President's Message

As President of SUNA, I consider it a top priority to make sure that our organization does not become stagnant. We have come a long way from our early roots as the American Urologic Association Allied (AUAA). No longer are we an allied association to a physician group. Instead, we are a strong and independent organization built on nursing principles and practice. SUNA provides for its membership in many ways. We offer two excellent educational programs each year – filled with information for those practicing at all levels of our specialty. Our Web site provides access to patient educational materials, legislative information, clinical practice guidelines, and a vast library of urology-specific presentations and continuing nursing education credits. We provide hands-on workshops and training courses and encourage specialty certification by offering a review course that prepares attendees for the exam. We advocate legislatively for our profession and our specialty. SUNA is the definitive organization for urology nursing professionals.

But I don’t want SUNA to rest on its laurels. We have work to do to keep our forward momentum and take this organization to the next level, and ensuring that our patient education and professional resources offer the most updated information is one way to meet that goal. Right now, we have a task force reviewing and revising all of our clinical practice guidelines, taking a look at any new evidence or research that would call for a change in practice, and updating the material to reflect these changes. We have a task force reviewing the Scope and Standards of Urologic Nursing Practice, the document that defines who we are and what we do as urology nurses and helps to differentiate the practices of advanced practice nurses and registered nurses. We also have a task force taking a look at the certification review materials. We heard you when you said the manual needed updating, and we’re getting it done.

What else needs to be done? A presenter at our recent symposium suggested we develop competencies for advanced practice urology nurses and continence nurse consultants/specialists as well as a core curriculum for urology nursing. Competencies would help offices, clinics, and hospitals in identifying the group of skills, behaviors, or knowledge that can be used as performance standards for nurse practitioners or clinical nurse specialists. SUNA needs to lead this initiative so that we are the ones defining these practice parameters. The core curriculum would identify the essential body of knowledge deemed necessary for urology nurse practice and, again, needs to be developed by this organization.

Finally, SUNA needs to continue to provide only the highest quality educational programs. Recognizing that our members practice at all levels – from medical assistants and health technicians to doctorate prepared advanced practice professionals – we need to ensure that everyone who attends our meetings continued on page 15
Spring is Here!  How Are Your SUNA Volunteer Plants Growing?

In the March issue, recognizing that professional nursing organizations thrive on member involvement, I encouraged SUNA members to plant some SUNA volunteer seeds. So how tall are your plants? How many do you have?

Each volunteer activity can be seen as a plant. Every time you volunteer to perform an activity, you grow deeper roots in the organization. Your stem gets stronger as you work on projects, activities, and networking while developing new skills. All these actions then are brought back to your work relationships and activities. As with a growing and maturing plant, you develop new leaves and buds and start to bloom.

No matter if you are still working on those seeds or if you have a plant growing, there are ongoing organizational needs. Some examples are found in this issue's President’s Message. This issue includes the candidate profiles for the upcoming election. By reviewing the candidate profiles, you are preparing yourself to vote and thereby contributing to the future of the organization. Activities, both large and small, are critical to an organization.

I hope you enjoy the spring and your volunteer work in urologic nursing.

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

Call for Papers for 2012 Annual Symposium

SUNA’s 2012 Annual Symposium will be held March 1-3 at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco in San Francisco, CA. The Program Planning Committee has issued a Call for Papers for the symposium. You are invited to submit abstracts for oral presentation addressing topics related to urologic patient care. Paper presentations must be identified as basic, intermediate, or advanced.

Submission Guidelines

1. Abstracts must be typed, single spaced on 8.5” x 11” white bond paper.
2. Abstracts must be in narrative form and not exceed 300 words.
3. The title of the abstract should appear at the top.
4. List primary presenter first, then additional presenters with credentials (PhD, MA, BSN, RN, etc.) below the title.
5. The author(s)/work/home/email addresses and telephone/fax numbers should be listed on a separate page.

Instructions also are available online at www.suna.org (under Events). Each submission will be evaluated by the Program Planning Committee to determine the final selection for the meeting program. Submissions must be received by May 15, 2011.
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Over the last several months there has been much activity in the legislature leading to potential changes in the Health Reform Act. The Nursing Community, a forum for national professional nursing associations to build consensus and advocate on health care and nursing issues, is trying to stay proactive instead of reactive to the changes. Activity has been centered on funding for Title VIII during 2011 and planning for 2012. Since Congress reconvened in January and the House of Representatives became a Republican majority, the Health Reform Act is under attack. Changes to the Health Reform Act will potentially influence nursing significantly.

As we all know, Title VIII provides substantial increases to the funding for nursing education and the National Institutes of Nursing Research (NINR). Currently, we are faced with huge budget cuts to many of the governmental agencies. However, as of this writing, The Nursing Community has been informed that nursing will not be affected in 2011. While we breathe a sigh of relief, this only means we must ready ourselves for 2012.

In preparation for any potential changes, The Nursing Community is conducting monthly meetings and conference calls. Letters explaining the roles of nurses, the need to provide funding to education, and the need for continued funding to NINR as critical for the health and well being of our country were sent to the members of the Senate, House of Representatives, and most recently President Obama. As a result of the explanations in these letters, The Nursing Community requests no changes to the Title VIII budget during Fiscal Year 2012.

I am proud to serve as the Legislative Representative for SUNA. SUNA has supported every letter and every activity requested by The Nursing Community. Although my teaching schedule at the university has prohibited me from attending The Nursing Community meetings in person, I have attended the meetings by conference call and forwarded critical information to President Amy Driscoll and the Board of Directors when necessary. SUNA is a sponsor of the letters to Congress and the letter to President Obama.

In the future, I may call upon members of SUNA to call or write to your Senators or Representatives to support Title VIII, especially if we are in danger of substantial cuts in 2012.

