The 2008 ASPAN National Conference in Grapevine, Texas was an amazing and exciting week filled with opportunities for education, networking and socializing. During the 2008 annual business meeting, the delegates approved new Standards and Guidelines for 2008-2010 as well as Position Statements on Advocacy and on Geriatric Care. Both position statements will be included in the new Standards and Guidelines. President Sue Fossum’s Year of Advocacy came to a close on Thursday as Lois Schick took office as ASPAN's President for 2008-2009. President Schick chose “Dreams Create Lasting Legacies” as the theme for her term of office.

Advocacy remains a vital piece of what we, as ASPAN and TAPAN members, do for our patients, for our specialty, and for ourselves. President Fossum’s dream of bringing advocacy to the forefront is her legacy to ASPAN. A legacy is more than being a part of the organization’s history. It becomes a part of the fabric of the organization, weaving itself into the substance of everything we undertake in the future. In this election year, it is critically important that we fulfill our role as educated and involved citizens by becoming informed on issues which affect healthcare, nursing and education. Although the ASPAN Representative Assembly voted against Resolution No. 2008-01 entitled “Resolution to Endorse U.S. House Bill 2994: National Pain Care Policy Act of 2007,” this defeat was not directed at the legislation itself, but rather at procedural issues surrounding ASPAN’s formal involvement. As voters and healthcare providers, each of you can write your Congressman to encourage support of this legislation. Cindy Hill, our TAPAN GAC chair, will continue monitoring and reporting on legislation which affects healthcare and nursing at both the national and state levels. I encourage all of you to participate when she asks for your help in disseminating time-sensitive bulletins to TAPAN members and nursing colleagues.

With the aging of that segment of our population fondly referred to as “Baby Boomers,” ASPAN addressed the need to increase awareness of the special healthcare needs of aging adults in a new Position Statement on the Geriatric Patient. ASPAN plans to integrate issues relating to geriatric care in perianesthesia education, research, and clinical practice. ASPAN is encouraging members to conduct research activities related to the geriatric patient in the perianesthesia setting and will be developing guidelines to enhance knowledge and skills for perianesthesia nurses caring for this patient population. Based on the discussion during the ASPAN Representative Assembly, it appears likely that a Position Statement on the Care of the Pediatric Patient will be developed over the
Component Development Institute
September 5-7, 2008 in Salt Lake City, Utah

Twilla Shrout, RN, BSN, MBA, CAPA, Region 2 Director

Thanks to those involved in making the 27th National Conference a success. The Texas hospitality was evident during the week. Region 2 had many members involved during this conference.

TAPAN thanks to Sue McDonald as the National Conference Strategic Work Team Coordinator, as well as Cindy Hill, Lori Sanders, Annie McHenry, and Alison Watkins serving as members on the team. Thanks to all of the TAPAN members assisting conference attendees at the hostess table. The People’s Choice Newsletter was the “Eyeopener”. Cyndi Mocek was also the guest editor for the PArtiCUlArS on May 6th and 7th.

NAPAN The Nebraska component was awarded the ABPANC’s Shining Star Award at the CPAN/CAPA Breakfast.

ISPAN Gail Kuhlman was chosen as one of the “Top 100 Nurses” in the state of Iowa. The election results included three members from region 2 on the nominating team. Michelle Honeywell-OSPAN, Jan Lopez-MO KAN PANA, and Candace Taylor-MO KAN PANA.

The Up and Comers Program graduated Cindy Hill-TAPAN, Jan Lopez-MO KAN PANA, Candace Taylor-MO KAN PANA, and Sandy Hoctel-ISPAN.

The Region 2 meeting was well attended with 28 members present. We discussed the possibility of having a regional meeting in a central location. The region 2 strategic plan was also reviewed. I will be sending out an email soon with more information from the meeting. Please send me your email address if you would like to be a part of this.

