



Eyeopener

Newsletter of the Texas Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

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2011 Promises to be a Year Full of Changes

TAPAN is embarking upon our 35th year representing perianesthesia nurses in Texas. The year promises to be a year full of changes for all of us. New healthcare policies are beginning to take effect. In speaking with Cindy Hill, our Governmental Affairs Committee Chair, the coming year promises to be very busy. TAPAN has finalized the re-districting process and we now have 5 brand new "regions". I am encouraged by the enthusiasm the new regional leaders are demonstrating for making our new configuration successful. Our 1st chapter has been formed. The Red River Group Chapter was approved at the November 14th board meeting. We hope to have several more chapters formed in the coming months.

Several years ago, TAPAN membership exceeded 1000 members. Membership numbers have been way down. In July of this year we hit a low of 844 members. Membership is starting to climb – slowly. We currently have 856 members. I would like to see us get back over the 1000 member mark by the time we celebrate our 35th anniversary in September. I encourage all of you to share with your co-workers the value of being a member of TAPAN



Susan Norris, RN, BScN, CAPA
TAPAN President 2009-2011

and ASPAN. If possible, print a copy of *Breathline* and the *Eyeopener* and post them on your unit where others can read them and see what they are missing. Remind your colleagues to renew their membership on time. ASPAN has eliminated the grace period for membership renewal. Membership expires on the date listed on your ASPAN card and you are deleted from the membership roster. Over the next year, your TAPAN board will be looking at ways to increase the membership and how we can make membership a priority for perianesthesia nurses. Membership dues are our most important source of income and are what allows us to offer educational offerings etc. We elected to keep TAPAN dues at their current level through 2012. We would much rather increase our numbers than to increase our rates. If you have suggestions for ways we can

increase the value of TAPAN membership, please let a member of the board know your thoughts.

Start planning now for the upcoming conferences and celebrations that are planned in 2011.

- PANAW will be celebrated Feb 7 – 13, 2011. Take this opportunity to celebrate your profession and let patients, visitors and colleagues know how valuable and important perianesthesia nurses are!
- ASPAN National Conference will be held April 3 – 7, 2011 in Seattle, WA. National conference is an excellent opportunity to meet with colleagues from across the nation to share knowledge and experience a positive, motivating atmosphere. I hope to see many of you there!
- TAPAN's 35th Annual State Conference is being planned for September 16 – 18, 2011 in Round Rock, TX. Make plans now to join us for a celebration of our 1st 35 years and the launch of our next 35! The planning committee has been very busy

TAPAN

Board of Directors

President

Susan Norris RN, BScN,
CAPA
Houston, TX
snorris96@comcast.net

1st Vice President/ President Elect

Herminia Robles RN, BSN,
CPAN
Houston, TX
hrobles@slsh.com

2nd Vice President

Prudence Nietupski, RN,
BSN, CAPA
Richardson, TX
Pru_nietupski@yahoo.com

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Debra Bennett, RN, BSN,
CAPA
San Antonio, TX
www.ccldebb@msn.com

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Alison Watkins, RN, MS,
CPAN
Highland Village, TX
alison.watkins@utsouthwestern.edu

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Deborah Davis, RN, BSN,
CPAN
Missouri City, TX
djdavis@texaschildrens-hospital.org

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Linda Allyn RN, BSN,
CPAN, CAPA
Elgin, TX
lallyn@flash.net

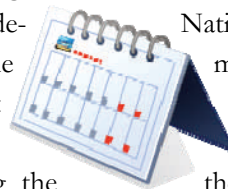
ASPAN Board Tackles Aggressive Agenda

Armi Holcomb, RN, BSN, CPAN Region 2 Director

Full is here and you all know what that means – cooler weather, leaves turning a beautiful reddish orange or brown and of course ASPAN's 2010-2011 Board has reached its mid-year point. The ASPAN Board met in South Beach Miami, Florida on Nov 5-6, 2010 to tackle a very aggressive agenda. We first reviewed the Strategic Plan that was implemented January 2009. Back in April when the Representative Assembly met in New Orleans, we all voted to revise our bylaws to allow a transformation of our organizational structure to meet the demands on the organization in the future. Immediate Past President Terry Clifford presented to the Board at this Mid Year meeting the new version of our organizational chart which emphasizes task oriented Strategic Work Teams (SWT) versus Standing committees. The purpose of a SWT is to complete tasks related to the mission of ASPAN; this offers greater flexibility to members (our volunteer workforce) looking for involvement but unable to make a long-term commitment. SWT's generally require shorter use of our precious time.

