Beacons of Change, Making a Difference

When was the last time you heard someone volunteer to lead a project, an event or chair an important committee? Can you name someone, who when asked “can you do this?, can you do that?”, will right away answer “I’ll do it!”? Someone who’s hand is always in every pot, with gift of enthusiasm and never ending passion. Please step forward, TAPAN needs you! PeriAnesthesia Nurses, must be at the forefront in the battle called patient care. We are the important bridge from the time patients make a decision to go through surgery, awakening from deep slumber, and transitioning slowly back to wellbeing.

We need to take the lead and become “Beacons of Change”. It is through our professional organization that we can have the opportunity to voice our opinions and support efforts to make a difference for our patients, our specialty and our practice. I challenge each of you to be that gifted someone. A common saying, “step out of your comfort zone”, is time and again an invaluable tool to motivate us to dream big and look to the future. Ask where the opportunities are, what would I like to accomplish, what are my gifts and talents, and which road leads to fulfillment of my goals? Taking the courage to step forward, even getting into the danger zone, to accept and embrace change and cultivate your leadership potentials, will assure our future as a strong specialty organization.

Your TAPAN board was hard at work the first weekend of November. We were privileged to attend part of ASPANs mid-year Board meeting in San Antonio and afterwards had our TAPAN Board meeting. We had a good taste of how they do meetings with all the ASPAN VIPs, very impressive! It was focused and formal with strict time allowances for each topic. Anyone who wished to speak would raise their hand and be given the table after Chris Price, ASPAN President, acknowledged them. Our own TAPAN Board meeting was not that strict but nonetheless very productive. We developed new policies and revised many. We struggled through a big agenda including 2011-2012 budget planning, future seminars and conferences, website changes, PANAW plans, and more.

Our next Board meeting will be on January 22nd and we invite all region presidents to join us via a Skype conference call. Let your voices be heard through your leaders. It will be a good opportunity for sharing region plans and activities.

I am very proud to announce the approval of three TAPAN Chapter applications from (1) Hill Country and South Texas

Continued on page 3
TAPAN Board of Directors

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

1st Vice President/President Elect
Prudence Nietupski, RN, BSN, CAPA
Richardson, TX
Pru_nietupski@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President
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Missouri City, TX
djdavis@texaschildrenshospital.org

Treasurer
Debra Bennett, RN, BSN, CAPA
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www.ccldebb@msn.com

Secretary
Sylva L. McClurkin, RN, MSN, CAPA
Upper Gulf Coast Region
dmclurkin@comcast.net

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

ASPN Board Meets in San Antonio
Armi Holcomb, RN, BSN, CPAN Region 2 Director

As I look out my kitchen window, I see all the orange and brown leaves lying in our backyard, I know fall is here and it looks like they are forecasting a long wet winter again.

What a busy fall for all of us on the ASPAN Board. After a well received Component Development Institute in Philadelphia, the Board met in San Antonio, Texas for our Mid Year Board meeting Nov. 4-7, 2011. We had an aggressive agenda starting with the review and update of ASPAN’s Strategic Plan.

Upon review of ASPAN’s Core Purpose, two new core purposes were added: Advocating for Patient, Family & Member and Upholding Excellence. I believe these are important new core purposes. Every single day, we bedside PACU nurses watch our patients as they recover from anesthesia and we make sure nothing happens to them. We are ever vigilant to any changes in their status. When was the last time you just had this gut feeling that your patient needed something and you call the anesthesiologist’s attention to it? President Chris Price asked us to be beacons of change – not just for our patients but for our members too. When one thinks about it, every time you attend a seminar to increase your knowledge base on perianesthesia nursing, you not only continue to grow as a nurse but you are also making sure that the knowledge you gain is put to great use in your practice. Every time we do our work to the best of our ability we also promote excellence in our practice.

