SUNA Looks to the Future

SUNA is looking to the future, and we are taking steps to position SUNA to be an integral part of the future of nursing. This is an important year for SUNA. We are engaged in two major initiatives – the development of the Core Curriculum in Urologic Nursing and the development of our new Long Range Strategic Plan (LRSP). Both of these important projects involve many SUNA members. The projects are in their initial phases, and you will be hearing more about them as they progress.

The most significant recent document to influence the entire nursing profession has been the Institute of Medicine (IOM) report – The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health – which was published in October 2010. The IOM is the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Science, which is the health arm of the National Academy of Sciences. This group joined with the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to develop the Initiative on the Future of Nursing (IFN), a 2-year project to seek and develop solutions to the challenges facing the entire nursing profession in the changing world of the 21st century. The initiative led to an 18-member committee developing this report, which was meant to serve as a blueprint for the nursing profession to be actively involved in the improvement of health care for all of the people of our country. Nursing is the largest component of the health care workforce with over 3,000,000 members. So you can see why we as nurses are a very significant and potentially influential variable in the delivery of health care.

The IOM report had four key messages in relation to how nurses should be involved in changing and improving health care:

1. First, nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training. This requires action to remove the scope-of-practice barriers to allow patients easier access to care. SUNA has recently completed an extensive update to our Scope and Standards of Urologic Nursing Practice document. The rewriting of this document has been the culmination of almost 2 years of intense work by the task force chaired by Debbie Hensley (SUNA’s current president-elect). We are presently awaiting final approval of the document from the American Nurses Association.

2. The second key message relates to the issue of education. The report states that nurses should receive higher levels of education and training through an improved education system. This led to the recommendation that the proportion of BSN-prepared nurses should increase to 80% from the current 50% by the year 2020. SUNA has a strong commitment to education for all of our members. We are constantly striving to improve the diversity and quality of the continuing nursing education (CNE) programs offered at the Annual Conference and the Annual Symposium. Therefore, it is extremely important to continue to improve the efforts in this area.

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I recently overheard a wife say to her husband, “I can’t believe you did not support your mother’s decision to forgo more treatment. The nurse should not have had to do your job! What’s the matter with you?” Contrary to what that wife said, nurses have a professional duty and an ethical responsibility to advocate for the patient.

Advocating for patients is a primary function of the registered nurse. Speaking up on behalf of patients is something we do every day. Supporting a patient’s decisions needs to be unbiased; they need our support whether or not we agree with their decision. It is important that our personal bias does not interfere with the care of the patient. The nurse’s goal is to help them meet their needs.

Acting as a patient advocate may involve discussing your patient’s concerns with the prescriber, the family, or spouse. Contact your social work department or other support service to assist you, as needed, in helping patients meet their needs. As urology professionals, we need to be a voice for our patients’ unmet urologic needs. What can you do today to advocate for your patients?

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

Attention Chapter Presidents!

Chapter Review Forms Are Due June 1st

By now, each chapter president should have received the information packet from the National Office regarding the Chapter Review Form. Per SUNA 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. Forms can be returned with any additional attachments via mail, email, or fax. If you have not received a Chapter Review Form in the mail, please contact me directly 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 on the drop-down menu.)

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your Regional Director or me. We appreciate all the hard work and dedication you put forth for SUNA and look forward to hearing from you soon. See you in Washington, DC!

Debbie Buback, MSN, RN, ANP
National Secretary
Home: 636-928-0512
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dsbanp03@sbcglobal.net
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President’s Message
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to us that you, our members, provide us with feedback after these conferences, including suggestions for future programs.

SUNA offers a variety of scholarships to our members to help further their education. The Ron Brady Career Mobility Scholarship is available to a member pursuing a baccalaureate or advanced degree in nursing. This $1,500 scholarship is awarded annually through the SUNA Foundation. The application deadline is June 1 of each year. The Foundation also awards two scholarships to attend the Annual Conference and two scholarships to attend the Annual Symposium each year in an effort to promote education through these venues. Additional information about these scholarships, including eligibility criteria and application forms, is available online at www.suna.org (click on “Education”).

The Jan LeBouton Certification Scholarship, which is designed to promote and encourage certification in urology, provides a stipend to cover the cost of the exam, plus study preparation materials and complimentary registration to the Annual Conference. Details are available online at www.suna.org under “Certification.”

3. The third key message in the IOM report states that nurses should be full partners with physicians and other health care professionals in redesigning health care in the U.S. We are working toward a more interactive and collegial working relationship with our physician colleagues through partnering on educational projects and meetings. Three SUNA members worked with the American Urological Association (AUA) on an AUA/SUNA White Paper on the Incidence, Prevention, and Treatment of Complications Related to Prostate Needle Biopsy. Three SUNA members - Vic Senese, Mary Anne Wasner, and Lee Ann Boyd - were involved in writing this evidence-based document that addresses complications after prostate biopsies. Many of our chapters participate in joint educational meetings with the various sections of the AUA. SUNA members also work closely with our physical therapy colleagues in providing expert care to patients with incontinence issues.