President Kim Kraft shared her initiatives for the year while President Elect Chris Price presented us with an executive summary of our working strategic plan for this year. ABPANC president, Kathy Paskewitz, an ex-officio member of the ASPAN Board, shared that we now have 9,083 certified nurses. ABPANC launched new online practice

exams and any participant will receive contact hours. It was also announced that instead of a CPAN/CAPA Breakfast at National Conference, ABPANC is sponsoring a Luncheon. The recently published *Perianesthesia Nursing Standards and Practice Recommendations 2010 - 2012* will be incorporated in the certification exams in the fall of 2011. Director for Education Linda Ziolkowski updated the Board that the first International Conference to be held in Toronto, Canada is slated for Oct. 3-5 2011. An e-mail Save-the-Date from the ASPAN National Office was sent to all members. More about the education track will be forthcoming in the coming months as the abstracts are just now starting to come in.



The Board approved the 2011 Budget proposed by Treasurer Sue Carter. Other items approved by the Board include a revised Member-Get-A-Member recruiter reward program, giving members who bring in new members monthly opportunities to win gift certificates and publications and a change to the name of ASPAN's Service Recognition Award from the ASPAN Star Award to the ASPAN Above and Beyond Award. The Membership and Marketing committee will be actively promoting both over the next few months so watch for more information in your inbox and in *Breathline*.

Like I said, we had an aggressive agenda to tackle and we came away

Continued on next page

with the satisfaction that ASPAN's goals for the rest of the year will be achieved.

As a reminder, PANAW week is February 7-13, 2011. Promotional items for Awareness week are available online. Show your support for your colleagues in perianesthesia nursing with gifts from our "shoppe". Don't forget to share how you all cele-

brate PANAW week and will look forward to reading all about it. ♦

Armi Holcomb RN, BSN, CPAN
H-913-897-3040 W-913-696-8108
aholcomb@aspan.org or
armiholcomb@yahoo.com

TAPAN
Mission Statement

"The Texas Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses, as a component of the American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses, advances nursing practice through education, research, and standards."



President' Message: Year Full of Changes

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already and plans include some very exciting new ideas.

- The 1st International PeriAnesthesia Nursing Conference will be held October 3 – 5, 2011 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. ASPAN is working in coordination with BARNA (British Anaesthetic & Recovery Nurses Association), IARNA (Irish Anaesthetic & Recovery Nurses Association) and NAPANc (National Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses, Canada) to sponsor this educational

opportunity to all nurses practicing in perianesthesia related fields. It would be wonderful to see a large Texas contingent at this conference.

The upcoming year promises to be exciting and busy. I challenge all of you to seek opportunities to participate and promote our profession of perianesthesia nursing. In keeping with the current ASPAN theme, Invest in Your Potential!

Happy Holidays, Susan ♦

ASPAN
Mission Statement

"The American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses advances nursing practice through education, research, and standards."



TAPAN
Region Presidents

North & East Texas
President Pru Nietupski
pru_nietupski@yahoo.com

Hill Country & South Texas
President Cielito Ascio
skymel_03@yahoo.com

Upper Gulf Coast
President Sharon Hampton
shamp-ton@mdanderson.org

West Texas
President Elena Abaquin
eabaquin@gmail.com

Far West Texas
President Needed

PeriAnesthesia Nurses

Exceptional
PEOPLE
 Extraordinary
CARE

PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week
(PANAW)
February 7 – 13, 2011

Start planning now to show your patients and colleagues the importance of perianesthesia nursing! Please be sure to share the news of any celebrations you have with the rest of us! Send pictures or stories to any member of the TAPAN board. ♦

Spotlight Across Texas: Region News

Upper Gulf Coast

Thelma Duremdes, RN
No News Reported

Plan to be in Austin September 16-18, 2011 for the next TAPAN state Conference.

North & East Texas

Karen Jensen, RN, BSN, CPAN
No News Reported

Sharon Barnes RN, organized volunteers to participate in a health fair at New Creation Christian Fellowship September 25th, 2010. Participating members taking blood pressures were Sharon Barnes, Ruby Tingle, Polly Smith, Kathy Baker, and Sandra Rodriguez.