The ASPAN Board has endorsed several items to be voted on by the Representative Assembly. It is my hope that our Region leaders pay close attention to all the agenda items that will sent to them at least 60 days prior to RA. It is also important to remind the Region 2 leadership to make sure our components are fully represented by sending 2 delegates to the RA in April. Treasurer Katrina Bickerstaff has sent out a letter reminding component leaders that if there are financial obstacles to being able to send representatives to the RA, please consider applying for financial aid. The requisites to the application can be found in the ASPAN website.

Immediate Past President Kim Kraft presented the slate of officers for the 2012. There will be an official announcement in the upcoming Breathline with each candidate’s biographical data. Again, I would remind our component leaders to fully engage in learning about our candidates, making sound decisions and vote for the best candidate for each office. ASPAN is a volunteer organization and it never ceases to amaze me how much work is done by volunteers.

One other item that the Board has endorsed to be sent to the RA for a vote is the Practice Recommendation for the OSA. I was fortunate to be able to see how the Standards and Guidelines SWT worked on this. Lots of literature research was done to produce a nurse driven practice recommendation which our members have been asking for.

Continued on page 6
President' Message: continued from page 1

Region – The Waterloo Village Chapter from Austin, Susan Russell, BSN, RN, JD, CPAN, CAPA, Chapter Chair; (2) Upper Gulf Coast Region – The Woodlands, Tess Limsiaco, RN, CPAN, Chapter Chair; (3) Upper Gulf Coast Region – Katy, Arlena Washington, RN, Chapter Chair. I look forward to more chapter applications. Please email me or any of the Board members if you need more information on how to start a Chapter in your area.

February 6-12, 2012 is PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week (PANAW). It provides great opportunity to celebrate and promote our practice throughout the nation. This year’s theme is “PeriAnesthesia Nurses: A Vital Role in Patient Care”. Make plans to celebrate PANAW at your hospital or place of work. Announcements in employee publications/emails, wearing PANAW shirts, making a unit poster presentation showcasing your unit and offering cake and coffee within your unit or facility are good examples of promoting PANAW and our specialty. Please remember to send pictures of your PANAW activities so we can post them in the Eyeopener to share with all our members. I believe in long lasting memories with lots of pictures! During PANAW TAPAN will raffle off one year FREE ASPAN/TAPAN membership. Every PeriAnesthesia nurse is qualified to join. Spread the news to all your colleagues and friends.

In this season of gifts and thanksgiving, I wish everyone that gift of passion. Together let us push ourselves towards dreams that are bigger, reach that which is unreachable and possibly become that person who is simply extraordinary.

Happy Holidays to you and your families. May the good Lord fill your hearts and your homes with all His wonderful blessings! ♦

PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week (PANAW) February 6 – 12, 2012

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
Grace Woodmansee, BSN, RN, CPAN

Instillation of our 2011-2012 officers was held on September 16th during the TAPAN State Conference; 27 members from the UGCR attended. We are proud of, and congratulate, Aleli Cabali TAPAN “Recruiter of the Year”; Kerri Guererro, who received a “Star Award” for initiating the first Chapter; and Gemima Saco, who received the “Blue Bonnet Award” for our traditional scrapbook.

Educational offerings were provided to members: “Novel Approach to Review of Anesthesia” on September 6th, “Critical Patient Monitoring Considerations in Perianesthesia on October 18th, and “Perioperative Care of the Elderly Patient” on November 19th.

Our community outreach programs were a success, well participated by UGCR members. We held a health screening at St. Albert of Trapeni Catholic Church on October 2nd and “Walk Now for Autism Speaks” for Autism research and heightening public awareness on October 22nd.

Our upcoming Spring Seminar will be held on February 18, 2012.

North & East Texas
Karen Jensen, RN, BSN, CPAN

Our Region met on October 22nd to plan for the upcoming year. Numerous educational offerings have been planned. Our next meeting planned is a half day seminar at the VA Hospital on Saturday, February 4th. Topics will include “Caring for the Caregiver” and “Patient Safety”; 4 CEs available.

A full day Certification Review Course will be offered February 25th. Denise O’Brien from ASPAN is the presenter; 7.5 CEs available.

