

Peri-Scope

ILSPAN Illinois Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

2006 ASPAN Component Newsletter Award Winner (9-14 page category)

President's Message

Beth Rieches, BSN, RN, CPAN

Winter 2008

Volume 32 Issue 1

Happy New Year to all!

I hope that everyone had a great holiday season and was able to take the time to spend it with your loved ones. As I begin to reflect upon this last year, as your President, I am very encouraged by what we have accomplished. As you have probably noticed, the Board of Directors worked very hard this past summer to come up with a very workable budget. Sincerest thanks to our Treasurer, Jeannette McAllister, for all of her hard work. The BOD instituted changes in order to become as fiscally responsible as possible.

Peri-Scope Changes

Probably the biggest change is in the *PeriScope*. We decreased publication of the newsletter from 4 issues per year to 3 issues per year. This was a very difficult decision for the Board to make since this is the best way of relaying information to **you**, the ILSPAN member.

Spring and Fall Conference Changes

Over the past several years an ASPAN sponsored Spring Conference was held in northern Illinois or ILSPAN District I. No ILSPAN revenue was derived from

this conference. In the future a Spring Conference will be held each year in northern IL sponsored by ILSPAN. The date for 2008 is April 5. ASPAN sponsored seminars may still be held in different areas of the state each year. The ILSPAN Fall Conference will be rotated between District II and District III. Because of the way the election of District Directors occurs, in the past the newly elected Director came into office in the spring and was then in charge of the fall conference. Having the 2008 Fall Conference in St. Louis will change this. This will give newly elected District Directors time to orient to their role. The 2009 ILSPAN Fall Conference will be held in District II.

My Challenge To You

We have talked in the previous issues about advocating not only for our profession but for our specialty organization as well. It is intuitive to all of us that we always advo-



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Treasurer's Report October 2007 to December 2007
Jeanette McAllister, RN, CAPA



Balance in Checking Account \$7426.92

Certificate of Deposit \$10,000.00

All bills are currently paid. The monies for the ILSPAN Representative Assembly members and the ASPAN National Conference Scholarships have also been paid.

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Vice-President's Report

Kelly Logli, BSN, RN, CPAN

I hope you took the time to celebrate all that you do each and every day during PANAW week. This year take a moment to reflect on all the ways that you advocate both for your patients and profession. Tell ILSPAN what you did by entering the ILSPAN PANAW Award contest. (See page 8)

As spring arrives it is time to invigorate your nursing career with learning opportunities. The spring conference will be in Rock-

ford on April 5th. Along with many great educational topics, the general membership will be voting to elect new board members. An ILSPAN by-law amendment was made at the general meeting in

ILSPAN Election

Vote on line at

www.ilspan.org

Deadline March 30, 2008

September concerning elections. (See box on page 6). You can do your part by reading the bios of the candidates provided on page 7 in this edition of the Periscope and voting. We hope many of you take the time to vote.

The ASPAN National Conference is another occasion for learning and networking with perianesthesia nurses outside of Illinois. I hope to see many of you in Texas!

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

cate for our patients and do what is best for them. I don't think that this is something that any of us need reminding about. But, what about ourselves? How often do we take a moment and advocate for ourselves? If you are anything like me, it is probably not very often. At work one of the nurses I work with, tries to remind me that "no" is in my vocabulary. We are so willing to help others and go the extra distance to make someone else's time easier that we often take on more perhaps than we should. Every one of us is very busy. There are so many commitments – family, work, school, churches, and other organizations. Perhaps if we took a few moments for ourselves then we would have more to give to others. That is my challenge to each of you this year. Take a deep breath, find a little time for yourself and everyone will benefit.

One last note, I have recently received the resignation of our Immediate Past President, Peggy McKillip. I wanted to take a moment and thank her for all of her

hard work and dedication to ILSPAN. ***Thank you Peggy!***
Growth and Change

This year has seen some wonderful growth and changes for our component; hopefully this will be reflected in the much-coveted Gold Leaf Award. The application will be going in shortly; our chances seem very good this year. I would like to wish each of you a very happy and healthy New Year. I look forward to seeing many of you at the ILSPAN Spring Conference and at the ASPAN National Conference in Dallas.