Hill Country & South Texas

Polly Smith, RN, BSN, CCRN
Leonard Allen, our president of the Hill Country and South Texas Region has been called to serve our country in Afghanistan. We eagerly await his safe return in approximately one year. Please keep Leonard and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this time of deployment. We honored Leonard at a surprise appreciation party at Texas Land and Cattle Steakhouse. He was awarded a plaque for Outstanding Service as our president for the past five years. Leonard, we are grateful for all of the years of diligent service you have shown TAPAN and your colleagues. We all wish you a safe and speedy return home.

West Texas & Panhandle

Kimberly Malone, RN
Greetings from the West Texas & Panhandle Region! We are proud our region has grown and are looking forward to increasing participation from the surrounding areas. Let us know how we can accommodate you so each of us will have a voice. The region letter will continue with the dedicated effort of Charon Howell. Any members interested in receiving future issues should submit an email address to Charon at charsmare@clearwire.net.

Cielito Ascio will serve as president of the Hill Country and South Texas Region (HCSTR) during Leonard's absence. Cielito brings many years of leadership and experience to our TAPAN group. Thanks for serving, Cielito!

The 34th annual TAPAN State Conference was held in Grapevine, Texas in September of this year.

On October 16th, we hosted the CPAN certification review class in Abilene at Hendrick Medical Center. It was a wonderful success with participation of almost fifty nurses. We had nurses from as far north as Plano, as far south as Houston, and many from close by. Much thanks to our great speaker Wanda Rodriguez. It was incredible to meet you all and thank you for joining us!!

We are jumping into the winter season with a great fundraiser headed by Edna Pabruada. with Pampered Chef. It's a great time to stock up on handy kitchen supplies. The nice thing, it's a book party and so there's no need to attend, although anyone can join in. You can contact Edna at Hendrick Medical Center in the PACU at 325-670-2274. In addition, Vicky Lessing of Abilene Regional Medical Center will be coordinating the fundraiser auctioning monogrammed blankets, what a great personal gift. Vicky can be reached in the PACU at 325-428-1550. Monies raised from both fundraisers will be applied to our Education Scholarship Fund.

We will also be involved in Mission Thanksgiving and the Food Bank to help contribute to those in need. Our community service projects will be coordinated by Elena Abaquin, she can be reached at ea-baquin@gmail.com or ea-baquin@hendrickhealth.org. Open your pantries, open your closets, and most of all open your hearts and give to those in our community.

Lastly, we are planning a seminar in February to celebrate PANAW. We would love for everyone to join us. Anyone interested should contact Jackie Clinkinbeard at 325-794 - 5450, or any of the officers for information. We're looking forward to seeing you all there!

Far West Texas
No News Reported

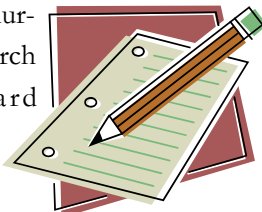


Policy & Procedure

Susan Russell, RN, JD, CPAN, CAPA

The first portion of the November TAPAN Board meeting was dedicated to Policy and Procedure. There are 13 policies due for update and/or revision on this year's schedule. The Board dedicated its efforts during this first meeting to reviewing and revising policies related to TAPAN's annual conference. Thanks to the efforts of Pru Nietupski, 2010 conference Co-Chair, the conference manual received a thorough overhaul. All policies which address conference matters will reflect the work Pru did to make the manual a useful tool for future conference chairs. The revised conference manual is based on the knowledge and experience Pru Nietupski and Beverly Hillman gained as they produced the 2010 conference in Grapevine, Texas.

Final revisions to the policies reviewed in November will be completed and forwarded to Board members prior to the Board's January teleconference. The next session for policy and procedure revision occurs during the March 2011 Board Meeting.



PeriAnesthesia Nurses: Exceptional People, Extraordinary Care

Hermie Robles, BSN, RN, CPAN, TAPAN Vice President/President-Elect

PANAW: February 7-13, 2011

Celebrate Perianesthesia Nurse Awareness Week!