Our May meeting will be provided by Texas Health Resources; 2-3 CEs available.

We need volunteers to serve as officers on next year. Job descriptions are posted on our website, www.northandeasttapanregion.com.

Certification scholarships are available to those taking the CAPA/CPAN certification exam. Additional information is available on our website.

Hill Country & South Texas
Susan Russell, RN, BSN, JD, CPAN, CAPA

The TAPAN Board approved the application for the Waterloo Chapter at the November Board meeting in San Antonio. The first meeting was held December 3rd at Dell Children’s Hospital, 4900 Mueller Blvd., in Austin. Our educational presentation was on Xarelto, a recently approved pharmaceutical VTE. A brief Chapter planning session followed the educational session.

West Texas & Panhandle
Edna Pabruada BSN, RN, CPAN

Our most attended seminar to date occurred October 15th with 59 attendees. Best Practices—Best Outcomes: topics included “Surviving Sepsis through Early Recognition” by Steve Morris, BSN, CCRN, RRNA and “Non-Invasive Management of Acute Respiratory Distress” by Carla Leveling, RRT and Chris E. Tovar, RRT-NPS,BSRC. It was good to see old faces, renew friendship, and feel young again with the attendance of several student nurses and of course meet colleagues from Brownwood to as far away as Pampa, TX. Thanks to all that attended, especially Suzanne Reyes and Brigitte Wheeler who drove four hours to be with us.

It is our pleasure as well to mention that we were represented at ICPAN, the first International Conference in Toronto, Canada with Suzanne Reyes being able to attend.

Our website is up and running, please visit tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com. For ideas and/or suggestions feel free to email Charon Howell at chars-mare@clearwire.net.

We are so proud of Charon Howell, aside from being the TAPAN Star for our region, she is also behind the success of our Region's newsletter What's TAPANing that won outstanding presentation of information at our state conference last September. Congratulations Charon and thank you for all your hard work.

As the holiday season is fast approaching let us not forget our less
fortunate brothers and sisters, as part of our community projects we are helping our local Food Bank, as well as Sagebrush Living Center and of course our soldiers.

Preparations for upcoming PANAW 2012 is in the making. We are hoping to invite our local political leaders as speakers.

Last but not least, from all of us here in the West Texas and Panhandle Region we wish you all a very Blessed Holiday Season.

Far West Texas
No News Reported

2012 TAPAN State Conference: Sugar Land, TX
September 14-16, 2012

Start making plans now to meet us in Sugar Land, Texas at the Sugar Land Marriott Town Square. 16090 City Walk, 77479-6539.

Located just 20 miles southwest of downtown Houston, Sugar Land is a strong, vibrant and diverse city. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, it is one of the fastest-growing of the state's 45 largest cities, with its population jumping from 24,529 in 1990 to 63,328 in 2000. Today it is home to more than 79,000.

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CPAN and CAPA Coaching: Pay it Forward

Deborah Davis, RN, BSN, CPAN, TAPAN 2nd VP

Did you know that coaching fellow TAPAN members in their quest for CPAN or CAPA certification is a great opportunity to invest in another person's productivity! I have volunteered as an ABPANC Certification Coach for a few years and I must say that each time that a person achieves their goal and thank me for guidance, I am truly humbled. When I studied for my CPAN, there were several individuals who encouraged me.

Certification Coaches do not "teach" study content. Coaches guide examination candidates on helpful study strategies. A coach "runs alongside" of another encouraging them, stimulating their critical thinking. **You offer support to another, prompting them to reach their goal.** Coaching requires that you be a good listener. You must customize your input to each person based on their needs. Coaches help another person make a change in their life which improves their practice. Before I attained my CPAN certification, I felt confident in my competency. I had over nine years of PACU practice. After I became certified, I realized that I had been functioning adequately but now I had a broader knowledge of perianesthesia care. Coaching helps develop your leadership skills and forces you to be a more effective communicator.