Save the Date for the Component Development Institute that will be held September, 5-7, 2008 at the Sheraton in Salt Lake City, Utah. The registration brochures will be mailed to all component presidents by July and will be available on the ASPAN website. Planned topics (subject to change) will be leadership roles/expectations, making teamwork work, succession planning, membership promotion, budgets/finance 101, and component “best practices.”

ASSPAN scholarship applications are due by July 1. Contact ASPAN National Office for an application. (877-737-9696) ✆

Need a Reminder?
Linda Allyn, RN, CPAN, CAPA, 1st Vice President/President Elect

Need a reminder about finding your Eyeopener online? Contact Linda Allyn at lallyn@flash.net. Your choice: e-mail reminder or a postcard reminder. ✆
President’s Message cont.

coming year. I encourage members who care for pediatric patients to communicate with Linda Allyn, Vice President/President Elect regarding specific concerns for perianesthesia research and education.

During the ASPAN Conference, the TAPAN Board met to formally induct Deborah Davis into office as TAPAN Secretary. A certification champion, Deborah is a member of Houston District 1. Welcome, Deborah, and thank you for your commitment to TAPAN.

TAPAN members were visible everywhere at the Gaylord Texan Resort. Members served as hosts for numerous educational meetings and social events. Mavis and Ron Bell sold all 500 conference pins in record time. TAPAN members worked and played hard, bringing that well-known Texas hospitality to our many guests. Kudos to Sue McDonald, Conference Chair and Texas committee members Lori Sanders, Cindy Hill, Alison Watkins and Annie McHenry. Congratulations to Cyndi Moeck on winning the People’s Choice Award for the Eyeopener. Although TAPAN did not win the Gold Leaf Award, we know we were strong contenders. The TAPAN Board is already working on the Gold Leaf Award for next year. We made a great start to our community service project of collecting cell phones and scrubs for the military. The cell phones will be converted to calling cards and the colorful scrubs will be donated to help cheer up the injured. We encourage everyone to collect new or gently used scrubs and cell phones for this project. We will collect these items again at the 2008 TAPAN State Conference in San Antonio.

Thanks to all of you who volunteered to help at national conference in Grapevine. It was an exceptionally memorable conference and I was honored to attend as TAPAN President.
Spotlight Across Texas: District News

District 1: Houston / Gulf Coast

Marjorie Mira, RN, BSN, CAPA

The current officers for 2007-2008 are still in full gear mode even though we are entering the last lap of the fiscal year. The nominating committee, headed by Sylva McClurkin, has been very busy encouraging members to run for office for 2008-2009 and be active in our organization. Ballots will be sent in the mail in July to all members with current mailing addresses.

Our monthly district meetings continue to be well-attended. Tula Epling, chair of the Education Committee, has been working tirelessly to provide relevant educational offerings to our members. Last May 10, Dr. Huynh talked about “Myths and Facts about Carotid Disease.” The next meetings will be on: June 3 (Tuesday), July (no meeting), and August 2 (Saturday). Email announcements will be sent as needed for any changes.

District 1 was well-represented at the ASPAN National Conference at Grapevine, Texas. Most first-time attendees had an extraordinary experience and certainly are energized to be more involved and attend future conferences. We are looking forward to the TAPAN State Conference in San Antonio this coming September.

If you are a District member and have not been receiving our quarterly “Snooze News” newsletter or email announcements, please update us with your current mailing address and email address. We want to serve you more efficiently and ensure that you enjoy the benefits of being a TAPAN member. Please send your current information to mmira@sleh.com or call Marjorie Mira at 832-641-2083.

District 2: Fort Worth

Kathleen McCauley, RN, BSN

Save the date! We have been approved by ASPAN to be the site for a CPAN review seminar on OCTOBER 4th. We are working with our friends from the Dallas District to sponsor this educational opportunity. Please plan to attend and get a great preparation for your certification exams.