Because of the expertise and dedication of Perianesthesia nurses, each year during the first full week of February, PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week (PANAW) is celebrated. This is the time of year we can demonstrate the importance of perianesthesia nursing in healthcare. In celebration of how Perianesthesia nurses strive to advance their nursing practices, the theme will be: "Perianesthesia Nurses: Exceptional People, Extraordinary Care".

It is not too early to start thinking of activities and ways to celebrate Peri-anesthesia Nurse Awareness Week. TAPAN wishes to celebrate with you! To show our continued support for our profession and our pride for all nurses' accomplishments and efforts to improve the quality of patient care and nursing practices, we will **RAFFLE one free CPAN/CAPA certification/recertification fee** to be awarded to one of our Perianesthesia Nurses.

To be eligible for drawing, our **rule is simple**: You must be current **TAPAN member** and you must send an **e-mail** to hrobles@slch.com or h.robles@gmail.com. Your email, to say "**I am a PeriAnesthesia Nurse and proud to be CPAN/ CAPA!**" with your name, address and region you belong to, and the name of your institution will be your entry. Show your colleagues and friends that you appreciate them by spreading the word. Ask them to see our website and join. Please do not put more than one name in your email. One email per member is considered one valid entry. Deadline for email entries will be February 4th.

In celebration of PANAW, I would like to encourage you to ask your Anesthesia group, CRNA's or surgeons to give your staff a one hour in-service related to any perianesthesia topic. You can apply for CE either from your institution or from ASPAN. Let me know if you need help in applying for CE. You can go to the ASPAN website to find clear-cut instructions and required forms you need to complete and send if you apply for CE. TAPAN will also work on a CE offering online where we can let you participate and get 1.0 CE as our PANAW gift to you. We will send out emails to give you more information.

Hope you have fun planning for PANAW activities. Please let me know how you celebrate within your regions so we can share with all of our TAPAN members. We will announce the lucky winner on our next edition of the *Eyeopener*.

Don't forget...email to win!



Power Shift Will Affect All Levels of Government

Cindy Hill, RN, CPAN, CAPA , Governmental Affairs Chairperson



I can't believe how quickly the year is coming to an end. The holiday season of peace and goodwill is upon us. I wonder how that will translate in Washington and Austin. The elections are over. More than a few incumbents and challengers were surprised by the outcome of the elections! Once again, the people have spoken. Nationally, the Republicans captured enough seats in the House to regain the majority for a ratio of 240 Republicans (61 seats gained) to 190 Democrats (61 seats lost) with 5 seats undecided. Although the Democrats lost six seats in the Senate, they remain in the majority. The Texas House saw a distinct change. Prior to elections, there was a ratio of 77 Republicans to 73 Democrats. That majority has now changed to a ratio of 99 Republicans to 51 Democrats. This power shift will have ramifications at all levels of government. It is important, now more than ever, to be in contact with your legislators to let them know how you want them to vote on issues that are important to you. A statement made when I attended the Nurse In Washington Internship (NIWI) caught my attention: "If you don't tell them (legislators) what you want them to do, they assume that they are doing what you want them to do". Nurses have to be vocal during health care reform discussion and implementation. We are the experts in patient advocacy!

I have had a busy schedule since our state conference. I was blessed with an extraordinary opportunity to spend

a day shadowing Senator Robert Duncan on September 22nd. This was a chance given to me by Patty Freier, RN, BSN who is President of TNA District 18 in Lubbock, Texas. Patty attended the 2009 Pink Elephant Gala which included an auction. Senator Duncan donated a day to shadow him in Austin. Patty made a decision to bid for that item and succeeded in offering the winning bid! She has a passionate interest in legislative affairs and was willing to go the extra mile to engage our legislators on a one-to-one basis. My friend Jeff Watson, RN, BSN was unable to attend the event with her as planned. When Patty extended the invitation to the TNA District 18 Board (I am the current GAC Chair for our District), I quickly answered that I was indeed interested in such a gift! You see, I was leaving for Austin on the evening of September 22nd to attend the TNA Leadership Conference on September 23rd and 24th. A quick change of flights, and I was ready to go! The day was orchestrated by Debbie Hansard in Senator Duncan's Lubbock office. We were escorted by Sarah Clifton from that office to the Capital that morning. We were cordially greeted by Senator Duncan's office staff/assistants and shortly thereafter, introduced to Senator Duncan. We had a few moments with him before we were taken to the Senate Chamber for the Senate Committee on State Affairs and a "photo op". My view of the Senate Chamber has always been from the spectator seats above the floor, but that day we were seated on the floor of the Senate behind Sena-

tor Duncan who is the Chair of this particular committee. What a rush... until we were informed that the proceedings were being videotaped! I woke up at 3:00 am that morning to make the early flight to Austin. I was a little concerned about maintaining an alert composure should the committee hear extended testimony.