Francie Bernier, PhD, RNC
Legislative Committee Chairperson

Attention Chapter Presidents!
Call for Chapter Review Forms

On behalf of the SUNA Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your continued leadership and dedication to our organization and membership. The end of March marked the end of the fiscal year for SUNA. In order to keep communication open, we want to hear from each active chapter regarding meetings and events for the past year. Per policy 40-400, each chapter president (or president’s designee) is required to report on your chapter’s activities in order to maintain active chapter status. The Chapter Review Form is a great tool to acknowledge your chapter’s successes and achievements and is reviewed for the prestigious Chapter of the Year Award as well as seven other chapter awards announced at the Annual Conference Business Meeting and Awards Luncheon. This is also an opportunity to communicate any needs, concerns or interests in your chapter that may require support from the national level. Your feedback is valuable to us, and we want to hear from you!

By now, you should have received a packet that includes a list of chapter members and a Chapter Review Form with instructions to be completed and returned to me by June 1, 2011. Forms can be returned to me with any additional attachments via mail, email, or fax. If you did not receive a Chapter Review Form in the mail, please contact me or you may access the form on the SUNA Web site. To access the chapter review form online, go to www.suna.org, click on the Chapters tab, and select Chapter Review Form from the drop down menu.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Regional Director or me directly. We appreciate all the hard work and dedication you put forth for SUNA and look forward to hearing from you soon. See you in San Antonio, TX, at SUNA’s Annual Conference!

Debbie Hensley, BSN, RN, CURN
National Secretary
Cell: 210-218-8728
Home: 972-899-4092
Fax: 214-645-8769
deborah.hensley@utsouthwestern.edu

Celebrate National Nurses Week!
May 6-12, 2011

NURSES TRUSTED to CARE

For more information, visit www.nursingworld.org
The SUNA Foundation held its fourth Annual Raffle during the Annual Symposium in New Orleans. Thanks to the enthusiasm and generosity of the attendees and exhibitors, it was a very successful FUNdraiser. Ticket sales produced $2,135 that will be used to support our scholarships. It was our most successful raffle so far.

Though some last minute changes had to be made to our procedure, everything went smoothly. The following ticket holders were the lucky winners of prizes:

- Lee Ann Boyd – Kindle™ reader
- Kathy Dalton – Timex® exercise heart monitor
- Donna Eoff – necklace and earring set
- Donna Pennington – Flip™ camcorder
- Susanne Quallich – Wii™
- Camille Richards – Garmin™ GPS
- Kate St. John – SUNA membership dues renewal
- Diane Underwood – iPod touch
- Marilyn Lu Webb – Canon PowerShot camera

We were happy to meet the Annual Symposium educational program scholarship recipients, Carol Cambareri and Madonna Jackson. Both came by the Foundation exhibit booth several times and were excited about the symposium program.

Scholarship Application Deadline Reminder. Applications for the 2011 SUNA Annual Conference Educational Program Scholarships must be received by June 1 for review by the SUNA Foundation Selection Committee. Chapter Enhancement Scholarship applications must be submitted by June 30 to be eligible for consideration. Scholarship information and forms are available online at www.suna.org (click on the SUNA Foundation tab). Additional scholarships and awards are listed online and may be of interest to you. Opportunities abound for SUNA members, and we look forward to your participation.

Ardeth Hale, CURN(Ret)
SUNA Foundation Chair & Trustee
SUNA’s 42nd Annual Conference will be held October 28-31, 2011, at the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, TX. This year’s conference promises to be another educational, energizing, and fun event! The planning committee has invited a slate of outstanding speakers who will address a wide variety of topics relevant to your nursing practice. The meeting will feature optional preconference workshops, a choice of concurrent sessions on varied topics, Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings, networking opportunities, social events, and an exhibit hall featuring the latest products and services in the specialty.

**Preconference Workshops**

Four optional full-day preconference workshops will be offered on Friday, October 28:

- **Certification Review** is designed as a study session to prepare participants for the urology certification exam. The program will include a review of pediatric anomalies, urinary tract inflammations, voiding dysfunction, obstructive uropathies, male infertility, sexual dysfunction, and urologic cancers. Test-taking strategies also will be featured.

- **Basic Urology** will cover urologic anatomy and physiology; diagnostic tests; disorders of the bladder, urethra, kidneys, ureters, and prostate; and male reproductive/genitalia disorders. This workshop is designed for SUNA's associate members, individuals new to urology, or those seeking a basic review of urology.

- **Advanced Practice Cystoscopy** is designed for advanced practice nurses and physician assistants involved in performing cystoscopy. This course will feature presentations on normal anatomy and physiology and pathophysiology within the bladder as well as hands on training with cystoscopes.

- **The Basics of Urodynamics** will cover the process of urodynamic testing, from set up to basic interpretation. Case studies will be included.

**Conference Program**

Saturday, October 29, will start off with a New Members and First-Time Attendees Welcome and Orientation Breakfast. An Advanced Practice Hands-On Workshop will then feature a choice of stations addressing timely topics such as pelvic floor physical therapy, male genital exam, female sexual medicine, suturing, coding, urodynamic interpretation, and testosterone implants.

Silver Rose, an expert on positive personal development and relationships in the workplace, will deliver the Conference Keynote Address entitled *It’s Work – Not Group Therapy!* The conference program will continue with a session on urologic research, a choice of concurrent sessions, and Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings. Saturday's program will wrap up with the Grand Opening of the Exhibit Hall and the SUNA Party and SUNA Foundation Silent Auction.