District 3: Dallas

Prudence Nietupski, RN, BSN

The District 3 board is offering its members the opportunity to decide future educational topics. We will be sending out a survey so you can let us know what your interests and needs are. There are openings on the board; contact us if you would like to become involved in the leadership of District 3. The current board members have years of experience and will mentor you in your position.

We will be hosting an ASPAN sponsored CPAN review October 4th 2008; be sure to mark your calendar.

We are collecting CD’s and DVD’s to send to the troops overseas. If you have any that you no longer want or are willing to part with contact me at bj.hillman@verizon.net

Have a great summer! Beverly Hillman District 3

District 4: Amarillo

No News Reported

Toylynn Walterscheid, RN

District 6: Austin - San Antonio - Corpus Christi - South Texas

Lucinda Pfeifer, RN, BA, BSN

I hope many of you were able to attend the ASPAN National Conference in Dallas this month. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend, but I heard that it was a spectacular event. Many of our District 6 members who attended the conference came home “fired-up” and enthusiastic about the range and quality of topics presented.

If you were not able to travel north to the ASPAN National Conference, then perhaps you will be able to travel south and take advantage of a seminar offered in Corpus Christi this summer. Take advantage of the educational opportunity and enjoy the “surf and sand”!
District 11: Lubbock

Margaret Rosson, RN

District 11 celebrated PANAW week at our individual institutions in February. We also took part in the many activities associated with Nurse Week which is also when the 27th ASPAN National Conference was held in Grapevine, TX. Cindy Hill attended the Conference as the Coordinator of Hosts & Hostesses. While at the Conference, she presented “The Nurse's Voice: Monitoring Legislation & Governmental Affairs” as a follow up to her participation in the Speakers Development Workshop in 2007.

Vern Pharr, President District 11, is working to plan a summer meeting for our District members. He will be working on a new slate of officers to take office in September at the 32nd TAPAN Annual State Conference in San Antonio. We hope to see all of you there!

Another summer educational event to plan for is the ASPAN Summer/Fall 2008 Seminar Series. This seminar, presented by Linda Wilson, is designed to help you prepare for either the CAPA or CPAN Certification examination. This seminar is scheduled for August 9th at the Valley Regional Medical Center in Brownsville. Registration starts at 0730. Again, more information is on the website.

In terms of planning, I would like to encourage you to attend the Annual TAPAN State Conference this September in San Antonio. This conference really promises to be an outstanding event, one which you will not want to miss. Sandra Russell and Suzanna Feliciano, the conference Co-Chairs, are working diligently to arrange topics and speakers that will expand your knowledge base, hone your clinical skills, and further develop your critical thinking skills. Please mark September 19-21 on your calendar.

In closing, during the month of June, you will receive a ballot to elect Candidates for the 2008-2009 TAPAN District 6 Executive Board. Candidates are as follows: Vanessa Porter, RN Vice President/President Elect 2008-2009; Kelly Warren, RN Vice President/President Elect 2008-2009; Paula Adams Edwards RN 2nd Vice President Elect 2008-2009; Melissa Benitez, R.N Treasurer 2008-2010; Cielito Ascio, R.N, BSN, CPAN Historian 2008-2010; and Olivia Funtanilla BSN, R.N Recording Secretary 2008-2010.

ASPAN is sponsoring a seminar entitled “Perianesthesia Care: Beyond the Basics 2008”. This event will be held Saturday, June 21st at the Christus Spohn Hospital Shoreline in the Dr. Spohn Conference Room. Registration is at 0730. More information is on the District 6 Website. (TAPANDISTRICT6.ORG)

District 7: El Paso

No News Reported
Carolyn Prentice, RN, CPAN, CAPA

District 9: San Angelo

Hello from District 9!

It has been a pretty slow Spring for District 9. Several members had planned on attending the National convention in May but were unable to due to job schedules. We have heard it was great fun and were very sorry to miss it!