The Senate Committee on State Affairs has been given the charge to "assess the effectiveness of pilot programs designed to encourage the use of clinical integration, payments for good outcomes, use of best practices, focus on wellness and prevention, and bundling of costs for episodes of care, and other health care savings initiatives. Make recommendations for expanding the pilot programs for use across all private and state sponsored health care, including the Medicaid program, as a means to improve Texans' health and provide more effective care that allows for assistance for the uninsured, (SB 7, SB 8, and SB 10, 81st Legislature)." This was Charge No. 2. Public Testimony was given by:

- Anne Guelberg, Executive Director *Employees Retirement System*
- Billy Millwee, Associate Commissioner for Medicaid/CHIP *Health & Human Services Commission*
- Maureen Milligan, Deputy Director for Medicaid/CHIP Planning, Evaluation, Support *Health and Human Services Commission*
- Dr. Steve Berkowitz, Chief Medical Officer, St. David's Healthcare *Texas Hospital Association*
- Sue S. Bornstein, MD, FACP, Executive Director, Texas Medi-

cal Home Initiative *Texas Medical Association*

- Stephen E. Whitney, MD, MBA, Asst. Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of the Practice of Healthcare Management at the Baylor College of Medicine *Texas Medical Association*

Charge No. 9 is to “study the effect Texas hospital billing and collection practices have on the uninsured’s and under-insured’s access to hospital health care services, on the uninsured’s and under-insured’s economic circumstances, and on medical debt recorded as bad debt on hospital books and records. Assess whether hospital billing disparities involving pricing discounts between the uninsured and insured exist and make recommendations for any changes necessary.” Public testimony was given by:

- Charles Bailey, J.D., General Council *Texas Hospital Association*
- Glenda Owen, Vice President of Finance, Seton Family of Hospitals *Texas Hospital Association*

There was a great deal of discussion during the testimony of various experts relating to current models of care and changes driven by the new health care reform laws. Questions by the members of the committee were aimed at how to achieve the best care and the best outcomes for Texans while containing cost of care. Senator Duncan and the committee asked very pointed questions about current practices as well as potential impact of changes as the new law is implemented. All of this information will drive the decisions made during the 82nd Legislative session that begins in January 2011.

We stayed with Senator Duncan

throughout the day. He gave us a brief tour of the areas of the Senate Chamber that are never seen by the general public. He was generous with his time and was open to discussion and questions related to current and proposed legislation that affects the practice of nursing. He is very knowledgeable about the issues that affect the profession of nursing. His comments led me to believe that he is a friend to nurses in Texas. We ended the day by attending the first face-to-face meeting of the top universities in Texas related to achievement of Tier One status and proposed division of the funds that have been set aside for this endeavor. It was interesting discussion with much more to come. This is a day that I will never forget. Senator Duncan and his staff were engaging, open, and kind. I must add that the Senator’s staff were highly complimentary of him and openly bragged about his work ethic and high standards! They were wonderful hosts and took the Texas standard of hospitality to a new high! It’s great to be a Texan!

On September 23rd and 24th, I attended the Texas Nurses Association 10th Annual Nursing Leadership conference. It was the first time I had attended this event. I hope it will not be the last! The educational program was excellent and featured speakers from TNA as well as other areas of the country. There was review of the past year regarding laws and regulations and a preview of the 2011 Legislative Session. There was discussion of the Winkler County case about lessons learned and how it will be addressed in legislation. The following issues are an overview of legislation that nursing anticipates initiating in 2011 or legislation that may be

initiated by others that is of special interest to nursing *as prepared by the Texas Nurses Association*:

1. Patient Advocacy Protections: to provide immunity from criminal liability when reporting patient safety issues to regulatory agencies and give agencies authority to impose significant fines. Currently the maximum fine for wrongful termination is \$650.00/event. Winkler County Hospital was only fined \$1300.00 (current law). The proposal will be to increase the fine to \$25,000.00.
2. APRN Prescriptive Authority: to promote access to care by removing restrictions which prevent the most effective use of APRNs to address Texas’ shortage of primary care providers; eliminate site-based physician delegation model and authorize APRNs to prescribe under authority of their nursing license.
3. Nursing Education: to continue funding for the Nursing Shortage Reduction Fund at the 2009 level of \$44.7 million.
4. Violence against nurses in the workplace: to enhance the penalties for assault from a Class A misdemeanor to 3rd degree felony if committed against a nurse.
5. School nurses: to require notification of parents if a school nurse is not assigned to their child’s campus.
6. NPA Amendments: Omnibus bill to address needed changes to the Nurse Practice Act. One of the significant issues addressed is giving the Board of Nursing authority to establish a voluntary program under which nursing peer review committees would use a board-approved error classification system, report the data

Continued on page 9

Help Wanted: TAPAN Officers for 2011–2012

Linda Allyn BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, TAPAN Past President



TAPAN is looking for a few volunteers to serve as officers next year. There will be openings for Vice President/President elect, 2nd Vice President, and Secretary. NOW is the time to start thinking about it so you can attend a board meeting or talk to the present officer in the office you may be interested in. Cindy Hill has offered to mentor anyone that wants to be a up-and-comer to answer questions and help you volunteer for the area you are most interested in. Now is the time to become active in **YOUR** organization.

Fill out a Willingness to Serve form so I have your information. If you need to ask some questions just call or email me and I'll get you the answers. I can be contacted at lallyn@flash.net or (512) 217-9918. ♦

TAPAN 2011 Conference: Round Rock, Texas

Linda Allyn BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, TAPAN Past President and Susan Russell RN, JD, CPAN, CAPA, Policy & Procedure Chair

September 2011 conference committee members, Linda Allyn, Susan Russell, Tracy Allen and Jamie Woleben met October 30, 2010 to begin planning. The theme is “TAPAN: 35 Years and Still Starting With A-B-C.” Committee members shared topic and speaker recommendations. Emphasis will be placed on topics which meet new Texas Board of Nursing requirements that nurses earn their CE hours in their specialty. Proposed topics: Total Shoulder Arthroplasty/Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty, Obstructive Sleep Apnea, Asthma and Anesthesia, and Pediatric Urology. A one day CPAN/CAPA review will also be offered.

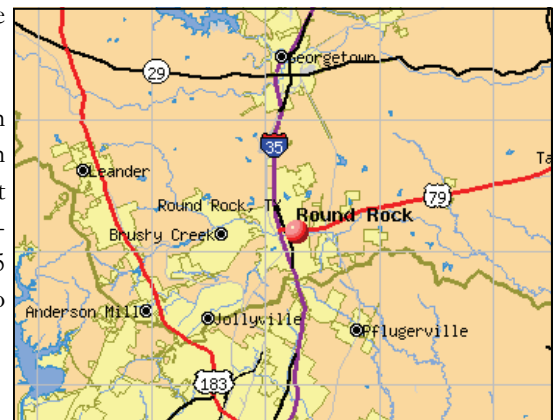
Social events will include an early morning “Texas Two-Step,” a Texas-style 35th anniversary party, and contests to celebrate TAPAN. The Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon will be held Saturday, September 17, 2011.

During its 35 year history, TAPAN has won numerous honors and awards. In celebration, will include a special salute to TAPAN’s achievements. If you have scrapbooks, photographs or newsletters which include information from 1976 to 2010, please contact Susan Norris, TAPAN President.

Committee members include: Co-Chairs: Linda Allyn, lallyn@flash.net and Susan Russell, spraustx@aol.com;
CE application: Tracy Allen, ptcjallen@sbcglobal.com
Hostesses & Moderators: Jamie Woleben, RNJAMIEW@aol.com
Registration: Debbie Bennett, TAPAN Treasurer, ccldebb@msn.com

Conference location - Austin Marriott North at La Frontera in Round Rock. The hotel has free parking, wireless high-speed internet, a business center, fitness center and indoor pool. A photo tour is available online. Many shops and restaurants are within walking distance of this smoke-free facility. Area attractions include the Round Rock Outlet Mall, Dell Diamond, and Inner Space Caverns.