Sunday, October 30, will feature the SUNA Awards Luncheon and Business Meeting, SIG meetings, exhibit and poster viewing, and concurrent sessions on a wide variety of topics and issues. Choices will include:

- Preventing practice errors
- The basics of endourology
- Nonsurgical management of urinary incontinence
- Care of the dying patient
- Trigger point injections for pelvic floor dysfunction
- Bladder cancer diagnosis and treatment
- Common diagnostic imaging studies for urologic disorders
- Pediatric urologic emergencies
- Urogenital pain conditions and treatment
- Assessing and managing the side effects of androgen deprivation therapy

Monday, October 31, will open with a review of current pharmacotherapy for urologic imaging studies. A choice of concurrent sessions will again be offered throughout the day.

These are just a few of the highlights of SUNA's 42nd Annual Conference. Watch for additional conference program and registration information, and plan now to attend this exciting educational event!

**Call for Abstracts**

Abstracts for verbal and poster presentation are still being accepted for the conference. Here’s your opportunity to share your expertise with your colleagues! Consider submitting an abstract and presenting at this year's conference. The deadline for submission of abstracts is June 12, 2011. See additional details on page 16.

**SUNA Foundation Silent Auction**

The SUNA Foundation will host a Silent Auction in conjunction with the SUNA Party at the Annual Conference on October 29. If you are interested in donating an item for the auction, please complete and return the Silent Auction Donation Form, which is available online at [www.suna.org](http://www.suna.org) (click on the Foundation tab). Thank you for your support of the SUNA Foundation!
President-Elect
Debbie Hensley, BSN, CURN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Registered Nurse, Urology Clinic at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Department of Urology

Education
BSN, School of Nursing, The University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX, 1983
Undergraduate Studies for Biology Major, Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, 1978-1981

Professional Organizations
Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates, 1998-present

SUNA Activities
National Secretary, 2007-present
Treasurer, Alamo Chapter, 2006-2009
Southeast Regional Director, 2005-2007
Chair, Annual Conference Committee, 2003-2004
President, Alamo Chapter, 2003-2004
Member, Annual Conference Committee, 2001-2005
Member, Approver Unit, 2000-2007
Vice President, Alamo Chapter, 2000-2002

Goals for the Position
Going into my 6th year serving on the SUNA Board of Directors, I have had the privilege to work with many dedicated and talented members at both the local and national levels who have mentored me and taught me the value of volunteerism and the importance of accountability. I am constantly impressed and energized by our diverse membership whose common goal is to strive for excellence in urologic health in our professions and communities. As President-Elect, I will continue to promote SUNA and strive for continued excellence to accomplish the mission and goals set forth by members of our organization. As your President-Elect, I will continue to carry out the leadership role of serving our members at every level. I will encourage and communicate regularly with the Board of Directors to foster growth of our organization and promote leadership among our members. Members are the backbone of our organization, and we need to continue to promote future leaders. I will continue to work hard to promote and positively affect the success of our organization. It is an honor for me to be considered as a candidate for the position of President-Elect, and I appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

Secretary
Debbie Buback, MSN, ANP

Current Position/Place of Employment
Nurse Practitioner, St. Louis Urological Surgeons

Education
MSN-NP, Maryville University, St. Louis, MO, ANCC NP Certification
BSN, Maryville University, St. Louis, MO
Diploma, DePaul Hospital School of Nursing, St. Louis, MO

Professional Organizations
DePaul Hospital Nursing Alumni
Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates, 1996-present
Association of Operating Room Nurses
St. Louis Nurses in Advanced Practice
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners

SUNA Activities
Member, Approver Unit, 1998-present
North Central Regional Director, 2009-2011
North Central Assistant Regional Director, 2006-2009
Annual Conference Planning Committee, 2005-2008
Chair, Annual Conference Planning Committee, 2007
Presenter, Advanced Practice Preconference, 2008
Chapter President, 2004-2006, 2010-2011
Chapter Board Member, 2006-2008, 2009-present
Chapter Program Committee, 2004-present

Goals for the Position
SUNA continues to be an exceptional organization with a diverse membership. Past and present leaders have strived to meet the needs of this diverse group and make fiscally responsible decisions in meeting those needs. Communication on all levels is key to making these decisions. My role as North Central Regional Director for the past 2 years has given me an opportunity to work with regional chapter leaders and to obtain a knowledge base of the operation of the organization at the national level. I now look forward to working with all chapters in the organization.

My goals for the position of Secretary are to continue dissemination of information on a timely basis and to work with the Board of Directors to ensure the organization continues to meet the needs of this very diverse group. Every member is important and should be recognized. I also will continue working with the Board and chapter leaders to mentor future leaders of the organization.

Thank you for the nomination for National Secretary.
Southeast Regional Director
Shanna Atnip, MSN, WHNP-BC

Current Position/Place of Employment
Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner, Division of Urogynecology & Female Pelvic Medicine, Parkland Health & Hospital System Dallas, TX; University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, TX

Education
Masters of Science in Nursing, The University of Texas at El Paso, December 1995
Women’s Health Care Advanced Nurse Practitioner Program, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, TX, Certificate Awarded July 1988
Bachelors of Science in Nursing, The University of Texas at El Paso, May 1980

Professional Organizations
- Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates
- American Urogynecologic Society
- Reserve Officers Association

SUNA Activities
- Member, Annual Symposium Planning Committee, 2005-2010
- Chair, Annual Symposium Planning Committee, 2008-2009
- Leader, Continence Specialists & Services SIG, 2008-2011
- Member, Advanced Practice Nursing Task Force, 2010
- Member, Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW) Chapter Program Committee, 2009-present
- President-Elect, DFW Chapter, 2011
- Speaker, local and national SUNA meetings
- NAFC SUNA Continence Care Champion, 2008

Goals for the Position
My goal if elected as the Southeast Regional Director will be to continue the great work of the prior regional director in fostering the growth of our members by encouraging participation in chapter activities, promoting professional educational offerings, and providing education for local communities. I will foster communication with chapter presidents to learn their needs and to support and mentor them in their activities. I will assist chapter leaders in fostering and recruiting new leaders. I will act as a liaison between the chapters and the SUNA organization/Board of Directors so they are represented, and encourage chapter leaders in communicating their successes and challenges effectively to the Board.