4. The fourth message is that effective workforce planning and policymaking require better data collection and information infrastructure. SUNA has been a strong participant and supporter of legislative initiatives set forth by the Nursing Community this year. We recognize the importance of presenting a united profession in issues that affect nursing as a whole and our investment in enhancing health care in our country.

One of the recommendations that grew from these four key messages was the responsibility of professional nursing associations to provide leadership development and mentoring opportunities for their members. SUNA has been working toward providing more guidance and information for chapters to help members become more involved both locally and nationally.

To all the members of SUNA – you are the future and strength of SUNA and the nursing profession. We want you to be involved, participative, and guide us to where you want to see your professional association go in the future of the profession and health care in our great country. We are going to be sending out a member survey as part of the development of SUNA’s LRSP. Please take the time to answer the survey and give us your insights. Your input is significant in designing the future of SUNA.

Valre Welch, MSN, RN, CPNP
SUNA President

Suggested Readings

Over the last few months, The Nursing Community has been preparing for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Title VIII budget. The Nursing Community serves as “one voice” for nearly 60 professional registered nurse organizations and addresses federal budgeting, funding, educational, and other timely, professional issues.

Recently, and in preparation for FY 2013, SUNA supported The Nursing Community’s letters to President Obama, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. The purpose of these letters is to refresh and redefine nursing as a profession, redefine the nursing shortage, and redefine how any loss of funding will affect the future of nursing. Additionally, these letters define how the budget cuts impact our society, the nursing shortage, nursing education programs, and research grants through the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Each year, each department in the government fears budget cuts. With the continuing threats to the budget, The Nursing Community cannot sit back and assume our Senators and Representatives will remain faithful to our profession. Nursing is the largest professional organization in the U.S., and SUNA’s involvement in The Nursing Community is critical to contribute to the “one voice” and support our profession. In addition to The Nursing Community, let your Senator/Representative hear from you! Your letters and your independent voice as a constituent are a constant reminder of our ever-present need to be heard.

Francie Bernier, PhD, RNC
Legislative Committee Chairperson
Plan now to join your colleagues in the nation’s capital for SUNA’s 43rd Annual Conference. This year’s conference, scheduled for November 2-5 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, will offer opportunities for education, networking, and professional development.

The planning committee has invited expert speakers to address a wide variety of topics relevant to your practice. The diverse program will feature optional pre-conference 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.

**Conference Program**

Optional preconference workshops will be offered on Friday, November 2. Topic areas will include urology certification review, basic urology review, the basics of urodynamics, and advanced practice.

The conference will officially kick off on Saturday morning, November 3, with a New Members and First-Time Attendees Welcome and Orientation Breakfast followed by the opening keynote address. The program will continue with a general session, concurrent sessions, and SUNA Regional Meetings. The day will wrap up with the Grand Opening of the Exhibit Hall and the SUNA Party and SUNA Foundation Silent Auction.

Sunday, November 4, will feature the SUNA Awards Luncheon and Business Meeting, SIG meetings, exhibit and poster viewing, as well as concurrent sessions on a variety of topics and issues.

Monday, November 5, will open with SIG meetings and a general session. A choice of concurrent sessions will again be offered throughout the day.

Conference general sessions will include: a discussion of female sexual dysfunction, a presentation on the AUA/SUNA White Paper on the Incidence, Prevention, and Treatment of Complications Related to Prostate Needle Biopsy; as well as a session entitled Prostate Cancer: My Experience on Both Ends of the Knife.

**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. The track, which will extend throughout the length of the conference, will include:

- An all-day cystoscopy workshop (with lectures and hands-on experience) and a new half-day preconference on image evaluation of genitourinary conditions where attendees will challenge their knowledge with participation in advanced and complex case study presentations.
- A 2 hour and 15 minute hands-on advanced practice workshop with rotations every 45 minutes to stations including pelvic floor rehab and myofascial release, male genital exam, female genital exam, pessaries, and penile injections for erectile dysfunction and treating priapism.
- Dedicated advanced practice track educational sessions, including advanced pharmacology, urodynamics interpretation, metabolic stone evaluation, advanced case studies with imaging and definitive evaluation, and advanced update on menopause.
- Alternative sessions on other urologic topics and networking opportunities with other APNs and PAs throughout the conference.

**Call for Abstracts**

Abstracts for poster presentations are 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, 2012. See additional details on page 16.
SUNA Foundation

News & Events

SUNA Foundation Raises Scholarship Funds at Annual Symposium

SUNA Foundation Trustees Carol Einhorn, Jean Lewis, and Ardeth Hale attended the SUNA Annual Symposium in San Francisco and spent March 2 and 3 busily tempting attendees and vendors to purchase tickets for the fifth Annual SUNA Foundation Fun(d)raising Raffle and a chance to win 1 of 10 great prizes. At the close of exhibits on March 3, SUNA Foundation Trustee Doug Kieffer of Liberty Medical drew the winning tickets, and SUNA’s Director of Marketing Tom Greene announced the lucky winners. Congratulations to the following individuals who received raffle prizes:

- Pat Criscito – Kindle Fire
- Mike Bradley – Wii™
- Valre Welch – digital picture frame
- Donna Eoff – portable DVD player
- Jane Hawks – a certificate for 3 years of SUNA membership dues

- Michelle Radke – Baggalini™ bag and scarf
- Dorian Patterson – Canon® PowerShot camera
- Karen Levandoski – Brother® Label Maker
- Kristal Gendron – bag of Ghirardelli chocolates
- Kim Hathaway – bag of Ghirardelli chocolates

Thanks to the generous participation of meeting attendees, faculty, the SUNA Board of Directors, and vendors who bought raffle tickets, a total of $2,820 was added to the SUNA Foundation Scholarship Fund. This is the largest amount received from an annual raffle to date. We are most grateful to everyone for their generosity. It would have been nice to have 132 prizes for the 132 ticket purchasers.