Austin is an easy drive on I-35. The Bob Bullock State History Museum and IMAX Theater, State Capital, LBJ Library and U.T.’s Blanton Museum are worth the time and the drive. Austin-Bergstrom International Airport offers Super Shuttle service to the hotel. Reserve the dates September 16-18, 2011. Join us for this very special anniversary celebrating TAPAN’s 35 years of promoting perianesthesia excellence in Texas. You don’t want to miss THE EVENT of 2011. ♦



Power Shift Will Affect All Levels of Government

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- collected to the BON, and the data used to focus efforts on reducing those errors.
7. Self-Directed, Semi-Independent Status for the BON: would give the BON self-directed, semi-independent status the same as that which boards for engineers, accountants, architects, and banking/finance agencies currently have.
 8. Health Care Reform: The content of this issue is as yet unknown. It is expected that implementation of health care reform will require legislation but is undetermined and may address issues that affect nurses and the care they provide to patients.
 9. Public Health Initiatives: TNA and several nursing specialty organizations participate in the Texas Public Health Coalition. As in 2009, the Coalition's 2011 legislative efforts will focus on immunization, obesity, and smoking cessation.
 10. Possible Initiatives by Others That Nursing Supports: Every session, legislation is introduced by legislators or initiated by other organizations that nursing will be requested to support. Such legislation is evaluated on a bill by bill basis.
 11. Possible Initiatives by Others That Nursing Opposes: Every session, legislation is initiated by other organizations that nursing believes is not in the best interests of nurses and their patients. Although it is not known for certain what these bills are until filed, possible legislation in this area includes:

- Legislation by CNA/NNOC similar to legislation filed in 2007 and 2009 which set fixed, mandated ratios; restricted which nurses can do patient assessments; and repealed mandatory reporting and safe harbor nursing peer review.
- Licensing of anesthesiologists assistant.
- Moving regulation of APRNs to the Medical Board.

As you can see from the above information, TNA is a very busy advocate for Texas nurses. My thought is that the Patient Advocacy Protection Bill, the APRN Prescriptive Authority Bill, and gaining self-directed, semi-independent status for the BON will be the focal points. Jim Willman, JD, the Director of Governmental Affairs for TNA, discussed the dominating issues of the 2011 Legislative Session which will have a tremendous impact on any legislation. These issues are:

- Redistricting
- Budget – any bill that requires funding will likely get killed
- Health care reform – addressing issues in 2011 may be too soon based on information at hand, but 2013 will be too late
- There is approximately 100 days to get a bill passed, be-

ginning the 2nd Tuesday in January and ending the Monday following the last weekend in May

- Balance of the majority party – the Republican majority continues in the House with very little change in the Senate. The expectation is that Bob Strauss will be re-elected House Leader. Governor Perry remains in office. Committee Chairs may change.

Nurses have a prime opportunity to affect legislation in 2011. I can't emphasize enough that we must be in contact with our national and state legislators. We owe a responsibility to our patients and our selves to speak up and make an impact on the direction of health care reform. Remember, we hire these officials with our votes! It is my experience that they do listen when we talk. Please use your voice at every opportunity!



Once again, my thanks go to Senator Duncan and his staff for a wonderful experience. Special thanks go to Patty Freier who gave me the opportunity to share her day with Senator Duncan!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All! ♦

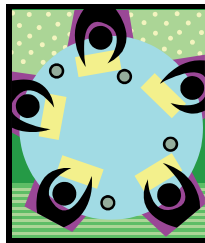
Executive Board Meeting: Summary of Meeting Minutes

Deborah Davis, RN, BSN, CPAN, TAPAN Secretary



The TAPAN Board met in Houston on November 13 & 14, 2010. Saturday afternoon was spent reviewing and revising Policies and Procedures. A number of policies related to Annual Conference were revised. The list of P&P due for review during the upcoming year was distributed.

The Board meeting took place on Sunday morning. Pru Nietupski provided a final summary of the 2010 State Conference. Attendee comments were reviewed. Hermie Robles gave the final summary of the 2010 Leadership Conference. The decision was made to hold the 2011 Leadership Conference in August 2011. Linda Allyn and Susan Russell, the 2011 State Conference co-chairs reported that the committee has held their initial meeting and plans are well underway. This will be the 35th Annual State conference and they are planning a special celebration to recognize this milestone.