Southeast Regional Director
Cynthia McLean, LPN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Licensed Practical Nurse, Southwest Florida Urologic Associates

Education
Lee County Vo-Technical School, Licensed Practical Nurse Program, 1985

Professional Organizations
- Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates

SUNA Activities
- Member, Membership Task Force, 2011
- President, Florida Sunshine Chapter
- Member, Florida Sunshine Chapter Education Committee
- Southeast Regional Member of the Year, 2009
- Top Member Recruiter, 2009

Goals for the Position
As Southeast Regional Director, I would continue to encourage the growth of our membership. I believe we can do this by continuing to offer the best educational programs available. I would like to institute a mentoring program between chapters, to help new and struggling chapters become better organized. I would like to see the struggling Florida chapters get back on track. With the help of dedicated SUNA members, this can happen.

Community service is a passion for me, and I would like to spread that passion to other chapters. The joy of reaching out and helping your own community is priceless, be it organizing a food drive, volunteering for Relay For Life, or helping out at a homeless shelter. SUNA has become a part of my life and changed me in so many ways. I am forever grateful to this organization for all it has given me and look forward to the chance to give back.
North Central Regional Director

Diana Baker, BSN, RN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Nurse Clinician, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio

Education
BSN, Kent State University, Kent, OH

Professional Organizations
Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates

SUNA Activities
Member, Annual Conference Planning Committee, 2006-2010
Chair, Annual Conference Planning Committee, 2008, 2009
North Central Assistant Regional Director, 2009-present
Member, Legislative Committee
Member, Great Lakes SUNA Conference Planning Committee, 2011

Goals for the Position

I have had the honor and privilege of serving as the North Central Assistant Regional Director the last 2 years. This position has allowed me to work with an excellent regional director who has been a great mentor. This also has allowed me a tremendous opportunity to work with and network with chapters throughout the region. Due to the economic downturn, many chapters have felt and experienced the financial "crunch," including a decrease in vendor support. This has forced us to look at new ideas, options, and strategies to continue to support our members and communities. We must continue to work together and network to remain successful.

Serving in any capacity is rewarding, and we must continue to encourage, support, and mentor our members to become active at both the local and national levels. I will work hard to expedite communication from the national level to the regional chapters to ensure that all needs are met. I also will work to reciprocate that communication from the regional chapters to the national office. I thank you for this nomination and, if elected, would be delighted to serve.

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society

Vanessa Spears, MHA, BSN, RN, CURN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Director of Clinical Services, Uropartners, LLC

Education
RN, Wesley-Passavant School of Nursing, Chicago, IL
BSN, Alverno College, Milwaukee, WI
MHA, University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL

CBUNA Certification

Professional Organizations
Member, Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates
Speakers Bureau, Sanofi-Aventis
Coordinator, US TOO Prostate Cancer Support Group

SUNA Activities
Chapter President, 2009-2010
World Continence Week, Chicago, 2009, 2010
SUNA Booth at AUA Meeting, Chicago, 2009
PSA screening for the AUA/SUNA Foundation, retired professional football players, Chicago, 2009
Keynote Speaker, Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, 2005

Goals for the Position

I think the goal of the regional director is not only to assist those chapters that are challenged with decreased attendance at meetings, or that have difficulty with the day-to-day operations, but also to be mindful of the next generation. As a former chapter leader of the Chicago Metro Urology nurses, I often challenged our attendees to speak to grade schools and high schools regarding nursing and to their alma maters about urologic nursing as a specialty.

The regional director should provide guidance and networking to enhance the activities of the chapters and to promote growth within the chapter. When I read the Uro-Gram, I am in awe of the great things that chapters are doing, but also wonder what more can we learn from each other to enhance our present and to preserve the future of urologic nursing. My goals are to: (1) increase membership in SUNA and certification; (2) enhance our education in our communities through Bladder Health initiatives, US TOO, talks in the community (schools, parishes, neighbor meetings, etc.); (3) improve networking and communication across chapters in our region (possible online chats/pearls in addition to the Uro-Gram); and (4) identify potential future leaders for SUNA.
At the recent Annual Symposium I had the pleasure of meeting new members from our region and “re-meeting” many others. We had a great time at the symposium, and I wish more of you could have been there. New Orleans is unlike any other place! The city had just finished with Mardi Gras and went straight into St Patrick’s Day parades (several days early!). The hospitality of the city and the Magnolia Chapter members was great!

Many of our regional members played a large part in the Annual Symposium. Monica Davis (Delaware Valley) served as Annual Symposium chairperson, and Kate O’Dell (New England) served as a committee member. Kate also presented a concurrent session, and Marianne Borch (Central New York) manned the CBUNA booth and encouraged attendees to get certified! Donna Thompson, Monica Davis, Alis Penzera, Joanne Robinson, and Christine Bradway, all from the Delaware Valley Chapter, presented concurrent sessions and/or preconferences. Diane Newman (Delaware Valley) presented a general session, luncheon presentation, and concurrent session. Jeff Guse (Northeastern Pennsylvania) lectured in the urodynamics course. Mikel Gray and Cheryl LeCroy (Central Virginia) presented during the urodynamics course and the symposium sessions. Valre Welch (Central Virginia) presented two sessions, and Susanne Talebian (Metropolitan Washington, DC) also presented a session. Overall, our region was extremely well represented!

Francie Bernier and the Metropolitan Washington, DC Chapter are looking for volunteers to help plan upcoming meetings. They held a very successful dinner meeting earlier this year and not only learned a lot but had fun doing it. If you are interested in helping in any way, contact Francie Bernier at fbernier@su.edu.