The Foundation Trustees enjoyed the opportunity to speak with the recipients of the 2012 Annual Symposium Scholarships:

- Kathleen Hinterlong, Elizabeth Lonberger, Joseph Lukan, and Phyllis Sheldon. Their comments were very positive.

There were also multiple opportunities to discuss the benefits the SUNA Foundation has to offer in the form of scholarships, awards, and research grants with the attendees who visited the Foundation booth in the exhibit hall.

Congratulations to Kristel Lambeck, a member of the San Antonio-Alamo Chapter. She was selected to attend the Laborie Urodynamics Course in San Antonio on April 19-21. Laborie generously provides two complimentary registrations for their urodynamics courses to SUNA members annually. The SUNA Foundation administers the complimentary registrations.

Ardeth Hale, RN, CURN
SUNA Foundation Chair & Trustee

Four SUNA members received educational program scholarships to attend the Annual Symposium in San Francisco. These scholarships, administered by the SUNA Foundation, cover expenses for registration, travel, hotel, and meals (up to a maximum of $1,200).
President-Elect
Cheryl LeCroy, MSN, RN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Virginia Women’s Continence Center, Richmond, Virginia

Educational Preparation
MSN, Old Dominion University
BSN, Old Dominion University

Professional Organizations/Memberships
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
National Association for Continence
Phi Kappa Phi

SUNA Activities
Liaison to Legislative Committee, 2011-2012
Liaison to Urodynamics course and Urodynamics SIG, 2009-present
Urodynamics Task Force, 2009-2010
Northeast Regional Director, 2008-2012
Central Virginia Chapter President, 2006-2008
Symposium for Disorders of the Bladder, Bowel and Pelvic Floor, 2002-2007; Chairperson, 2004-2006
Urologic Nursing Journal Reviewer, 2004-present
Task Force on SUNA National Conferences Chairperson, 2002
Fall Institute Co-Chairperson for Urodynamics, 1999-2001

Goals for the Position
Over the last 4 years, I have had the honor of serving as the Northeast Regional Director. During my time on the Board, I have had the opportunity to be a part of the long-range planning and fiscal management of our organization. The national economic environment has hit SUNA as well and we have made many changes to continue to keep SUNA fiscally responsible and to remain responsive to our members needs. Because of this history I feel, if elected, I would be able to continue this forward momentum and fiscal management. Keeping SUNA strong and growing has always been my goal throughout my association with SUNA. Additional goals would be to continue to provide quality services for our members and identify other areas we can meet your needs. Many of the new courses and offerings are a direct result of your input. I would continue to be open to listening to you and responsive to your needs and looking for ways to improve SUNA. I humbly ask for your support and vote for the position as your SUNA President-Elect.

Treasurer
Victor P. Senese, BSN, RN

Current Position/Place of Employment
I am a urology nurse clinician working in private practice with seven physicians at Associated Urologic Specialist in Chicago, Illinois.

Educational Preparation
I received my Bachelor in the Science of Nursing from Rush University in 1982. I am certified by CBUNA.

Professional Organizations/Memberships
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates, Chicago Metro Chapter

SUNA Activities
I am the current Treasurer of SUNA and have been the former Web Editor for SUNA’s Web site, former North Central Regional Director of SUNA, task force member, and participated on the Long Range Planning Committee.

Goals for the Position
I look forward to continuing my role for SUNA as the Treasurer. My past service as the treasurer has given me strong knowledge of SUNA’s financial workings. I will use these skills to continue assisting the Board of Directors in navigating the economic crisis facing all not-for-profit organizations. I will see to it that SUNA remains a strong organization.

SUNA Foundation Silent Auction: Donations Welcome
The SUNA Foundation will host a Silent Auction in conjunction with the SUNA Party at the Annual Conference on November 3. 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 (click on the Foundation tab). Thank you for your support of the SUNA Foundation!
Northeast Regional Director
Pat Meade-D’Alisera, DNP, FNP, CURN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Continence Care Center Co-owner
Private practice for treatment of urological conditions, i.e., incontinence, pelvic pain

Educational Preparation
DNP, Robert Morris University
FNP, Dominican College

Professional Organizations/Memberships
ANP
ANCC
Nurse Practice – Assoc - Rockland

SUNA Activities
Chapter President
Bladder Health Education Program, Task Force Co-chair
Reviewer for Urologic Nursing

Goals for the Position
Assist chapters in growing their chapter membership and report accomplishments of chapters through the Uro-Gram. Collaborate with other leaders of SUNA to personally grow in knowledge and share information with members.

