the Big Island Hawaii. Just a few of the many topics to be included are testicular cancer, prostate cancer and nutrition, kidney and pancreas transplants, and ileal conduits and neobladders. Make plans to attend this exceptional educational offering with CE credits and enjoy beautiful Hawaii at the same time. For more information, contact Lane at lanereid@comcast.net.

Northern California Chapter President Linda Adams reports that plans are underway for a half-day meeting in July. Please consider volunteering to help with the planning of these events. Linda would love to have you on board. Being involved is what makes a chapter strong and also offers you, as a professional, the opportunity to network with others in urology or become more involved with your community. For more information on the upcoming event or to volunteer, contact Linda at linda@the-adams.com.

The Utah Chapter is pleased to welcome new board members: President Jodi Weichers, President-Elect Danielle Pay, Secretary Gloria Dwight, and Treasurer Guylyn Johnson. They are all very excited to take over leadership for this chapter and are looking forward to planning events for chapter members. Contact Jodi at jodi@wucmd.com for more information on what’s happening with this chapter.

Portland Chapter President Renee Benoit is looking for volunteers to help with planning a fall conference for chapter members and to step up and take on leadership roles for the chapter. Contact Renee at renee@theurlogyclinic.com to offer your assistance.

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Western Regional Director
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In response to ideas from SUNA members and the Urologic Nursing Editorial Board, as well as the recent commitment by schools of nursing across the country to the White House’s Joining Forces initiative (www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces), Urologic Nursing will publish a special issue focused on the urologic health care needs of our nation’s veterans and active duty service members. Urologic nursing professionals may encounter combat-related mental health and physical challenges experienced by returning soldiers and their family members in clinical settings affiliated with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and non-VA health care settings. We believe it is important to share our clinical experiences and expertise as one step in supporting our veterans – they have supported us by serving in the military.

Please contact Editorial Board Members Christine Bradway or Kaye K. Gaines with your manuscript ideas and thoughts about this very special issue!

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Kaye K. Gaines, MS, FNP, CURN
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The spotlight in this issue focuses on Silvia Maxwell, a member of the Great Lakes Chapter. After obtaining her Associate Degree in Nursing in 1984, Silvia began working for the Detroit Medical Center (DMC) as an orthopedic nurse. At the same time, she also decided to continue her nursing education at Wayne State University and completed her BSN in 1991. When the DMC moved the orthopedic unit to another hospital within the system, she became a urology nurse almost overnight. By joining SUNA, Silvia became more knowledgeable about caring for urology patients. Although not originally intending to become a urology nurse, she is glad that she did.

After she obtained a MSN as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner from Wayne State, Silvia passed the exam to be a CBUNA certified urologic nurse practitioner. She is currently working in a collaborative practice with Richard Santucci, MD, Specialist-in-Chief of Urology at the DMC. Silvia says that becoming a urology nurse practitioner was one of the best decisions she has made in her career because it is the most challenging and rewarding area of her nursing experience.

In 2001 Silvia became actively involved in the Great Lakes Chapter of SUNA. After serving as a Member at Large and a member of the Annual Conference Planning Committee, she was elected chapter president-elect. Then in 2010 she became the chapter president. In 2011 the Great Lakes Chapter received the Award for Extraordinary Contributions to SUNA. Participating in national conferences and serving on task forces has enabled Silvia to promote urologic nursing at a much higher level than she had anticipated. As a member of SUNA, she has accomplished much more than she ever considered possible. Congratulations and thank you for your hard work and dedication, Silvia!

Vanessa Spears, MHA, BSN, RN, CURN
North Central Regional Director

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This column recognizes “behind-the-scenes” members of SUNA who contribute to the organization and urologic nursing at the grassroots level. If you know of a member whose service to SUNA deserves recognition and would like to highlight his/her contributions in this column, contact Uro-Gram Editor Jeanne Held-Warmkessel (jean.held-warmkessel@fcc.edu).
APN-LTC

The Advanced Practice Nurse in Long-Term Care (APN-LTC) SIG met at the Annual Symposium. The discussion involved various topics of interest to the group, not the least of which were billing issues. There was sharing of information among seasoned professionals and discussion with new members on marketing and practice issues. We are looking forward to the Annual Conference in the fall. We hope to interest more advanced practice nurses in our group at that time. My term as SIG leader is over, and we are looking for a new leader to assume this role.