Cheryl LeCroy and the Metropolitan Washington, DC Chapter are looking for volunteers to help plan upcoming meetings. They held a very successful dinner meeting in April that was well attended and informative. They are eager to formalize their chapter networking strategies and continue to seek member feedback regarding interests in education. They also are seeking input on a preferred venue for making professional contacts and exchanging clinical experiences. Any member who is interested in participating in the chapter leadership or educational planning sessions should contact Monica Davis at davismo@email.chop.edu.

Diane Oleksiuk and the Greater Baltimore Chapter have been busy planning meetings. They hosted a very successful meeting in April on benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) and overactive bladder (OAB). For more information on upcoming events or to volunteer to help, contact Diane at doleksi1@jhmi.edu.

The Northern New Jersey chapter has begun offering educational inservices in the hospital for nurses and other staff members. The first inservice was entitled Offering Treatment Considerations for the Patient Undergoing Prostatectomy. They are hoping to continue offering these educational activities and are working on recruitment. If you are interested in upcoming events or volunteering, contact President Josephine Finnerty at gfinnerty@humed.com.

Kathy Felder from the Twin State Chapter is seeking input from chapter members for meetings and elections. Contact Kathy at gkfelder@comcast.net if you would like to help your chapter in any way. Congratulations to Gina Vitagliano on passing the certification exam!

The Central New York Chapter and Marianne Borch have been busy editing a manuscript on interstitial cystitis that they submitted for publication to Urologic Nursing. They also continue to hold monthly meetings with a member presenting a topic. Recent topics included balanitis, OAB, BPH, hypogonadism, and ostomy care. If you are interested in upcoming events, contact Marianne at mborch@rochester.rr.com.

The Syracuse Chapter held an exciting “hands on” meeting in February, and members enjoyed an educational dinner meeting on surgical treatment options for male incontinence. The hands on experience provided valuable learning opportunities for attendees and an opportunity to have their questions pertaining to patient education and postoperative care answered. Plans are underway for the chapter’s spring meetings. Once again, the chapter will hold a raffle to raise money to support the SUNA Foundation’s Silent Auction at the Annual Conference. A basket with the theme “Pamper Yourself” was chosen for this year’s fundraiser. Contact Sue Lipsy at slipsy@twcny.rr.com for more information. If other chapters would like information about the hands on learning experience, please contact Sue.

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter was waiting for the spring thaw to begin planning a meeting, according to President Jeff Guse. For information on upcoming events, contact Jeff at wildgeese4@juno.com.

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

As the Annual Symposium wrapped up, I recalled with fondness all the SUNA members, old and new, that I was able to network with during the meeting. I always walk away from SUNA’s conferences having learned something new that shapes some of the changes I make in my own practice. I hope many of you feel the same way. I also hope that many of you are able to attend local and/or national SUNA conferences available throughout the United States.

I would like to take the opportunity to recognize the Magnolia Chapter who did a wonderful job as the host chapter for the Annual Symposium! The chapter’s booth was very colorful with a purple and gold banner, a basket of magnolia blooms, and a photo collage of chapter meetings from its inception in 1996 to present. Chapter members welcomed program participants with a friendly hello and a tote bag with treats and New Orleans information. President Rachel Graham and chapter members Bonnie Alvey, Janice Fitts, Anita Williams, and Tammy Sill should be commended for their work. If you would like to become an active participant with chapter activities, contact Carolyn at rgraham@ochsner.org.

Rocky Mountain Chapter President Carolyn North has been very busy. She is on the Annual Symposium Planning Committee, which did a tremendous amount of work to ensure a wonderful program for SUNA members! Chapter member and CBUNA President Phyllis Matthews manned the CBUNA booth at the symposium and was available to answer questions regarding urology certification. The chapter is planning several dinner meetings for the spring. One was held in April and another is slated for May. In June the chapter will be holding a half-day seminar at the Hotel California in Glenwood Springs, CO. If you have questions regarding chapter activities, contact Carolyn at carolyn7176@comcast.net.

Tamara Dickinson, president of the Dallas Ft. Worth Chapter, received the NAFC Rodney Appell Continence Care Champion Award for 2011. Congratulations, Tamara! She was also the course director for the urodynamics preconference and track held during the Annual Symposium. We are proud of your accomplishments, Tamara! The chapter held its Seventh Annual Symposium at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Marriott on April 30. The meeting featured presentations on bladder cancer updates, neuromodulation (SNS and PTNS), prostate cancer screening guidelines, and infection control in urology for offered 4.0 contact hours. For further information about chapter activities, contact Tamara at tamara.dickinson@utsouthwestern.edu.

The Alamo Chapter, under the leadership of Myra Joseph, hosted its 19th Annual Conference in Urology Nursing on April 2. The meeting was held at the La Quinta Inn and Suites Conference Center in San Antonio and offered 6.0 contact hours. Topics included: My Experiences with Humanitarian Missions; Update on Renal Cell Carcinoma; What’s New in I.C.?; Skin Issues in the Incontinent Urology Patient; Urinary Calculi: Causes and Management; and Pros and Cons of Testosterone Replacement.

The Oklahoma Chapter was busy planning for a 5.0 contact hour conference this spring. The Third Annual Urology Update Conference was held in Tulsa on April 30. Southeast Regional Director Lee Ann Boyd attended and presented at the meeting. The chapter has approved moving forward to establish a chapter Web site. Watch for further information!

Visit the Triangle Chapter’s Web site at www.trianglesuna.org. The site features the chapter newsletter, which includes information about new leaders in the group as well as those members who are retiring and saying goodbye. Information about community projects and upcoming meetings/seminars is also available. The chapter’s Spring Conference was held April 19 in Charleston, SC. If you would like more information about the chapter, President Lynda Hudgins suggests visiting their Web site for updates and announcements. Sign up online to get email notifications!