Pat Meade D’Alisera

Northeast Regional Director
Kristine A. Green, MS, CURN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Concord Hospital Center for Urologic Care, Concord, NH

Educational Preparation
Associates Degree in Nursing, New Hampshire Technical College, Manchester, NH
Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Rivier College, Nashua, NH
Master of Science in Management, Healthcare Administration, New England College, Henniker, NH
Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA) certified

Professional Organizations/Memberships
Member, SUNA since 1996
Member, New Hampshire Organization of Nurse Leaders
Director, New Hampshire Prostate Cancer Coalition (NHPCC) Board of Directors
Member, American Urologic Association (AUA) Practice Manager’s Network

SUNA Activities
President, New England Chapter
Organize and plan educational events for SUNA members and nurses in region.
Co-Leader, Inpatient/Outpatient SIG
Sponsor, prostate cancer screening education session and screening for men
In the process of working with SIG group co-leader and liaison to create listserv for communication through Google Plus.
CAUTI task force (created, updated publication/guidelines)
Currently responsible for updates and revisions to Urology Nursing Triage Book.
Currently working with New England AUA to develop curriculum and plan for a collaborative/joint meeting of SUNA/AUA Fall 2012.

Goals for the Position
My goals for the position of Northeast Regional Director would be to work with chapters to develop education regarding our challenging health care environment. We are entering territory, which many of us are not well prepared for. We will have to adapt our skills to meet a new set of expectations. The concept of telephone screening and telephone triage will require increased knowledge and expertise as our goals shift from responding to symptoms or illness to keeping patients healthy and out of the hospital. I believe that my clinical and administrative skills place me in a position to offer a level of knowledge regarding clinical office workflows, electronic medical records, meaningful use, office efficiency, evidence-based care, and coding. I hope to learn the specific needs of chapter leaders and chapter membership and create a sense of community among our members where we can and will go to one another for help and support, utilizing each other’s skill and expertise. I also wish to continue to work with the AUA to build on our relationships and collaborate in increasingly more meaningful ways as we all share the same end goals.

Kristine A. Green

Free CNE Available!
SUNA is offering a free continuing nursing education (CNE) program in the Online Library at www.prolibraries.com/suna. 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. Simply go to www.prolibraries.com/suna to access this program.

www.prolibraries.com/suna
2012-2013 National & Regional Candidates

Western Regional Director
Peggy Hayes, BS, RN, CURN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Office Nurse Specialist, Sutter Medical Group, Department of Urology, Roseville, CA, 1999-present

Educational Preparation
Certified Urology Registered Nurse, 2004
RN/AS, Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester, MA, 1996
AS, Medical Assisting, Holliston Junior College, Holliston, MA, 1978

Professional Organizations/Memberships
SUNA
Elected to the position of Assistant Western Regional Director, 2010
Planning Committee for SUNA's Annual Symposium, 2009-2011
Elected to the Board of the Northern California Chapter of SUNA, 2006
National Association of Physician Nurses, 1998

SUNA Activities
In 2006 I attended the Chapter Development Training at the SUNA Annual Conference. I have participated with planning the two “Urodynamic Day” workshops that were held in Napa, CA. I also participated with planning/organizing the joint SUNA/AUA Western Conference in Las Vegas in 2009. More recently, I managed the “welcome table” at the symposium in San Francisco. There, I was able to arrange for coupon books, bags, Jelly Belly jelly beans, and Ghirardelli chocolates for the attendees. I also assisted the planning committee with arranging for local speakers. I work on a daily basis with two of the physicians who made presentations at the conference. These physicians are highly supportive of SUNA and its mission and goals.

Goals for the Position
It has been my pleasure to serve as the Assistant Western Regional Director under the leadership of Cindie Neufeld. I would like to continue the effort to reinstate the San Diego Chapter. On several occasions this year both Cindi and I thought that we had found someone willing to step up. Unfortunately, that didn’t happen. I also would like to see the Western Region chapters work together toward common goals and participate with each other in community activities and networking. Finally, I would like to encourage certification among the Western members. I know from personal experience that it takes great commitment to prepare for the exam and requires the support of family, friends, and coworkers. It would be a great honor to serve as the Western Regional Director.

Western Regional Director
Renee Benoit, LPN

Current Position/Place of Employment
Clinical Nurse, The Urology Clinic PC, Portland, Oregon, 1995-present

Educational Preparation
Licensed Practical Nurse Program, Malaspina College, Nanaimo, BC, Canada, 1981
Licensed in Washington State, Yakima Community College, Yakima, WA, 1983
Licensed in Oregon, Portland Community College, Portland, OR, 1993

Professional Organizations/Memberships
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates, 1996-present
Served as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and am the current President of SUNA’s Portland Chapter, still serving after 8+years

SUNA Activities
In my tenure as chapter president, I have planned and organized many 1-day conferences to serve our chapter. I also planned and coordinated the Western Section Meeting in Vancouver, BC, Canada twice, most recently in September 2011.