Alison Watkins, Treasurer Emeritus, provided the year end review Treasurer's report. She reported that all the banking has been transferred to Deborah Bennett, Treasurer. Alison will complete the filing of taxes for 2010.

Pru presented an application for Chapter formation. The board reviewed the application and voted to approve the application pending verification of active member status requirement. The chapter will be known as the Red River Chapter and is located in the Denton area (North & East Texas Region).

PANAW will be celebrated Feb 7 – 13, 2011. A number of possible ways to celebrate were discussed. Further information will be published in the *Eyepener*, posted on the TAPAN website and emailed to members.

The president of the Hill Country and South Texas Region, Leonard Allen has resigned in order to fulfill a military obligation. Cielito Ascio has assumed the presidency of the region.

The deadline for submission of the ASPAN Gold Leaf application is approaching. Susan Norris provided a copy of the application for review and encouraged everyone to submit information related to region activities and member accomplishments to be included in the application.

The next meeting will be held via Skype on January 16, 2011. ♦

Editor's Note

Cyndi Mocek, RN, ADN, TAPAN Editor

Members can bring a critical eye to our state newsletter and are encouraged to contact the editor with suggestions for improvement. Members are also encouraged to write articles pertaining to perianesthesia nursing. Your experiences are the best resource!

I look forward to hearing from you! Contact information: mocek.rn@sbcglobal.net. ♦

Treasurer's Report

Debra L. Bennett, RN, MS, CAPA, TAPAN Treasurer



Current balance:

\$31,672.16

CPAN® and CAPA® Certification Corner

Susan Norris, RN, BScN, CAPA, *TAPAN President 2009-2011*

CPAN/CAPA Certification Exam Deadlines:

Registration Window – Online	January 10 – March 7
Registration Deadline – Online	March 7 by 11:59 p.m. ET
Time Period for Scheduling Examination Appt. with Prometric	Upon receipt of your ATT letter through May 12
Examination Administration Window	April 4 – May 14
Deadline for Cancelling Appt	3 business days before scheduled test date
Postmark deadline for requesting Withdrawal, refund, rollover from PES	On or before last day of examination administration window

ABPANC needs photos to place on the ABPANC website, for photo presentations and for the CPAN/CAPA® Celebration Event Music Video. We need photos of CPAN® and/or CAPA® certified nurses doing what they do best - caring for patients! Photos should be sent to Bonnie Niebuhr, ABPANC CEO, at bniebuhr@proexam.org. Don't forget to include the Photo Release Form, found under the Resources section of the website. www.cpancapa.org

Interested in the ABPANC Coach Program (finding a Coach) or becoming a Coach? Contact Zelda Williams (ABPANC Program Assistant) at zwilliams@proexam.org for information. Many CPANs and CAPAs are already serving as unofficial coaches. This program can help them in the process, give them recognition and offer contact hours for their efforts. ♦



From the Editor



The *Eyeopener* is the official publication of the Texas Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (TAPAN).

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Eyeopener submissions:

Members are encouraged to write to the editor with comments, suggestions, and/or articles of interest to PeriAnesthesia Nursing. Submissions must be typed and double spaced. It is the responsibility of the author of items submitted for publication in The *Eyeopener* to verify the accuracy of information and provide appropriate references. The editor and the TAPAN Board reserve the right to edit or reject submitted material.

Submission Deadlines:

February 15: Spring Edition
 May 15: Summer Edition
 August 15: Fall Edition
 November 15: Winter Edition

Send comments, suggestions and/or submissions to:

Cyndi Mocek, RN, ADN
 4333 Willow Bend Drive
 Arlington, TX 76017
mocek.rn@sbcglobal.net

TAPAN Operations

ASPAN Region 2 Director

Armi Holcomb, RN, BSN, CPAN
aholcomb1@kc.rr.com

Eyeopener Editor

Cyndi Mocek, RN, ADN
mocek.rn@sbcglobal.net

Policy & Procedure Coordinator

Susan Russell, RN, JD, CPAN, CAPA
sprauxtx@aol.com

Governmental Affairs Chair

Cindy Hill, RN, BSOE, CPAN, CAPA
chill@teamumc.com

Research Chair


Les Rodriguez, RN, MSN, MPH,
 ACNS-BC, CPAN
pmrod@sbcglobal.net

ASPAN 2011: Seattle Washington



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