Elections for officers are coming up in July and I encourage all District 9 members to submit their Willingness to Serve forms soon to myself or another officer. It is vital for us all to stand together in order to make our district a success. I look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting this summer.
It’s been a busy time for the Governmental Affairs Committee at ASPAN and TAPAN. If you haven’t noticed by now, it’s a Presidential election year! Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the candidates and their positions on the issues that matter the most to you. I challenge you to become an advocate for healthcare and nursing which will lead to becoming an advocate for yourself! Use your voice and vote!!

The following is information I have received from our ASPAN Governmental Affairs Chair, Maureen McLaughlin. She has been an excellent source of legislative information throughout the past year.

ASPN Governmental Affairs Committee 2008 Year in Review
By Maureen McLaughlin, Chair ASPAN GAC

The 2007-2008 year for the Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) saw a significant increase in the number of committee members, many returning and several new. We welcomed all as there is much work to be done.

Under the direction of our ASPAN President, Sue Fossum, who chose ‘Advocacy’ as her theme during her tenure, I have been pleased to participate in the Advocacy Strategic Work Team (SWT) that she created. The 2007 Leadership Institute included a presentation on governmental affairs, increasing the political knowledge and awareness of all of our component leaders that attended. Many of the component leaders expressed an interest to become more involved and were eager to learn how they could.

One initiative of the Advocacy SWT was to increase ASPAN representation at the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI), and there were 10 ASPAN members in attendance: 2 as NIWI scholarship recipients and 2 fully funded from the GAC budget. This was an awesome achievement. One of our GAC members, Gena Near, was able to contact her member of Congress who acknowledged ASPAN and all perianesthesia nurses during PANAW week thus recording her comments into the Congressional Record.

On-going initiatives within the GAC:
♦ The GAC Chair will forward to the committee members any electronic communications that he/she receives in order to provide members with as up-to-date information as possible
♦ All GAC members will be required to have access to e-mail and forward on to the component GAC reps information that they receive
♦ The GAC Chair will forward to the Component Presidents the GAC updates, as well as any other communications that he/she receives that are of interest

David Kay from Utah will be the new GAC Chair, assuming that role after National Conference in May. Congratulations David!

Title VIII Funding, The Nurse Reinvestment Act

President Bush has revealed his 2009 Federal budget which, similar to FY 2008, seeks to reduce funding for nursing education. The FY 2009 budget only requests $110 million, reflecting a 29.6%, or $46 million, reduction in funding for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs. Perhaps the most significant cut reflected in the 2009 budget is the elimination of funding for Advanced Education Nursing grants support most of the programs that prepare graduate-level nurses for faculty positions, as well as prepare nurses for Advanced Practice roles as primary providers. The Americans for Nursing Shortage Relief, or ANSR, a coalition of nursing organizations such as AS-
PAN, has advocated for a minimum of $200 million allocation for FY 2009.

In March, a total of 156 House of Representative Members signed on to a letter drafted by Reps. Capps and LaTourette supporting $200 million for Title VIII funding. The letter was delivered to the House Appropriations Committee on March 19th. A similar letter campaign was conducted in the Senate, led by Senators Mikulski and Collins. (Capitol Update, Issue 6, No. 3, March 2008)

Mental Health Parity

In March, the House approved legislation requiring health plans offering mental health coverage to provide the same benefits for mental illness that they do for other medical conditions. H.R. 1424, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2007, would prohibit insurers that offer mental health benefits from imposing more restrictive financial requirements (co-payments, deductibles, annual/lifetime limits) than those applied to medical and surgical care. It also prohibits treatment limitations, such as limits on frequency, number of visits, length of stay, that are more restrictive than limitations covering medical/surgical care. Estimated funding for this legislation is $4.3 billion over 10 years. Included in H.R. 1424 is language that requires employers to cover all diseases included in the American Psychiatric Association Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, or the DSM-IV. Opponents to this bill cite diagnoses such as jet lag and caffeine addiction that are listed in the DSM-IV manual.

The Senate also addressed mental parity issues and passed legislation last year, S. 558, which was developed with input from insurers and mental health groups.