Without a doubt there are benefits to gaining the title of CPAN or CAPA. There is a huge feeling of pride with this achievement. Coaching extends this meaningful feeling. Consider Coaching, it's a perfect way to "Pay it Forward"!

Get current information about upcoming Certification Test dates, take online practice exams and find out about coaching qualifications on the ASPAN.org website (see ABPANC).

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Wanted

TAPAN members willing to work on Awards Committee!

Duties: Judge entries for the Historian’s Bluebonnet Award, Outstanding Region Award and TAPAN Star Award.

Contact: Deborah Davis RN BSN CPAN, TAPAN 2nd VP
email: djdavis@TexasChildrens.org
Submit: Willingness to Serve Form
Go to www.TAPAN.org and click on Forms>TAPANStar>More.
Hello! I send you all wishes for a blessed, safe Holiday Season, and all that entails! I hope you are keeping up with the campaign news for 2012. I realize that this time in politics can get very confusing as each candidate makes strategic moves for position on the national level. I personally find that I get quite annoyed at all the “dirt slingin’” going on. How’s that for Texas colloquialism? Seriously, I do hope that each of you are keeping up with the news so that you can be aware of the issues and who you think can best represent the citizens of the United States in Washington, D.C. As you know, your voice and vote as a nurse is very powerful! Vote your conscience as often as the opportunity to vote arises!

The Nursing Community in Washington, D.C. has been very busy lobbying for the interests of all nurses at the table of health care reform. I have sent multiple communications to Chris Price, ASPAN President, for decisions determining ASPAN support for various types of documentation related to funding for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Diversity among other issues that are vital to nursing. There are letters that have gone to various Representatives, Senators, and Committee Chairs in support of the appropriate language to include nursing as viable health care providers in the new age of health care for those who have limited access due to lack of insurance, location, lack of providers, etc. As ASPAN Liaison to the Nursing Community, I have learned so much about the importance of timely, appropriate communication with our representatives when serving as advocates for the less fortunate in our communities. Nurses continue to make an impact in the lives of human beings every single day. I think, and it is certainly one of my greatest desires, that nursing will be highly prominent in the provision of care in the future as health care reform unfurls.

It has been a year since The Institute of Medicine’s Report: Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health was released. A reception sponsored by the AARP, Center to Champion Nursing in America, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Champion Nursing Coalition, and the Nursing Community was held in Washington on October 11, 2011 to celebrate the importance of this report. I am happy to report that Seema Hussain, RN, MS, CAPA, a member of the ASPAN GAC SWT, was able to attend as ASPAN’s representative. Ms. Hussain is from Olney, Maryland. There were over 100 guests including a number of Congressional staff. Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR), co-chair of the Senate Nursing Caucus, and Representative Lois Capps, RN (D-CA), co-chair of the House Nursing Caucus, attended and addressed remarks to those who were in attendance at the reception. ASPAN supported this event with a Bronze level donation of $100.00. We are fortunate that our organization supports the importance of such an event!

I am so blessed to have met so many phenomenal nurses through my activities in TAPAN and ASPAN. I hope that if the opportunity arises for you to stretch outside your comfort zone and embrace a new endeavor that you will meet it with enthusiasm and passion. Hermie Robles said it so eloquently at state conference when she stated that she had been right where those who are not actively participating in our organizations before someone gave her a gentle nudge to become more active. Please make the jump into some type of organizational activity. The dividends are unending! I wish each of you good health, happiness, many blessings, and prosperity in the future! See you here next year. Take care and be safe! ��
ASPAN Board Meets in San Antonio

Continued from page 2

I am running for a second term as Region 2 Director and it is a privilege to serve you. I call on any Region 2 leader to consider running for this office in 2014. I will go on the record to say that, if you do run for this office, I recommend you shadow me and see firsthand what the position entails. I have been so fortunate to have a management team and nursing leadership at my home hospital, Children’s Mercy Hospital, and Clinics in Kansas City to be able to take time off to attend all the component seminars and ASPAN meetings. I am a staff nurse and without their support I would not have been able to meet my travel commitments as part of my job as Region 2 Director. This is something to consider when running for any office. I had to laugh when one past ASPAN President stated she was the least traveled President- only 48 weeks (what?!).