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."
John Fitzgerald Kennedy
35th president of the United States, 1917-1963

CHANGES

Peri-Scope Changes

Three issues a year

Winter—mid February

Spring/Summer—mid June

Fall—mid October

Conference Changes

Spring Conference every year in northern Illinois

Fall Conference to rotate between District II and III

2008 Fall Conference in District III

2009 Fall Conference in District II

Welcome New Members who joined September, October, November, December 2007

Members live in Illinois except for those indicated

DISTRICT I

Tamara Bloom – Rockford
Diana Campos – Lombard
Incook Chae – Skokie
Ann Fron – Cicero
Leann Heimerdinger – Pearl City
Kim Mangini – Hoffman Estates
Mary Nash – East Dundee
Maria Ramos – Hoffman Estates
Glenda S. Schimetz – Pearl City

Carlette Thomas – Matteson
Cindy Wilken – Byron
Mary C. Withrow – Plainfield

DISTRICT II

Martha Baker - Mackinaw
Joan Coleman – Peo Heights
Pamela Cunningham – Clinton
Anna Denny – Canton
Monica Gould – Rochester
Lori Palmer – Champaign
Diana Webb – Creve Coeur
Regina Whitcomb - Rock Island

DISTRICT III

Janet A. Alexander - O'Fallon
Bethany Bailey - Marion
Abby Friederich – St. Louis MO
Sherry Harvell – Malden MO
Sheri Tadlock – Freeburg
Lesley Tinkham – Fenton MO
Kathryn Villareal –
Bowling Green KY
Kathryn Ward – Staunton
Donna Yelling – St. Louis MO

Governmental Affairs

by Linda BeagleyBSN, RN, CPAN

Staffing by Patient Acuity Law Passes in Illinois

On May 30, 2007 the Illinois House & Senate unanimously passed the Nurse Staffing Bill. Governor Blagojevich signed the bill into law August 24, 2007 effective January 1, 2008. Titled Nurse Staffing by Patient Acuity, it will require hospitals across the state to implement a written staffing plan matching patient care needs with registered nurse (RN) expertise (Illinois Nurses Association, 2007). In addition, hospitals must include a patient acuity tool to be utilized to determine the number of nurses needed for the ongoing changing needs of the patient. A nursing care committee will develop the patient acuity staff model. The committee will have representation from all aspects of the institution with a minimum of 50 percent direct care nurses. A critical aspect of the bill recognizes the variety of hospitals in relationship to size, com-



plexity of care, nurse expertise & experience. The bill allows organizations to formulate a plan to meet the needs of the facility, patients & nurses.

How will the “Staffing by Patient Acuity Law” effect perianesthesia units across the state? Does your unit use ASPAN’s recommendations for staffing? If not, now is the time to speak up & insist that the PACU is included in the staffing plan devised for the hospital. This will be our time as perianesthesia nurses to advocate for our patients & units to provide safe care. Units that require nurses to be on call must decide what is safe for the amount of hours working & hours on call. A common attraction hospitals offer nurses is 12 hour shifts, resulting in more free time away from the hospital. Evidence shows after working 8.5 hours productivity lessens & mistakes occur more frequently in the later hours of the nurse’s shift (Tomajan, 2007).

Another issue is the inability for patients to be transferred to the surgical unit or ICU due to lack of open beds. The patients waiting to be transferred can cause a burden to the PACU because they no longer fall under the higher level of care that is re-

quired in a PACU. Many units do not have the staff to care for these patients. As new patients come out of the OR, the PACU becomes intermixed with fresh post-op patients & those waiting for discharge. Staffing patterns must take into consideration potential delays discharging patients from the PACU. ASPAN is concerned about the issues of safe staffing, nurse fatigue & patient safety. The ASPAN Staffing Strategic Work Team met in summer, 2008. Look in upcoming *Breathline* issues for more on this important topic. Illinois nurses, I encourage you to make your voices loud & clear at your place of employment, advocating safe nursing practices in your PACUs.