On March 18, draft compromise legislation was presented to the House that included small employer exemptions, language on transparency, but did not incorporate language pertinent to DSM-IV diagnoses. (Capitol Update, Issue 6, Number 3, March 2008)

Senate Bars Use of Genetic Tests in Hiring, Health Care Coverage

The Senate recently passed legislation that would prohibit companies and health insurers from using the results of genetic tests to deny people medical coverage or jobs. The House passed similar legislation last year. The aim is to prevent discrimination based on a genetic predisposition to a disease. The legislation would also prohibit insurers from raising premiums based on genetic test results and would also bar health plans and insurers from requiring that patients be tested for particular diseases. (Boston Globe, Friday, April 25, 2008)

Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act (UEVHPA)

The UEVHPA is a model that allows state governments a mechanism during a declared emergency such as Hurricane Katrina to allow persons licensed in other states to provide services according to their scope of practice for which they are licensed in another area, without having to meet the licensing requirements in the disaster state. Only three states have passed this legislation: Colorado, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The UEVHPA also assists in workers compensation coverage for those who are not eligible for coverage outside of their regular employment.


I have included the following web site that is a rich source of legislative information. The Emergency Nurses Association has a very strong presence in Washington, D.C. This link will take you to their home page: www.ena.org/government/washington.

Have a wonderful summer. See you in September in San Antonio at the TAPAN Annual State Conference.
ASPN National Conference in Pictures...
Greetings from Governor Rick Perry

STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Greetings:

As Governor of Texas, I am pleased to extend greetings to all in attendance at the American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses holds its 27th National Conference.

During our times of great need, Texans have learned to depend upon medical professionals to provide quality health care. PeriAnesthesia nurses play a vital role in our health care. The care those professionals provide before, during, and after surgery is essential.

As you come together, I hope you will network and share your expertise with your fellow nurses. The knowledge you gain and share will serve you and your patients well in the future. I commend you for your service to your fellow Texans and I wish you every continued success.

On behalf of all Texans, I welcome the visitors present to the Lone Star State. I welcome you to our state’s rich tapestry of people and cultures, reflecting the many people through time who have come from far and near to call this great state home. Unique in spirit and charm, with a rich cultural heritage, Texans display legendary hospitality. We encourage you to explore and to enjoy the Lone Star State.

First Lady Anita Perry and I extend our best wishes.

Sincerely,

Rick Perry
Governor
Eyeopener is Recipient of ASPAN’s 2008 People’s Choice Award

Submitted by Linda Allyn, RN, CPAN, CAPA

We did not win the Gold Leaf but Cyndi Mocek, with her expert work, won the People's Choice Award for the great work she has done for us with the newsletter.

Congratulations to Sue McDonald and the Conference Committee for a Job Well Done

Submitted by Linda Allyn, RN, CPAN, CAPA

I am sure everyone that attended national conference had a great time. Sue and her committee not only put together a fantastic conference but a gorgeous conference pin. You had to be quick though, the pin was sold out by Tuesday morning.

See ya'll in San Antonio in September. It will be here before you know it.

Members Give of Their Time to Serve ASPAN

Submitted by Linda Allyn, RN, CPAN, CAPA

Vern Pharr, District 11 President, has joined the ranks of Susan Russell, Sue McDonald, Cindy Hill, Susan Norris, Les Rodriguez, and others that have chosen to give of their time to serve ASPAN. He is a new member to the ASPAN Clinical Practice Committee 2008-2009.

Those of you that attended conference may have noticed that our own Les Rodriguez, District 3, was a speaker for two of the lectures. Way to go Les.
TAPAN Service Projects: Support Our Troops

The TAPAN membership is encouraged to participate in a pair of statewide service projects that will benefit our military service men and women. At the TAPAN State Conference in San Antonio, Sept 19 – 21, 2008, members are invited to bring new or gently-used colorful scrubs and old cell phones for donation to on-going national projects. “Cell Phones for Soldiers hopes to turn old cell phones into more than 12 million minutes of prepaid calling cards for U.S. troops stationed overseas in 2008. The phones are sent to ReCellular, which pays Cell Phones for Soldiers for each donated phone – enough to provide an hour of talk time to soldiers abroad.”