One quick note, we had guests at the Midyear board meeting this year. The TAPAN leadership was in San Antonio for their own strategic planning and Board meeting. They have reported that it was an enlightening experience to see the ASPAN board at work. President Chris Price reminded everyone that the Pre and Post conference board meetings and the Midyear board meetings are all open to our members. Please consider attending them if your schedule permits it.

The 31st National Conference in Orlando, Florida, April 15-19, 2012 promises to be quite an experience and dare I say “magical”, after all we will be in the happiest place in the world. Courtney Papp, ASPAN meeting manager, has scoped the land and the Hilton Orlando will be ready to meet our members’ needs. Speaking of national conferences, the Board also endorsed two future sites and they are Las Vegas, Nevada for 2014 and San Antonio, Texas for 2015. We hope to see you all there.

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

“PeriAnesthesia Nurses: A Vital Role in Patient Care”

HAPPY PERIANESTHESIA NURSE AWARENESS WEEK
February 6-12, 2012

To ALL PeriAnesthesia Nurses:
TAPAN Raffle: One year FREE ASPAN/TAPAN Membership

To Enter:
1. SEND an Email to Hermie Robles, TAPAN President at hrobles@sleh.com or herms.robles@gmail.com
2. SAY: “I am proud to be a PeriAnesthesia Nurse!”
3. TAPAN member: Yes or No

* Entries may be emailed anytime until PANAW week.
* Drawing will be held on February 12, 2012
* Winner will be reimbursed with proof of membership application or renewal
* Winner will be announced in the Spring Edition of Eyeopener
A Message from Kandahar

Myrna Mamaril, MS, RN, CPAN, CAPA, FAAN
ASPN President 1999-2000

You know what we really, really need is twin flat sheets for our patients bed. The blood stains are so bad at times we just throw them out. We also use them as draw sheets.

I know it is weird asking for sheets, but this is a NATO run hospital not US, so our supplies come from many different countries. The other item that we need is patient gowns, both adult and pediatric.

Many times the only thing that covers our patients are the sheets. We have no pediatric gowns at all and very few adult gowns.

One of our OR Nurses is from New Hampshire and has her Congressman sending some sheets. HE was very puzzled too as to why we need sheets.

Kandahar Providence is the home of the Taliban. IED mine fields are all over; they seem to multiply daily. The soldiers are trying to clear the IEDs, but that is a deadly job.

We have seen horrific injuries, sometimes beyond the human mind to comprehend. Yesterday we got 7 children all at once, an IED exploded on a playground. Perhaps they found it and were playing with it, no one knows. We did our best to resuscitate with massive transfusions to stabilize for surgery; only 3 survived and they are critical.

Do you know any churches that have a women’s organization that still quilt? There is a website, www.quiltforvalor.com, that provides us with quilts to cover our wounded soldiers for their medivac journey through Germany to the States. These quilts are so meaningful as they come from the heartland, and there is usually a note from the maker. It really is touching to see those quilts put over the injured soldiers and sailors. The Army General comes to award the Purple Heart, sometimes in the middle of the night. We sent 2 intubated soldiers out two nights ago. The General went right up close to their faces and told them how proud he was of their bravery and sacrifice for our country. Those beautiful quilts were over them with their Purple Hearts; there was no dry eye in the ICU when they left.

Thanks for all your interest and ASPAN’s interest in helping our coalition hospital and our Troops!
Creating Connections: Professional Networking

Sylva McClurkin, RN, MSN, CAPA

Once a year, the Texas Association of Perianesthesia Nurses (TAPAN) sponsors a very enriching state seminar. Most of the attendees come from all parts of the state to take advantage of the continuing education credits that are being offered. This year, the event which was held in Austin, Texas did not fail to deliver the same yearly expectations. Although the educational offerings are excellent motivations for nurses to come, there is another way of enhancing learning during this educational forum and that is networking.