References

- Illinois Nurses Association. (2007). *Nurse staffing bill passes House and Senate unanimously*. Retrieved June 12, 2007 from <http://www.illinoisnurses.org/associations/4741/files/pdf/Sb0867.pdf>
- Tomajan, K. (2007). Study links long hours to increased errors. [Electronic Version] *Virginia Nurses Today* 14(4), p. 16.

District I Report

The ASPAN CPAN and CAPA Reviews are scheduled on March 29th, 2008 at the Chicago-Oak Brook Doubletree Hotel. Parking is free at this location. The Seminar is slated to begin at 8 A.M. with check-in beginning at 7:30 A.M. Be sure you don't miss the dynamic national speakers, Linda Ziolkowski (CPAN) and Denise O'Brien (CAPA).

ILSPAN Spring Conference and membership meeting will be held on

Karen Wessels, RN, CPAN

April 5, 2008

ILSPAN Spring Conference Scholarship

**All members who attend have
a change at the drawing for
reimbursement of registration**

April 5, 2008 in Rockford, IL at Swedish American Hospital. Speakers will be presenting on Diabetes Management in the Peri-operative Setting, Management of the Chronic Pain Patient in the Post-op Setting, Stress and Anger Management in the Workplace, as well as the Nurse Practice Act and Delegation, based on changes to the IL Nurse Practice Act.

District II Report

The ILSPAN Fall Conference this past September in St. Louis was very informative and provided valuable knowledge for the PACU nurse. I enjoyed meeting ILSPAN members from District II and around the state.

I have applied to ABPANC for a special test site in Springfield, IL for the May 2008 CPAN/CAPA certification exams. If you are looking for a test site in central Illinois, we will have one available.

Wanda Ellenburg, BAN, RN, CPAN

Please visit the ASPAN website and click on the certification link for information about the certification exams, application, fees, and deadline dates. Studying for the certification exams provides an opportunity to refresh your perianesthesia knowledge and to learn new knowledge. Studying also can renew your enthusiasm for our perianesthesia specialty.

It is with some sadness that I realize my term as District II Di-

rector is coming to an end this spring. I have made many wonderful friends with colleagues throughout the state. Please take a moment to cast your vote in the election of the new ILSPAN officers this spring. I will stay involved in continuing education activities supported by ASPAN and ILSPAN, so I will see many of you at these events.

District III Report

One of the most exciting things about being a perianesthesia nurse is the opportunity to continue learning and improving your practice. Professional development begins with the decision to take advantage of workshops, conferences and returning to school to advance your education. Then what? Increased knowledge certainly improves nursing practice. It can also improve your career satisfaction and even make a difference in your work environment. By "raising the bar" of your nursing practice, your coworkers are in turn, affected as well. You return to work and share the

knowledge you obtained at a workshop relevant to your surgical patient's care. Your coworkers benefit from your improved practice and information can be utilized as a valuable resource in your department. If you take the first step to gain certification in your practice specialty, it makes it less "scary" for others to achieve. Certification, in turn, strengthens practice and instills confidence in a department's nursing practice. It defines commitment to quality and pride in what you do.

Start with the decision to "raise the bar"; to keep on learning and be the first ripple in a whole

Bonita Hart, BSN, RN, MA

series of waves that affects everyone around you. ILSPAN provides many great opportunities to learn, grow and make a positive impact. I encourage you continue to take advantage of the gift of learning.

I am happy to report that the 2008 ILSPAN Fall Conference will be held in St. Louis at St John's Mercy Medical Center on September 27th. It is a wonderful facility and the conference staff is ready to help in any way they can. We hope to see you there. Save the date NOW!!!