The Florida Sunshine Chapter has been busy preparing for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Cape Coral which will be held in May. The 10th Annual Urology Conference will be held on June 4 at Edison State College. Some of the topics include infectious disease update, evaluation and management of kidney stones, roundtable discussions, and more! You don’t want to miss this celebration. Contact President Cindy McLean at cmclean456@comcast.net for further information.

Lee Ann Boyd, MSN, ARNP-C, CUNP
Southeast Regional Director
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North Central

Congratulations to the Annual Symposium Planning Committee for another outstanding conference. It was a great opportunity to network with colleagues and also enjoy the warm weather, especially nice for those of us in the Midwest region who returned home to snow and cold weather.

Spring was a busy time for regional chapters as many held chapter conferences. Jill Freeman, president of Upper Midwest Chapter, reports that the chapter hosted a successful Spring Educational Seminar in Rochester, MN on April 9. I was pleased to visit the chapter for the day; it was an outstanding seminar. Members were hoping they would not have a late winter storm! Chapter members participated in a Spring Health Fair in March in Plymouth, MN. Michelle Radke continues to facilitate monthly prostate cancer support groups in the Wisconsin area. Theresa Lesher teaches bladder and bowel management for spinal cord injury patients.

President Gwen Hooper sends the following greetings from the Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter: “It has been a very busy spring here as I am sure it has been for everyone. Time just seems to fly by, doesn’t it? Our chapter got off to a slow start this year. Much of it had to do with the lingering winter weather. We did not have our first meeting until March. We made a change in our usual state meeting in April and are now planning a fall meeting in September. I am hoping that September will be a more convenient time for members, when children are back in school and everyone will be settled into a routine. Spring is so full of activities, meetings, and school breaks, it seems there are just too many conflicts. We are going to give it a try and see what happens. Nothing ventured nothing gained, right? Speaking of our members, remember to reach out to others and introduce them to SUNA and the benefits of membership, and thank you for your continued support and attendance at our meetings. Have a summer filled with fun and adventure!”

Mary Meskel is the new chapter president for Chicago Metro. She is currently employed as a clinical CURN at Rush University Urology in Lake Forest, IL, and has been a SUNA member since joining in Minneapolis in 1988. Mary reports that the chapter had a very successful spring conference entitled Everybody Loves Urology on March 26 in Oak Brook, IL. They continue to schedule monthly meetings and try to offer contact hours. A goal for the chapter is to acquire more SUNA members, especially in Lake County, IL. Chapter members continue to be involved with charity work with Harbor House, a refuge with services for victims of domestic abuse. Mary hopes the coming warm weather will bring out all those hibernators to future meetings in Chicago land.

The Great Lakes Chapter, under the leadership of President Silvia Maxwell, held a successful conference and chapter meeting in Novi, MI on February 24-25. I had an opportunity to visit with chapter members during the meeting. The chapter planning committee continues to plan outstanding educational programs for members.

Kansas City Chapter President Bea Stuck reports that plans are underway for the 37th Annual Conference in September 2012. More information will follow in future issues of the Uro-Gram.

The Southeast Nebraska Chapter has been quiet during the spring as President Jessie Grosse anticipates the arrival of her first child. Congratulations!

The Mississippi Valley Chapter held successful spring conferences. Members participated in two all-day conferences. The Meet Me in St Louis Conference was held March 5, and the Spring 2011 Urology Seminar was held in Cedar Rapids, IA, on April 2. Springfield, IL area members continue to plan local meetings for members in addition to those planned in the St. Louis area. Topics include overactive bladder, BPH, neuromodulation, erectile dysfunction, and prostate cancer. Chapter members continue to collect canned goods at monthly meetings to donate to local food pantries.

As we enter into the summer months I look forward to reading the Chapter Review reports submitted by each chapter president in the region and encourage all members to consider nominating a colleague for the Regional Member of the Year Award. Complete details are available on the SUNA Web site at www.suna.org (click on about SUNA and select SUNA Awards). I hope everyone has a safe summer.

Debbie Buback, MSN, ANP
North Central Regional Director
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Western

Spring is in the air in the Western Region. New and fresh ideas from our chapters are being developed. We have many dedicated leaders and members who are committed to providing educational and community service activities for their local chapters. To be successful, a chapter needs member input and participation. Please share your time and energy with your chapter to keep it active and growing. There is a place and job for everyone!

As this issue went to press the Northern California Chapter was looking forward to an April dinner meeting in Walnut Creek. Sponsored by Pfizer, treatment for overactive bladder was the topic. The chapter board is grateful for the frequency of interest and support from all of the local industry representatives. President Jan Jensen would like to urge SUNA members everywhere to extend their thanks for this continued support.

The unfortunate news is that the Fourth Annual Urodynamics Day has had to be postponed. On the bright side, on May 21 chapter co-president Linda Adams has arranged for a full day of CNE with her work...
at John Muir Women’s Health Center. The full-day symposium titled *Current Diagnosis and Treatment for Woman with Urinary Incontinence* also has content on pediatric urology and urinary tract infections.

Jan and Linda continue to be on the lookout for new faces, bright ideas, and help! Contact Jan at KPUronurse@hotmail.com.

Thanks to the hard work of Lane Biag and Judith Veit, the Puget Sound Chapter will hold a spring conference at Virginia Mason Hospital on May 7. Topics include urinary incontinence, urodynamics, bladder cancer treatment options, and ileal conduit nursing postoperative care.

Kathy Raich, chapter president, will be planning a community event during World Continence Week in June and another educational offering is in the works for November 5. Contact Kathy at raichk@gmail.com for more information.