Professional networking refers to creating connections with other individuals of similar disciplines or interests. Nowadays, opportunities for networking abound such as joining online social communities, becoming a member of a professional organization, and attending meetings and seminars. For a TAPAN nurse, it is accessing the available links from fellow perianesthesia nurses during these forums.

In order for this learning experience to be effective, one must make a deliberate effort to meet colleagues from other cities or institutions. By taking the time to talk with other experts, suitable occasions can open up for the exchange of ideas and practices, especially in perianesthesia nursing. Since the state conference attracts nurses from all over Texas and sometimes from other states, great opportunities for networking abound during this time.

Why is it important to network? It serves as a “gateway to professional connections”. There are times in our professional careers when we might need to make a job move and these linkages can help us point to the right direction. In addition, forging relationships with colleagues creates unforeseen possibilities for personal and professional growth of oneself as well as for those you are in contact with. Young and Boling note that fostering connections with nurses helps “to develop and nurture professional relationships that can lead to collegiality and friendship”.1

How can one foster networking during educational interchanges? Adegbola recommended ways to make networking effective such as nurturing the desire to meet others, pursuing relationships, exchanging business cards, attending regularly at meetings, and depacking. Adegbola refers to depacking as moving away from the pack or herd and getting out of the group that is already known to you.3

Prior to the seminar in Austin, I made it my goal to introduce myself to at least five colleagues whom I had never met before. This was accomplished by depacking. Instead of hanging out and seating with friends all the time, networking with others was ensured. Getting to know individuals from other places was a great start in expanding my professional connections.

Networking can be an outstanding catalyst for promoting transformation. When properly utilized, it can be a great source of augmenting one’s knowledge and developing professional skills. Therefore, it should be a part of everyone’s professional journey. ♡

References:
ICPAN: Many Practices... Just One World

Prudence Nietupski, RN, BSN, CAPA, TAPAN 1st VP/President Elect

The Inaugural International Conference for PeriAnesthesia Nurse (ICPAN), “Many Practices...Just One World” was held October 2-5 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. There were 474 attendees representing 13 countries.

The National Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses of Canada (NAPANc), American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPAN), British Anaesthetic and Recovery Nurses (BARNA), and Irish Anaesthetic and Recovery Nurses Association (IARNA) were host organizations for the conference planning. Conference faculty included speakers from Canada, Australia, Denmark, Greece, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States.

Presentations offered a glimpse of PeriAnesthesia practices around the world, with the shared goal of promoting multicultural cooperation, education, research and standards of practice in our nursing specialty.

TAPAN was well represented with 18 members attending. Additionally, Julie Balluck and Libby Morse presented a research poster on “Identifying and Reducing Unplanned Perioperative Hypothermia.”

Plans are underway for the next ICPAN conference, tentative date 2013. Check the web site for further updates, start planning on attending! http://www.icpan.info

TAPAN Goals: All Forms Available Online & Policies Easier to Read and Understand

Susan Russell, RN, BSN, JD, CPAN, CAPA

Confused about TAPAN Awards? Can’t find the forms or criteria you need to submit the application? Good news! It should get easier. One of our goals is to make all forms available on the TAPAN website. Another goal is to make the policies easier to read and understand through the elimination of “stylized” language. We hope the revised policies are easier to read.

TAPAN’s Policies and Procedures are reviewed on a 3 year rotating calendar. Traditionally, the Fall and Spring TAPAN Board meetings include the most P&P review. Before the November meeting, Board members received electronic drafts of the proposed changes. As former 2nd Vice President and awards committee chair, Pru Nietupski did a thorough review of all policies affecting TAPAN awards. She submitted recommendations for revisions based on her experience. Some of the revisions needed stem from our migration from Districts to Regions. The Board reviewed and approved revisions of ten (10) existing policies, tabled one policy until the next board meeting due to time constraints, and adopted two new policies. Linda Allyn provided print copies of the policies to assist board members during the P&P session. Thanks to all Board members for their attention to detail and their dedication to this process. These sessions can take several hours. The Board members are dedicated to representing the interest of all TAPAN members. Because the awards process is so important to our regions, electronic copies of these policies will be sent to the Region Presidents via e-mail.