Operation Scrubs
(recent history - from 2007. Source: adoptasoldierplatoon.org web site)
“We received a request from a military hospital in Kuwait for some colorful scrubs. It seems that in the ward tents in the field, the staff wear sand colored scrubs or brown colored t-shirts and the medical staff and patients could use a little cheering up -- and colorful scrubs might just help! In 2008, Decision Critical, an educational health care company in Texas, took up the banner again. First, they worked with a team from the Harlingen Medical Center of Harlingen, TX, and the group collected nine cartons of colorful scrubs. These were sent to several locations - the Balad Air Force Theater Hospital at Balad Air Base and the 31st CSH in Iraq and the Craig Joint Theater Hospital at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.”

Please bring donated items to the conference or contact a member of the TAPAN board to discuss how you can donate in your area. For more information on these projects, please visit the following websites.
www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com and www.adoptasoldierplatoon.org
Research: Sharing Knowledge and Learning

Elizabeth Martin, MSN, RN, CPAN, TAPAN Research Chair

It is always great to attend the ASPAN National Conference to reunite with friends and meet new colleagues. The Conference is an ideal place to network with perianesthesia nurses throughout the United States and other countries. The 2008 ASPAN National Conference offered many excellent education activities. One part of the Conference was the Research and Evidence-Based Practice Poster presentations. The Celebrate Successful Practices Grand Rounds had a total of 60 posters this year on display which was the largest number ever displayed at an ASPAN National Conference. The Celebrate Successful Practices provides an opportunity for perianesthesia nurses to share and celebrate their successful solutions to clinical practice issues. District 1 Houston made TAPAN Texas Proud by presenting 9 Posters.

The following posters were displayed and presented on Grand Rounds by the Ambulatory/PACU nurses of the Saint Luke’s Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas:

♦ Compliance with Hands off Communication Between the Perioperative Areas and Other Hospital Departments: Agnes S. Sibayan, BSN, RN, CPAN; Lillian Bailey, BSN, RN, CAPA; Charito B. Espiritu, BSN, RN, CAPA

♦ Hand-off Communication and Transfer of Care within the Perioperative Services: Herminia Robles, BSN, RN, CPAN; Teresita Santiago, BSN, RN, CPAN; Veronica Velez, RN; Pamela E. Windle MS, RN, CNA, BC, CPAN, CAPA

♦ Joint Commission Readiness for PACU Staff: Pamela E. Windle, MS, RN, CNA, BC, CPAN, CAPA; Teresita Santiago, BSN, RN, CPAN; Todd Snyder, RN, CPAN; Grace Woodmansee, BSN, RN, CPAN

♦ Preparing for Joint Commission Unannounced Visit: Tula Eppling, BSN, RN, CPAN; Lillian Bailey, BSN, RN, CAPA; Ligaya Jimenez, BSN, RN, CAPA; Agnes S. Sibayan, BSN, RN, CAPA

♦ Customer Satisfaction in Day Surgery: Sylva L. McClurkin, RN, CAPA; Simin Ansari, BSN, RN, CAPA; Lillian Bailey, BSN, RN, CAPA

♦ Medication Safety in PACU: Herminia Robles, BSN, RN, CPAN; Teresita Santiago, BSN, RN, CPAN; Pamela E. Windle, MS, RN, CNA, BC, CPAN, CAPA

♦ Collaboration Between Pre-admission Testing Center (PAT) and Day Surgery Center (DSU) to Improve Surgery On-Time Start: Meggie Kwan, BSN, RN, CAPA; Lillian Bailey, BSN, RN, CAPA; Susan Lewis, RN, CNOR; Belma Miguel, BSN, RN, CAPA; Marianne Pham, RN, CAPA