B.J. Reid Czarapata, MSN, ANP-BC, CUNP
SIG Leader
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Sacral Nerve Stimulation

The IR receiver/transmitter is now available for downloading your programming sessions directly onto your computer. If you have not already received one, ask your Medtronic representative to order one for you.

The receiver/transmitter connects to your computer’s USB port, and the report can be uploaded directly to your computer through the infrared receiver and either printed for the patient chart or attached to the electronic chart. If you have trouble transferring the reports into your EMR software, you may need to contact the EMR software company or your IT department.

This is a different print out than the one you would get from the printerS that utilizes thermal paper. If you are currently utilizing thermal paper, you need to remember that the print will fade over time. You should make copies of the thermal reports and discard them.

The SIG met during the Annual Symposium in San Francisco this year. The meeting was well attended. We discussed the desire to have a preconference workshop in the future to address various issues with sacral nerve stimulation. Members voiced frustrations regarding troubleshooting, billing, and documentation, to name a few. There were many members who are new to sacral nerve stimulation and were interested in networking and learning about the resources available. There were many good suggestions, and we look forward to putting them together for approval.

Lisa Zambrano, RN, ANP-C, CUNP
SIG Leader
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Urodynamics

The SIG met during the Annual Symposium in San Francisco. Although it was a small group, several troubleshooting questions were discussed. We were able to identify our next SIG leader and cannot wait to introduce her to you. Troubleshooting questions focused on different types of urodynamics (UDS) software and catheters. Attendees shared how much they were enjoying the symposium and the UDS track for beginners course.

Here are a few more questions from the surveys that I used to develop the troubleshooting questions and answers previously published in the Uro-Gram.

Q: When is it appropriate to utilize the equalize button on my software (Pabd=Pves)?
A: I recommend that you do not use this feature to troubleshoot during a CMG procedure. I recommend that you stop the study and troubleshoot the problem once you detect the Pves or Pabd channel start to drift and do not return to baseline during the filling phase within 30 seconds to 1 minute. This equalize feature allows the Pabd channel measured in cmH20 to equal whatever the Pves channel is measuring in cmH20. For example, you are running a study and filling up your patient’s bladder. The Pves channel pressure indicates that it is measuring at 23 cmH20 and you notice that the Pabd pressure starts to drift down from 25 cmH20 to 10 cmH20. If you select the Pabd=Pves button, the Pabd channel will go from 10 cmH20 to 23 cmH20. This Pabd=Pves button should only be used at the beginning of the CMG study, before you start filling up the bladder, to ensure that your starting resting pressure in Pdet reads as close to 0 as possible at the onset of your study.

Q: How do you troubleshoot Pves/Pabd pressure using air charged catheters?
A: Air charged catheters need to be inserted per manufacturer recommendations into the rectum and the bladder for males and females. Refer to the manufacture air charged catheters instruction sheet. Be sure you start with the charge switch in the off position. Once you have catheters in place, push the “charge” button to the on position on each cable. Have the patient cough to ensure pressure is being measured in the Pves and Pabd channel. Do not change the switch back and forth to recharge. This may cause more problems. Be sure you check and inspect that all cables are functioning properly and replace them as needed. Three cables are used to measure each channel: Pves (bladder), Pabd (rectum), and Pura for those of you who utilize urethral pressure profiles. Once you have exhausted all troubleshooting techniques and still obtain no results, the only other option is to change out whichever catheter is not functioning properly (Pves or Pabd) and resume the study.

Q: How do you keep children calm while performing UDS?
A: Explain to the child what you are going to do on his/her level of comprehension. Movies, books, music, stuffed animals, and mp3 players work well for distracting children and teens. Talk to their parents first and see what they recommend works best for their children. It
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has been my experience that most children who start out having UDS done early in life are familiar with this procedure and are not fearful of it. If your patient is a teenager, ask what he/she prefers. I would not feed small children (toddlers) during a CMG procedure due to possible choking in the supine position. Bottles work well for infants.

Q: How do you reduce a prolapsed/cystocele and why?
A: My favorite method is to use approximately 4-6 inches of a roll of gauze and K-Y® jelly. I cut a piece of gauze (depending on how large the cystocele is) and apply K-Y jelly on to the piece of gauze lengthwise. Then I explain to my patient that I am going to insert the gauze into their vagina much like a tampon in order to lift up the bladder up. Other items used in order to reduce a cystocele may be a pessary, several 4 x 4 gauzes (you have to count them going in and coming out), ring forceps, and tampons. I perform two CMG studies. One is with the prolapsed down and one is with it up. You may only charge for one CMG procedure. You reduce the cystocele to observe how much fluid the bladder holds, compliance, leakage (stress vs. urge) and if the patient is able to empty the bladder with the cystocele reduced vs. down.