Two new policies formalize the TAPAN Medical Mission Scholarship, M-004 and the Membership & Marketing Committee, M-003. President Hermie Robles appointed Linda Allyn to chair the Membership & Marketing Committee. Those members interested in serving on the new M&M committee should contact Linda Allyn. These new policies will be sent electronically to the Region Presidents.
TAPAN at ICPAN: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Executive Board: Summary of Meeting Minutes

Sylva L. McClurkin, RN, MSN, CAPA, TAPAN Secretary

TAPAN Board met in San Antonio on November 6th.

The goals of this meeting were policy & procedure review and approval, financial audit, budget planning, and calendar of events. Board members present were Hermie Robles, President; Prudence Nietupski, 1st VP/President Elect; Debra Bennett, Treasurer; Deborah Davis, 2nd VP; Susan Norris, Immediate Past President; and Sylva McClurkin, Secretary. Susan Russell, Policy & Procedure, was also present. The meeting was called to order at 0850 by Hermie Robles.

Deb Bennett distributed copies of the 2011 income and expense report for review by the Board. She reported that there are still outstanding checks that have not been cashed. She also reported that TAPAN will no longer be maintaining a storage place in Lubbock. The documents are currently in the possession of Linda Allyn and Cyndi Mocel. These documents will be scanned for consolidation and reduction of storage space.

The 2011-2012 budget planning went well. Proposed income and expenses were discussed. Parts of the proposed expenses include state conference, dues paid to regions, board meetings, ASPAN nationals, utilities, insurance, donations, awards, leadership conference, professional fee, membership, and marketing.

Calendar of Events: TAPAN on the Road is tentatively scheduled on June 23-24, 2012 in Lubbock. The Leadership Retreat will be in Dallas, August 12-13, and the State Conference September 14-16, 2012 in Sugar Land Texas.

The Board discussed and approved new and revised policies and procedures. Among the new policies are for TAPAN Medical Mission Scholarship and Marketing and Membership Committee. In addition, the Board approved three Chapters: Waterloo Chapter (Austin Texas) chaired by Susan Russell, Katy Chapter chaired by Arlena Washington, and The Woodlands Chapter chaired by Teresita Limsiaco.

PANAW 2012: This event will be celebrated the first week of February. There will be a raffle for a free ASPAN/TAPAN membership to any Texas perianesthesia nurse. Details of the raffle will be announced in the TAPAN Eyeopener. Pictures showing PANAW celebration from the regions can be submitted for posting on the website.

Susan Norris will manage the TAPAN web. The website address will still be TAPAN.org.

Treasurer’s Report

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

Current Balance $43,050.88

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The Countdown Begins: Outstanding Region Award & Historian’s Bluebonnet Award

Deborah Davis, RN, BSN, CPAN, TAPAN 2nd VP

One of the duties as 2nd Vice President of TAPAN is serving as Awards Committee Chairperson. It is my responsibility to encourage and prompt regions to strive to achieve the Outstanding Region Award and the Historian’s Bluebonnet Award.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize enthusiastic regions who exemplify the TAPAN mission. Regions that encourage their members to be involved in activities and record those activities in an electronic format receive tremendous pride and, possibly, monetary rewards.

The awards are given at the Annual Business meeting luncheon during the State Conference.

It may seem that the TAPAN State Conference is far away and we have plenty of time but, time is an enigma! Before you know it, the year flies by!

So REGIONS, GET ON YOUR MARK!

Prepare by:
1. Collecting your achievements and data electronically.
2. Get the application at www.TAPAN.org. Click on forms>TAPANstar>more
3. Submit the completed application electronically to the Awards Committee Chair Deborah Davis at didavis@TexasChildrens.org.

Editor’s Note

Cyndi Mocek, RN, ADN, TAPAN Editor

Members 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.
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