♦ Surgical Observation Unit: The Answer for Extended Perianesthesia Nursing Care: Pamela E. Windle, MS, RN, CNA, BC, CPAN, CAPA; Lillian Bailey, BSN, RN, CAPA; Geraldine Geronimo, BSN, RNC; Grace Ringor, BSN, RNC, CAPA; Herminia Robles, BSN, RN, CPAN; Teresita Santiago, BSN, RN, CPAN

♦ Compliance with Antibiotic Timing Prior to Surgery: Lillian Bailey, BSN, RN, CAPA; Meggie Kwan, BSN, RN, CAPA; Belma Miguel, BSN, RN, CAPA

Congratulations to the above nurses on a superb job. TAPAN looks forward to your submission of a summary of your Research/Evidence-Based Practices for publication in The EYEOPENER to share with colleagues. This would enable all to learn and celebrate successful solutions to clinical practice in perianesthesia nursing.

Treasurer’s Report

Hermie Robles, RN, CPAN, Treasurer

Beginning Balance (January, 2008) $11,406.76
Total Deposit - $12,733.00
Total Expenses - $8,527.74
Ending Balance (May, 2008) - $15,464.67
Celebrating Our Successes
Susan Norris, RN, 2nd Vice President

As another year draws to a close, it’s time to start thinking about State Conference and our annual awards. Hopefully everyone is working diligently on their entries for the Outstanding District and Bluebonnet Awards. Districts are encouraged to apply for the Outstanding District Award and submit a scrapbook for the Bluebonnet Award. There are 2 categories for OSDA – small (1–75 members) and large (greater than 75 members). Winning districts are awarded a certificate and a cash award. In recent years we have not had any entries in the small district category. It would be great to see entries in both categories this year. If you need an application for either award, please email me @ snorris96@comcast.net. Anyone who will be attending the conference and would like to assist in judging the entries please let me know ASAP. I would really like to have at least one representative from each district participate in the judging.

Scrapbooks submitted for the Bluebonnet Award should document your district’s activities throughout the past year. Points are given for content, creativity, and uniqueness. Scrapbooks are to be brought to the State Conference in San Antonio and submitted by 5pm on Friday, September, 19.

The OSDA application worksheet must be mailed to the 2nd VP and postmarked by August 31, 2008. You may also email the application worksheet to the above email address. Email must be received by 12 midnight, August 31, 2008. Application should cover district events from August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2008. The completed OSDA binder with all supporting documentation is to be submitted at the State Conference in San Antonio (by 5pm on Friday, September, 19).

The TAPAN Board are reviewing policies due for the 2007-2008 year. The goal is to have the P&Ps on disc ready for distribution to the district presidents at the Annual State Conference.

ASPAN National Conference
Susan McDonald, RN, CPAN, CAPA
2008 National Conference SWT Chair

Thank you to the members of the ASPAN National Conference SWT: Cindy Hill, Annie McHenry, Lori Sanders, and Alison Watkins, for making the 2008 ASPAN National Conference so successful. We had the highest number of registrants ever for both the pre and post conference offerings, and with about 2000 attendees in total, one of the largest conferences. Thanks also to all the TAPAN members who contributed to the success of the conference by serving as hostesses. We truly appreciate your support.

From the Editor

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

All rights reserved. No part of The Eyeopener may be copied or reproduced in any form without prior written permission from TAPAN. Contact the editor for further information.

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
4333 Willow Bend Drive
Arlington, TX 76017
mocek.rn@sbcglobal.net
Texas Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses Presents

Respecting Our Past

Embracing the Future

**Annual State Conference**

September 19-21, 2008

La Quinta Inn & Suites

IH 10 & Horizon Hill in the Medical Center Area
San Antonio, Texas

The American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPN) is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Application for contact hours in process.

For more information, contact: srussell1@satx.rr.com