Goals for the Position
The urology field is in a constant state of change, from the advent of robotic surgery to EMR in both the hospital and clinical settings. All members want continuing education opportunities but fewer people volunteer. I would like to help SUNA promote membership growth nationally as well as mentor members into leadership roles. It takes a lot of volunteerism to make this happen, and SUNA is a wonderful organization that presents so many opportunities to us. For those of us who have been involved so long and to honor those who started the wheels turning back in about 1976, I want to see SUNA continue to prosper so it can continue to promote excellence in urologic education.
Many of the Northeast chapters took breaks over the winter months but are now actively planning for the upcoming year. And what a winter we haven't had. In the Northeast we have had unseasonably nice weather. Now that it is spring, it is time to get involved!

Francie Bernier, the Washington, DC Chapter president, shares that they are looking for volunteers to assist in the planning process when they will serve as host chapter for SUNA's Annual Conference in Washington, DC, this November. They are also planning educational events for this year. Anyone interested in more information or becoming more involved, contact Francie at fbernier@su.edu.

The Central Virginia Chapter and President Stacy Clark held a dinner meeting in March on XGEVA®. The program was well attended. Additional meetings are being planned. For more information on upcoming events or to become more involved, contact Stacy at slc Clark

The Syracuse Chapter and President Sue Lipsy have continued to offer a variety of interesting and informative monthly educational programs. Topics have included caring for patients with hypogonadism, learning about the Coloplast Care Program, and enjoying the new Dale catheter holding devices. Our 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 for their generous support of these programs. The chapter continues to finalize plans for a bladder and continence awareness community health fair scheduled for June 23 in conjunction with World Continence Week. They are anxious to report all the excitement and details. For additional information on this active chapter or upcoming events, contact Sue at slipsy@twcny.rr.com

Marianne Borch and the Central New York Chapter want to congratulate Ginger LaFaro, who is now certified as a CUNP. Congratulations! The chapter also hosted a successful CNE meeting on artificial urinary sphincters. For more information on this chapter, contact Marianne at mborch@rochester.rr.com

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

Shanna Atnip

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 Web site under the “Chapters” tab, and you also 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!

Several chapter members also helped organize participation of the UTSW Urology Clinic with the Bladder Cancer Support Group of North Texas in a Walk for Bladder Cancer to support Bladder Cancer Awareness Day on May 5.

Contact President Tamara Dickinson at Tamara.dickinson@utsouthwestern.edu for details about upcoming events or if you would like to help plan future events.

The San Antonio-Alamo Chapter held their annual conference on April 7 in San Antonio. Their activities are always a lot of fun and very well attended. We will have more information to share in the next issue of the Uro-Gram. Visit www.alamosuna.org for more information about becoming involved in this very active chapter.

The Research Triangle Chapter in North Carolina is having their annual CNE meeting on September 8 at the Atlantic Beach Sheraton in Atlantic Beach, NC. There will be a “Meet and Greet” at 6:30pm on Friday night, September 7. The 2013 CNE meeting will be held in Charleston, SC. The date will be announced soon. The chapter is excited to announce Sarah Scott as their president-elect and Ashley Schneider as the new program chair. The chapter has a great program called “Dogs for Deb,” which is a hotdog fundraiser to finan-
cially assist members in attending CNE workshops. They are also active in the community and donate food to the Durham Rescue Mission. For more information about the upcoming CNE events or if you want to get involved in the chapter, contact President Fran Bryant at bfbryant52@hotmail.com.

The Florida Sunshine Chapter is planning their next activity and would love to get more members active. If you would like to help plan or attend chapter activities, contact President Cindy McLean at cmclean4566@comcast.net.

The Magnolia Chapter in Louisiana held its annual Fall Seminar on November 5, 2011 in New Orleans. Thirty-one people attended. Topics included New Therapies in the Treatment of Advanced Prostate Cancer, Testosterone Therapy in Men with Prostate Cancer, Urologic Emergencies, High Intensity Focused Ultrasound for Salvage Treatment of Prostate Cancer, and Anal Incontinence. The seminar was well received by attendees. The chapter is now planning their 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 will include some great speakers addressing new trends in kidney transplantation and “organ sharing.” Dates to be announced. They would love you to help plan the activity, participate in the chapter leadership, or just 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 during the past few months. 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. Congratulations to Treva Thompson and best wishes for her in her new role on the Certification Board for CBUNA.

The Rocky Mountain Chapter is planning a couple of sponsored dinner meetings, and 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. And a big thank you to Carolyn North for her role as the Annual Symposium Planning Committee Chair. The meeting in San Francisco was great!

The Central Oklahoma Chapter held their 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 the joint meeting was well received by the physicians and the nurses. We hope you all got to attend. For future activities and contact information, visit the www.oksuna.org Web site. Thank you to Genevieve Zerger for stepping up to be the new chapter president and thanks to Saundra Sturdy Seidel for her service in the role.

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

To all the Southeast Region Chapters, I wish you a happy and not too hot summer. Thanks for all you do!

**Shanna Atnip, MSN, WHNP-BC**
Southeast Regional Director
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**North Central**

**North Central Pearl.** This pearl was submitted by Michelle Radke (Upper Midwest Chapter): We warm the Hibiclens® solution we use to prep patients. We pour the needed amount into a sterile small-er bottle and place that into a graduated cylinder with warm water. The patients sure appreciate the warmth, especially here in the Midwest.