After a much needed holiday break, the Yakima Chapter had a meeting in January to discuss plans for 2011. Ideas on how the chapter could be more involved in the local community were discussed. The chapter gathered small items such as small toys, personal hygiene items, and kitchen basics to make Easter baskets for a local battered women’s shelter and delivered them the week before Easter. Upcoming projects include visits to local senior citizen centers during World Continence Week to provide information on incontinence as well as sponsoring a family at Christmas.

Educational offerings for 2011 include dinner meetings and an educational potpourri. Both of these events are currently “under construction.” The Yakima Chapter looks forward to a busy and productive 2011! Contact President Barb Lee at mistytoo@live.com to offer your input and your area of interest for future events.

Under the leadership of Renee Benoit, the Portland Chapter held a successful 1-day educational offering on April 30. Topics included treatments and findings on long-term hormone therapy, pelvic organ prolapse, physical therapy, and acupuncture. In addition, Dr. Geise presented on urology history and the continuum of innovation.

With the help of other Western Region leaders, Renee is in full swing planning the Western Region SUNA Conference that will be held in conjunction with the WSAUA conference in Vancouver BC in August. She is looking for speakers, so please contact Renee if you have a presentation you would like to give or if any of your physicians who are attending would like to present at this event. To offer your assistance in the planning of this event, contact Renee at renbenoit@gmail.com.

Utah chapter members enjoyed a dinner symposium sponsored by Watson in March. Dr. Lisa Stout presented information on silodosin (Rapaflo®). Chapter president Edith Acey would like to hear from members with input on future events. Contact her at eacey@middletonuro.com.

Linda Sabre, president of the Arizona Chapter, would like input from members on ideas and help for future events. Contact Linda at davlinsabre@msn.com.

Big Sky Chapter President Margaret Coffman is looking forward to working with the Montana chapter members to organize a future educational event. Contact Margaret at margaretcoffman@benefis.org to offer your assistance.

**Cindie Neufeld, RN**
*Western Regional Director*
cneufeld@yua.com

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Peggy Ward-Smith is in the spotlight this issue. Kansas City Chapter President Bea Stuck nominated Peggy for North Central regional member spotlight. Bea notes that Peggy is the education coordinator for the chapter, volunteers to present at meetings, and encourages people to expand their nursing experiences by becoming more involved in SUNA. Peggy encourages members to help review articles for the journal, speak at meetings, and participate at all levels of SUNA.

Peggy has several degrees: BSN from Rush University, MSN from St. Xavier University, MS from Avila University, and PhD from University of Missouri -Kansas City (UMKC). She has been employed as an associate professor at UMKC since 2000 and as a clinical nurse specialist for 20 years prior to that (yes, Peggy admits this!)

In 2005 Peggy won the Catherine-Ann Lawrence Literary Excellence Award from the *Urologic Nursing* Journal. Peggy states that this award started her path toward editorial involvement. She was a SUNA editorial reviewer from 2006 to 2010 and is now serving on the editorial board for a 3-year term, beginning in 2011. She notes her area of research is quality of life as it pertains to people who have health conditions that cannot be cured. In school she teaches theory and psychometrics, or instrument development and statistical analyses.

Outside of nursing, Peggy is a history buff with a personal goal of visiting all the presidential museums. Her outside activities include walking to keep fit and traveling. She has no pets, stating “it would be mean to "Warmkessel) (**Jean.Held-Warmkessel@fcc.edu**).
Advanced Practice

A survey was held among group members regarding the need to purchase new urodynamics equipment. I found it so informative because it was me shopping! I really appreciate all of the feedback. I ended up purchasing the Laborie unit (wireless), and I love it. My previous unit was a Bard and so old that they no longer repair them. Now with my wireless mouse, which also functions as a pointer from across the room, I feel like something off of NCIS – very high tech.

Interest has again been raised regarding salaries for the urology NP/PA. The following was a response: “This is a hard topic that we have tried to tackle before. There is no data or research that I am aware of. Some NPs are not willing to share that information even anonymously. I think you need to look at experience and the market where you are located. Some urologists are desperate for help. What you might find helpful is looking at job postings. Some of these sites have a salary range. Generally, I think from $75,000 to $100,000 would probably represent most NPs in urology with experience.” So there is an interest again in the possibility of attempting to pursue a salary survey. I will keep you posted.

There was a quest for obtaining a survey tool for the Uroplasty PC. The group was asked to evaluate which survey would be best for this procedure. Three PDF files from Pfizer were submitted as well as the INUF-OAB survey from the AUA and modified the tool for future research purposes for the northwest region of the Pacific area population. They were in search of a tool that has data to support OAB and its protocol as being “evidence-based.”

A case study was presented for discussion regarding an elderly patient with hypo neurogenic bladder (no cause known). There is very little literature on this issue. Most information concentrates on incontinence, which is more common. Treatment is intermittent catheterization. More information, suggestions, and literature on this issue are requested.

A job opportunity was posted regarding a urology practice in Michigan that was looking for another NP. There also was a request to determine if there are other NPs providing care in nursing homes. An individual who was starting a service line that involves going into nursing homes and providing urology services and billing asked to talk to other NPs currently providing this type of service.

As you can see, our discussions are varied. If you are an advanced practice provider, we invite you to join us! Simply email your request to me, and I will gladly add you to the list.

Connie Whitesell, MSN, CCCN, RN, CNP
SIG Leader
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Continence Specialists and Services

Thank you to those who answered the call for assistance to update some of SUNA’s Clinical Practice Guidelines. There was an overwhelming response! Cindie Neufeld requested the names of volunteers. If she has not contacted you, she probably has enough volunteers. Thanks so much!