Myra Joseph, RN
SIG Leader
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SUNA Member Jane Hawks to Be Inducted as FAAN

Jane Hokanson Hawks, PhD, RN, BC, SUNA member and editor of Urologic Nursing, will be inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) during the Academy’s 39th Annual Meeting and Conference on October 13, 2012, in Washington, DC. She will join 175 other nurse leaders who have been selected to receive this honor this year.

“Selection for membership in the Academy is one of the most prestigious honors in the field of nursing,” said Academy President Joanne Disch, PhD, RN, FAAN. “I congratulate all of the new Fellows and look forward to honoring their accomplishments and welcoming them into the Fellowship this October.”

The Academy is composed of more than 1,800 nurse leaders in education, management, practice, policy, and research. Selection criteria include evidence of significant contributions to nursing and health care. Applicants are reviewed by a panel comprised of elected and appointed Fellows, and selection is based, in part, on the extent to which nominees’ nursing careers influence health policies and the health and well-being of all. Congratulations on this achievement, Jane!

Call for Abstracts
SUNA’s Annual Symposium
March 7-9, 2013
Hyatt Regency Savannah, GA

Share Your Expertise!

Do you have a case study, best practice, or research findings that you’d like to share with your colleagues? Here’s your opportunity! The planning committee is now accepting abstracts for verbal and poster presentation at the 2013 Annual Symposium in the following categories.

Research Session

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations may address the following:
• Practical clinical approaches to the treatment and management of urologic health care (with emphasis on assessment, intervention, patient outcomes).
• Development and evaluation of innovative services and programs relevant to urologic health care.
• Identification and management strategies of special populations in urologic health care (such as geriatrics, pediatrics).
• Case studies involving innovative strategies for managing urologic health care.
• Original research that has not been published. Original research which has been submitted or in press would be acceptable for presentation.
• Product and device evaluations.

Non-Research Posters

Abstracts for non-research poster presentations may address one of the following areas relative to clinical practice:
• Clinical Posters. Focus on creative nursing interventions using evidence-based best practice. Examples include management of chronic indwelling catheters or measures to prevent catheter acquired urinary tract infections (UTIs).
• Leadership Posters. Focus on leadership issues, including style, practice, and related issues. Examples include leadership styles, mentoring, preceptor techniques used to assist students, patients, nurses, and associates with challenging issues.
• Education/Management Posters. Education, management, and delegation. Delegation of tasks, team building, and motivational techniques are examples of management posters. Education posters cover the scope of patient or staff education techniques which have been used and have made a difference in practice.

Submission Guidelines

General submission guidelines, abstract submission forms, and additional information are available on the SUNA website at www.suna.org (click on Events). The deadline for submission of abstracts is December 2, 2012.
Congratulations . . .

To the following individuals who became board certified by passing one of the urologic certification examinations administered by the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA) in May 2012 at test centers across the United States.

Certified Urologic Nurse Practitioner (CUNP)

Marjorie Becker Acerno - Wimauma, FL
Margaret K. Hancock - Jamestown, NC
Lise M. McCanless - Christiansted, VI
Tracy E. Mullins - Kendallville, IN
Michael Patrick Sheehan - Carson City, NV
Leslie Saltzstein Wooldridge - Spring Lake, MI

Certified Urologic Associate (CUA)

Debbie K. Bailey - Billings, MT
Kimberley B. Butler - Lebanon, CT
Melissa L. Kane - Bend, OR
Kori L. Richards - Billings, MT
Shannon M. Schmalz - Nampa, ID

Certified Urologic Registered Nurse (CURN)

Pramanth Abraham - Stafford, TX
Tonya S. Brooks - Valley Stream, NY
Tracie L. Cravens - Herrin, IL
Pamela Ann Dodd - Los Angeles, CA
Kitty Emerson - Westford, VT
Erna K. Flickinger - Killeen, TX
Sarah E. Haines - New York, NY
Rochelle Hamilton - Burlington, IA
Mary Hershner - Chapel Hill, NC
Tara M. Jensen - Los Angeles, CA
Joan W. Martinho - Mebane, NC
Sarah M. Mazzares - West Simsbury, CT
Rowena D. Mejia - Baltimore, MD
Michelle Moser - Billings, MT
Cindie Neufeld - Yakima, WA
Kerry Puglia - New York, NY