Spring is in the air, and many chapters hosted very successful annual spring conferences and will be holding elections to install new officers. The common challenge that all chapters face is having effective communication and holding meetings during a difficult economy, but the North Central Region has utilized technology and creativity to continue to serve our members.

Michelle Radke, president of the Upper Midwest Chapter, reports that they held their annual Spring Conference, *Leap Forward in Urology*, on April 21 at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Dr. Maki, a professor at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine, spoke at a dinner symposium held the night before the spring conference. The topic was *Evidence-Based Prevention and Management of Catheter Associated UTIs*.

The chapter is thrilled to announce that Jill Freeman has volunteered with SUNA to assist with work on the *Core Curriculum in Urologic Nursing*. Jill is a past president and long-time chapter member.

The chapter was represented at the SUNA Annual Symposium in San Francisco in March by Immediate Past President Amy Driscoll, SUNA Foundation Trustee Jean Lewis, Jill Freeman, and Michelle Radke, chapter president and CBUNA member.

The chapter is on Facebook! Chapter members and all North Central Region members are invited to join. For more information, visit the chapter Web site at www.umcsuna.org.

The Great Lakes Chapter held an all-day Annual Spring Conference that covered topics from Life after Prostate Cancer to Trigger Point Injections for Female Pelvic Pain. Chapter President Silvia Maxwell continues to bring her energy and enthusiasm to helping the
chapter grow and supporting SUNA membership, education, and certification. The chapter is working on offering scholarships. Silvia also attended the Annual Symposium in San Francisco.

Mary Meskel, outgoing president of the Chicago Metro Chapter, reports that the chapter hosted a very successful spring conference, The Power of P, with over 80 attendees and 14+ vendors. Chapter officers were elected in April. They will be working on the reports needed for SUNA with all the information about the past year’s activities, accolades, and community projects. This has been a very rewarding year for Mary as chapter president, and she encourages other chapter members to get more involved in this great organization. Chicago Metro welcomes Grace Jones as the new chapter president.

Chapter President Richard Hess reports that the Mississippi Valley Chapter remains solvent and is fulfilling its goals despite the tight economy and waning sponsorships. Teamwork and creative thinking are bridging the gap, and the chapter is utilizing available university/hospital venue space for contact hour presentations.

Past President Reggie Boone shared her expertise on female sexuality at the annual Meet Me in St. Louis Conference. A good cross-section of urology-related topics attracted 54 attendees. Mary Campigotto stepped to the podium at the Advanced Practice Conference in Columbia, MO, on April 13 to speak on pediatric lower urinary tract dysfunction.

The Springfield arm of the Mississippi Valley Chapter continues to build momentum, providing compelling speakers and contact hours. The spring conference that was held April 14 in Sioux City, IA, was a great success.

Amber Lee reports that the Nebraska Chapter will be holding elections for new officers.

According to Chapter President Kelly Gollar, the Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter will be planning their fall conferences. For more information, visit the chapter’s Web site at www.kysuna.org.

Vanessa Spears, MHA, BSN, RN, CURN
North Central Regional Director
vsppears@uropartners.com

Western

The Western Region had a great turnout for the Annual Symposium in San Francisco. These meetings provide a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends and to make new acquaintances. Congratulations to the planning committee on a successful meeting. As spring is underway, many Western Region Chapters are busy planning educational opportunities for their chapter members.

I want to encourage members to continue to participate and support your local chapters.

Greetings from Northern California Chapter President Linda Adams. I want to thank Linda and the chapter members who helped welcome attendees at the Annual Symposium in San Francisco. Attendees could not get enough of the Ghirardelli chocolates that were in abundant supply at the welcome table! Linda would like to hear from members on topics, suggestions for speakers, and venues so that plans can be made for events for the upcoming year. Plans are currently underway to develop a new chapter Web site, and Linda is looking for a volunteer to help with maintaining the site. This task will be simple and require only a few minutes a month. If you are interested in offering support, contact Linda at linda@the-adams.com.

The Yakima Valley Chapter welcomes Julie Wells as the new chapter president. Julie has been very active with this chapter as past secretary and is excited to take over the reigns for this chapter. Members attended a dinner educational event sponsored by Watson on March 8. Dr. Gasparich from Swedish Medical Center presented Optimizing Medical Therapy for Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia. Chapter members appreciate the industry support and opportunity to attend these offerings. The planning committee was excited about the large turnout for the Spring Potpourri conference in April. For more information on this chapter and upcoming events, contact Julie at jwells@yua.com.

Lane Biag, president for the Puget Sound Chapter, is busy planning the SUNA Western Section Conference that will be held in conjunction with the WSAUA meeting in Hawaii this October. If you know of any potential speakers or can offer any assistance with finding industry support for this event, contact lane at lane.biag@vmmc.org. This will be an exceptional educational offering for Western Region members so be sure to save the dates and start making plans to visit the Big Island on October 8-10.

Utah Chapter President Edith Acey has announced that new board members were elected at the last chapter meeting. The new board members will be announced in the next issue of the Uro-Gram. Thank you, Edith, for all you have done for the chapter during your time as president.