The next thing you can do to promote continence and share your expertise is to organize (or help someone organize) an activity for World Continence Week (WCW), which is scheduled for June 20-26, 2011. The goal of WCW is to promote continence awareness and treatment. Here are some ideas for ways that you can participate:

- Educational sessions, health fairs, information tables/booths for health care personnel in your office or facility; or provide education to the community in churches, senior citizen centers, community centers, or any place the public is gathered.
- Events could be planned by your work colleagues (MAs, nurses, APNs, PAs, and physicians), your local SUNA chapter, or any other group of people interested in getting the word out about continence.
- Resources for your event might include the Bladder Health Awareness PowerPoint presentation and patient education fact sheets available on the SUNA Web site; pamphlets from the National Association for Continence (NAFC); and free educational materials from your local pharmaceutical and medical supply representatives. Look online now and start collecting the materials. HDIS.com has free pamphlets. Go online and contact them; they will send as many materials as you request.
- You can earn credit toward your clinical ladders and annual evaluations by organizing or staffing an event like this in your community. Plus, think of how good you will feel. If the dates of World Continence Week are not the best time for you, plan something for another time this year. I would love to hear the plans you are making so I can share what you are doing with others. I also want to inform the International Continence Society about the great things we are doing in the United States. Happy planning!

Shanna Atnip, MSN, WHNP-BC
SIG Leader
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The CBUNA Board completed a successful transition at the SUNA Annual Symposium, with Phyllis Matthews, CUNP, moving to Past President and Susanne Quallich, CUNP, beginning her tenure as president. CBUNA members continue to review ways to encourage initial certification as well as recertification, including making the process for recertification available online. We would like to encourage any members with certification questions to contact us directly. We field many questions during the Annual Symposium and Annual Conference, but welcome any questions that members have.

CBUNA thanked Doug Clay, CUA, for his time on the Board, and valuable input into the ongoing revisions of the certification tests. The Board also welcomed two new members to the Board: JoAnn Kleier, PhD, EdD, CURN, a professor at Nova Southeastern University School of Nursing in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and nurse practitioner with Uromedix in Pembroke Pines, FL, and MiChelle Passamanek, CUNP, in independent practice at Pediatric Effective Elimination Program Clinic & Consulting, PC in Arvada, CO. We look forward to their insightful input in the years to come.

CBUNA has successfully revised the CUNP test based on the practice analysis completed last year, and the updated study guide will be available shortly. Revised manuals for the CURN and CUA tests will be completed shortly as well. We continue to explore the possibility of a certification test in urodynamics. CBUNA continues to align its policies and procedures with those of the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) in order to establish national recognition for its certified members.

CBUNA also would like to thank the Great Lakes Chapter for donating a copy of the Penn Manual of Urology to the CBUNA reference library.

Susanne Quallich, MSN, ANP-BC, NP-C, CUNP
CBUNA President

Helpful Hints from the Approver Unit

This is the final installment of helpful hints for completing the continuing nursing education (CNE) application when applying for CNE credit for an educational program. The Documentation Form II can be the most frustrating of all the forms in the CNE application. First, you need to develop objectives for the presentation. The objectives need to demonstrate what the participant will learn from the presentation, and they need to be written in behavioral terms. What does this mean? The objectives need to start with action verbs – words that you can measure. For example, identify, demonstrate, list, describe, review, discuss are all acceptable words to start the objectives. Understand is a commonly used word to start objectives, but it is not an acceptable term. Why? Because you can not measure if a participant is able to understand something? Please refrain from using the word understand to start your objectives, and you will not have a letter of correction sent to you. Also, many want to start the objectives with “After the presentation the learner will be able to . . .” This statement is not necessary. It is understood that the learner will be able to list two types of incontinence or whatever the objective is covering.

Next is the content. Many want to repeat the objectives in this area. Think of the content as the outline of the presentation. Make sure you describe what the speaker will be covering for each objective. If you state list two types of incontinence in the objective, make sure you list the two types of incontinence in the content. This seems simple, but it is missed quite frequently. Many times we have to request more information for the content. This is the only way we can judge if the presentation will adequately cover 60 minutes of learning. And sometimes there is so much content we have to question if it can be accomplished in only 60 minutes!

Please make sure you check teaching tools, list the name and credentials of the speaker, and any other pertinent learning tools.

Finally, state how long the presentation will last in minutes, including time for questions and answers. As always, if you have further questions please contact either myself at ginaNbutch@msn.com or Pat Davey at the SUNA National Office.

Gina Powley, MSN, ANP-BC
Approver Unit Chairperson
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President’s Message
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leaves with something new to take back to their practice settings.

I was energized by the conversations I had with other attendees at this year’s symposium. I want to use that energy to jump start these projects and thankfully, I work with a great group of volunteer leaders who are likewise motivated. We need you, our resourceful and knowledgeable membership, to help us as well. Take a look at what we need to do and find your place in the big picture. Share your time and talents with SUNA and let other people benefit from your experiences and expertise. This is our nursing organization, and it will be what we make it. Let’s make it great!

Amy Driscoll, BSN, CURN, CCCN
SUNA President
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 conference planning committee is now accepting abstracts for verbal and poster presentation at the conference in the following categories.

Research Scientific Session

Presenters are invited to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations for the Research Scientific Session during SUNA’s Annual Conference. All presenters will be awarded a 1-day complimentary registration to the Annual Conference.

Non-Research Poster Abstracts

Abstracts for non-research poster presentations are also invited. Abstracts should address one of the following areas relative to clinical practice:

- Clinical Posters. Focus on creative nursing interventions using evidence-based best practices. Examples include management of chronic indwelling catheters or measures to prevent catheter acquired urinary tract infections.
- 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

Abstract submission guidelines and accompanying forms for the Research Scientific Session and Poster Presentations are available on SUNA’s Web site at www.suna.org (under the Events tab). Please read and follow the guidelines carefully as submissions that do not follow the guidelines will not be reviewed.

Consider submitting an abstract and presenting at this year’s conference. The deadline for submission of abstracts is June 12, 2011.