SUNA Membership Recruitment Campaign

As a SUNA member you know the value of membership and are in the best possible position to contribute to the growth and advancement of urologic nursing and to the organization dedicated to this profession. SUNA’s ability to make a difference improves with each new member. Your recruiting efforts will directly strengthen the association and the health care professionals working in urology. The more members we have, the greater the ability to influence the care of our patients and the professional development of your colleagues. Invite a colleague to join SUNA during this year’s membership campaign!

For more information, including awards and benefits, go to www.suna.org (click on About SUNA and select Membership Campaign). The current membership campaign runs through September 30. Thank you to the following members who have already recruited new members to join SUNA.

Level 1 – Up to 3 New Members Recruited

Aimee Abben
Linda Adams
Diana Baker
Michele Barnes
Allison Ahrens Beaver
Donna Block
Nancy Blunt
Cheryl Bothwell
Frances Bryant
Kristen Burns
Brigitte David
Kathleen Donlon
Mary Ellen Ebersole
Carla Garwood
Kelly Gollar
Kristine Green
Ardeth Hale
Lynn Hall
Jane Hawks
Margaret Hayes
Debbie Hensley
Jennifer Hicks
Margaret Amy Hull
Myra Joseph
Karen Karlowicz
Theresa Klopfenstein
Nancy Kolb
Michelle Lajiness
Susan Baum Lipsy
Elizabeth Lonberger
Patricia Lopez
Edna Manalo
Silvia Maxwell
Jamie Mehl
Rowena Dupaya Mejia
Mary Meskel
Victoria Moore
Lisa Nagle
Cindie Neufeld
Sandra Okken
Carol Olsen
Judith Pacificar
Vicky Peck
Jan Piercy
Rebecca Quillen
Kathryn Raich
Cynthia Ross
Gale Sandoval
Donna Marie Scott
Rodelia Sena
Vanessa Spears
Julie Ann Starr
Sandra Sturdy-Seidel
Susanne Talebian
Stephanie Tarter
Charlene Vollmer
Jodi Wéichers
Glenda Wilkinson
Kathy Young

Level 2 – Scored with 4 or More New Members

Cheryl Ann Battani
Stacy Clark
Grace Jones
Todd Morningstar
Susanne Quallich
Mary Beth Schulte
Online Library Offers Free CNE and More!

SUNA’s Online Library is one of your most valuable benefits as a SUNA member. Visit the Online Library at www.prolibraries.com/suna to enjoy these features:

- **FREE CNE:** A free continuing nursing education (CNE) program is currently available! *Male Hypogonadism and Testosterone Replacement: Current Guidelines and Controversies* was originally presented at the 2011 Annual Conference in San Antonio. Susanne Quallich, ANP-BC, NP-C, CUNP, nurse practitioner for Sexual and Reproductive Medicine in the Department of Urology at University of Michigan, discusses the current data in order to help clinicians make clinical judgments in regards to screening and managing men with hypogonadism, especially in light of existing comorbidities. Listen to the live recording of the session, view the accompanying presentation materials, and earn CNE online – all for FREE.

- **FREE Meeting Content:** If you were an Annual Symposium or Annual Conference attendee, you have FREE access to the audio recordings and handouts from the meeting that you attended. Take advantage of this educational opportunity and check out any sessions you did not attend while at the meeting. If you were unable to attend SUNA’s annual meetings, you can purchase access to meeting educational sessions and earn contact hours! *Educational sessions from SUNA’s 2012 Annual Symposium in San Francisco are now available.*

- **Browse Content Menu:** Find the urologic nursing practice information you are seeking. Topics are organized according to category and patient care issues. Browse educational content in the following topical areas: Advanced Practice, Certification Review, Clinical, Incontinence, Professional, Research, Sexual Dysfunction, Urodynamics, and Urology Surgery.

- **Education on the Go:** Looking to learn something on the go? You can purchase an educational program and download the audio recording to listen to at your convenience.

- **Presidential Minute:** Stay “up to the minute” with the most recent SUNA news. SUNA President Valre Welch provides a brief update on the latest news for SUNA members.

Visit the SUNA Online Library at www.prolibraries.com/suna and start taking advantage of the many educational opportunities available!