Portland Chapter President Renee Benoit is making plans for an upcoming meeting in late spring and would like to hear from chapter members on ideas for topics. For more information and to become more involved, contact Renee at renee@theurologyclinic.com.

We are looking for new leadership for the Big Sky (Montana) and Arizona Chapters. I want everyone who belongs to these chapters to think about the benefits of keeping these chapters active. The local chapters are the grass roots of SUNA and provide the local members with education and networking opportunities with other urology colleagues. Volunteering with SUNA can give you so many opportunities for personal and professional growth. Please contact me at cneufeld@yua.com if you are interested in revitalizing these chapters.

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

There are people you meet who inspire you, and Marianne Borch, BSN, RN, CURN, is one of those individuals. Her quiet demeanor hides a dynamic personality and person. Marianne came to the U.S. from Denmark in 1978. She was unsure what she wanted to do but decided on nursing and fell in love with the profession. That was 29 years ago, and she has never looked back. Urology nursing was her first nursing job, and it still remains her passion.

Marianne joined SUNA in 1994 and has been a member of her local chapter since 1994 as well. She feels that “being involved at the local level has given me opportunities to network and share with other urology nurses. It stimulates my desire to learn and motivates me to get involved.” This involvement and motivation has led her to help organize 11 community conferences and serve as the president of the local chapter for the last 3 years. During her 3 years as president, she has helped organize a group of local chapter members to publish two articles in the Urologic Nursing Journal.

In 2008 Marianne decided to become certified in urology and won the Macfarlane Award that year. The Macfarlane Award is presented to the person who attains the highest score on the certification examination for that year. The recipient of the award demonstrates dedication to the practice of urology and an outstanding knowledge base. Marianne has been an active encourager of local chapter members to become certified, and recently four more members have attained their certification! She also has become a member of the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA).

Marianne has been married for almost 40 years and has two children and four grandchildren. In her spare time, she enjoys playing golf and downhill skiing. Marianne truly embodies those qualities that inspire others to follow her and become involved. The Northeast Region is proud to have Marianne Borch, BSN, RN, CURN, as our regional member in the spotlight.

Cheryl LeCroy, MSN, RN
Northeast Regional Director

Scholarship Deadline Reminder

June 1 is fast approaching, and it is time for a last reminder. Applications must be received on or before June 1, 2012 for the following awards and scholarships: 2012 Annual Conference Scholarships, the Jan LeBouton Certification Scholarship, the Ron Brady Career Mobility Scholarship, the Suzette McKay Memorial Excellence in Urologic Nursing Award, and the Susan E. Healy Award Pediatric Urology Nursing Education Award. Chapter Enhancement Scholarships also are available with an application deadline date of June 30, 2012.

For additional information, including eligibility criteria and application forms, go to www.suna.org (click on the “Foundation” tab and click on “What We Provide”).

Recognize a Special Colleague in Your Region

Four SUNA members – one member from each of SUNA’s four regions – are recognized annually with Regional Member of the Year Awards. Consider nominating a worthy SUNA colleague to receive this honor! The awards are presented at SUNA’s Annual Conference. Winners are selected based on the following criteria: a demonstrated commitment to SUNA and urologic nursing, participation in the education of SUNA members and self, and mentoring of new and established members. Within these general categories, nominees receive points for specific criteria such as length of SUNA membership, being certified (or re-certifying) through the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates (CBUNA), publishing in the Uro-Gram or Urologic Nursing Journal, serving on a national committee or task force, participating in community-focused projects, presenting educational content at chapter-sponsored meetings, and recruiting colleagues to join SUNA. The member with the highest score in each region is selected as the Regional Member of the Year.

An application form is available online. Go to www.suna.org, click on About SUNA, and select SUNA Awards. The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2012.

Changes in Approver Unit Fee Schedule

The categories and fees for submitting continuing nursing education (CNE) applications to the Approver Unit have been revised. While the deadlines for submitting CNE applications remains 45 days prior to the planned date of the educational activity, late applications are accepted up to 30 days prior to the activity date. The updated fee schedule is posted on the SUNA Web site under the Education tab (click on “Guidelines for CNE Approval”).
**Special Interest Groups**

**Advanced Practice**

The SIG consists of advanced practice providers who meet during SUNA conferences and/or communicate via email. The group recently discussed the following topics:

- Several NPs have requested mentors in the field of urology. When new or experienced providers request advice or mentoring, an email is sent out to the SIG members; often a mentoring relationship is formed.
- The Annual Conference Planning Committee queried SIG members on their educational needs in order to develop content for advanced practice training at upcoming SUNA conferences. How better to plan your conference?
- Questions were emailed regarding NPs in private practice performing pelvic floor rehabilitation for incontinence, pelvic pain, and other pelvic floor disorders. There was discussion about equipment, billing, and reimbursement. Some felt patients were being referred out, but that patients might be more compliant if they were kept within the practice.

The following is a copy of the minutes from the SIG networking session led by Colleen Mellen, WHNP, at the Annual Symposium in San Francisco:

1. Discussed resources available for APNs working with pelvic floor disorders (PFDs), including: the SUNA Web site and links, the American Urogynecologic Society Web site (AUGS.org) and links, and www.voicesforpfd.org (a Web site sponsored by AUGS for patients with PFDs that includes patient resources, how to find a provider, FAQs, and patient blogs).
2. Discussed setting up a provider database for SUNA APNs/PAs so we can share ideas, expertise, multi-center research trials (by APNs), billing and coding questions, and hands-on training (find an APN close to you with expertise).
3. Greatest area of concern voiced by members present was regarding legislative issues that restrict/hinder our ability to practice and bill/receive reimbursement for services as APNs. Discussed that this problem is compounded by state and regional differences. Many questions about billing/coding/reimbursement – all vary by state and region.
4. Long discussion about billing “incident to” vs. billing under our own provider numbers. Questions about billing for “shared visits” for new patient visits by physician and APN on the same day. Questions about billing for office visit and procedure (i.e., urodynamics or cysto) on the same day. Questions about billing for urodynamics and other office procedures when physician is not in the office suite.
5. A request for sessions on advanced practice coding and billing was forwarded to the conference and symposium committee chairs.

As you can see, our discussions are varied. Any advanced practice providers are welcome to participate in the SIG. Simply email your request to me, and I will gladly add you to the list.

**Connie Whitesell, MSN, CCCN, RN, CNP**  
SIG Leader  
cwhitesell@ucurology.com

**Continence Specialists & Services**

Nice weather is finally upon us and there is no better time to talk continence. I know the Annual Symposium is just behind us and many of us have not yet begun to think about the Annual Conference in the fall. However, it is never too early to plan for our upcoming fall lectures. As such, I encourage all SIG members to be thinking about their little tricks or tips that enhance their continence practice and services. If anyone has a clinical pearl they want to share, please be ready to discuss it at our SIG meeting. If anyone has anything they want to “show and tell,” I encourage you to bring this with you as well. We also will have a lively discussion on all topics pertaining to continence. If anyone has a burning question they want to bring up and have answered, please email me and I will keep a list of questions to share with the group to discuss. What a lively Q and A session this could be! Keep the lines of communication and education open, and our patients and practices will overflow.

**Amy Hull, MSWHNP-BC**  
SIG Leader  
amhull25@aol.com

**Celebrate National Nurses Week!**

**May 6-12, 2012**

National Nurses Week is celebrated annually May 6-12 throughout the United States. The theme for 2012 is **Nursing: Advocating, Leading, Caring.** National Nurses Week begins on May 6, also known as National Nurses Day, and ends on May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. For more information, visit www.nursingworld.org.
Top 10 Reasons to Become Certified!

Since the final revisions of the CURN test are complete, and it will be administered for the first time this spring, I thought this might be a good time to review some compelling reasons to seek certification in urology.

1. **Certification improves your skills and knowledge.** As you prepare for certification, you will become familiar with topics that you do not routinely encounter in your everyday job that will add richness and depth to your knowledge base.

2. **Certification can improve career opportunities and advancement.** Certification shows that you are willing to invest in your career and ongoing knowledge, and have demonstrated mastery.

3. **Certification may result in increased economic advantages.** Some facilities offer bonuses or hourly differentials for certified individuals, and certification can serve as a point for negotiation and advancement in a yearly performance review.

4. **Certification demonstrates your commitment to the care of your patients.** It validates your commitment to your chosen specialty, and reflects a higher standard of knowledge in your role.

5. **Certification enhances the professional image of your role as a whole.** Certified individuals can serve as role models for others within the profession as well as students of all health care disciplines.

6. **Certification reflects achievement on both a professional and a personal level.** Because it is through a third party, certification substantiates that you have attained mastery of a particular set of specialty knowledge.

7. **Certification builds self-esteem.** Certification defines you beyond your job description or past achievements, and is a reflection of your drive to establish your expert knowledge.

8. **Certification may lead to greater on-the-job responsibilities.** Certification is a recognizable indicator of your willingness to invest in your own professional development, and certified individuals are likely to be more aware of changes and trends in their field.

9. **Certification allows peers to recognize you as an expert in your specialty field.** Health care professionals, patients, and their families will recognize that you have taken an additional step in your career and have additional expert knowledge.

10. **Certification grants you professional credibility.** Certification is an impartial, third-party endorsement of your knowledge and experience. In the absence of any “residency” or educational post-degree certificate programs, certification is the single best way you can testify to your expertise.

As you mull over this list, consider applying for the Jan LeBouton Certification Scholarship, which provides a stipend that covers the cost of the certification examination (any of the three urology certification tests), a copy of the SUNA Urology Certification Review/Overview of Urology, a copy and the CBUNA Examination Preparation Guide appropriate to the test you wish to take, and complimentary registration to the SUNA Annual Conference the year in which you sit for the examination. The application deadline is June. Details are available online at [www.suna.org](http://www.suna.org) under “Certification.”

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

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**Call for Papers for 2013 Annual Symposium**

SUNA’s 2013 Annual Symposium will be held March 7-9 at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, GA. 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 submitted electronically in Word format.
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](http://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, 2012.
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 poster presentations at the conference. All presenters will be awarded a 1-day complimentary registration to the Annual Conference.

Non-Research Poster Presentations

Abstracts for non-research poster presentations are 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 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. The deadline for submission of abstracts is June 12, 2012.