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes (Synopsis)

(complete text on the web site @ www.ilspan.org)

September 21, 2007
Bridgeton, MO

ILSPAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING **Friday, September 21, 2007** **Bridgeton, MO**

ATTENDANCE:

Beth Rieches, Peggy McKillip, Linda Beagley, Jeanette McAllister, Karen Wessels, Wanda Ellenburg, Boni Hart, Kim Kraft, Marigrace Clarke

Old Business:

Fall Conference final

agenda—We do not have a student attending the conference. Discussion on how else ILSPAN can accomplish Gold Leaf requirement. Raffles of three baskets from each individual districts and the candle basket, proceeds to be donated. Money raised will go to a local charity, to be determined. One suggestion was to donate to the facility of the Fall Conference, May Education Center who has graciously allowed us to use the facility. Boni will follow-up with Darlene. Question if one of the attendee's of the conference is a member. Discussed the practice of refunds. Reviewing By-laws a refund is acceptable 10 days before the conference and 10 days or less before the conference a refund would be given minus administrative fees. Jeanette will send a refund out. An additional raffle prize has been donated: 2 Core Curriculum books from the book vendor.

General Membership Meeting Agenda: Beth reviewed tomorrow's meeting agenda to include: minutes of last general meeting; discuss amendment of the by-laws for voting in officers; ASPAN's Region 3 Director Kim Kraft to speak; recruiter of the year presenta-

tions; and announce the Fall Conference scholarship winner.

Semi-Annual Conference Location Decision—discussed advantages of having a 4th district in the state component. The new district would be Chicago alone with Northern Illinois as separate district. Must consider the expense of a 4th director. Discussed when election of the district directors occurs, and how a new director will be coming in the spring and may need to plan the Fall Conference. Boni motioned: Move that District III will do Fall Conference in 2008, District II in 2009 and rotate future Fall Conferences between the two districts. Wanda seconded. Motion approved by BOD. Tabled discussion on 4th district to next meeting.

Budget Progress—Jeanette reports with the tightened board expenses (hotel and stipends, decreasing production of the Periscope) ILSPAN is inline with income and expenses matching.

Evaluation of Strategic Plan—Beth reviewed each of the goals. Goal A1. Accomplished with the Fall Conference mailing list. A.2A Working on with AORN in Rockford with Beth and Karen. A.2B Ongoing. Goal B.1 Possibly have INA speak at the Spring Conference about the changes with the nurse practice act, Beth to follow up with. B.2 Ongoing. Goal C.1 will attempt with PANAW. Goal D.1 Research article to be published in the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

PANAW—Reminder to Linda to send in to the Governor's office to request a proclamation for PANAW. An alert will be included in the fall newsletter. The dates for next year PANAW are February 4-10, 2008.

CDI—ASPAN had good attendance at this year. The theme was advo-

cacy, leadership development, conference planning. Linda Wilson discussed ANNC changes. Government affairs primer has been developed. Other hot topics discussed were staffing and census. Next year it will be the week-end of September 5-7th.
CPAN/CAPA awards—no submissions.

ADJOURNMENT

Beth Rieches, ILSPAN President, adjourned the meeting at 6:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Beagley BSN,RN,CPAN Secretary, Illinois Society of Perianesthesia Nurse

ILSPAN BY-LAWS CHANGE

During the ILSPAN General Membership meeting on September 22, 2007, President Beth Rieches presented a By-laws change concerning elections which was voted on by the ILSPAN BOD in July, 2008.

ARTICLE VI Election Procedures, Section 6.2 would be amended to read; "The officers and Board of Directors shall be elected by a simple majority of members present at the general meeting and absentee votes submitted on line at www.ilspan.org by the published deadline in *Peri-Scope*." According to the By-laws a membership vote needs to be taken for approval. A vote was taken with 38 in favor and 0 opposed.

ILSPAN By-laws can be accessed on the ILSPAN Web site at www.ilspan.org. The 2008 elections will be held using this election procedure. See page 7 for candidate biographical information and on line voting deadline.

**Congratulations November 2007
CPAN and CAPA's
CPAN**

Joyce Brogan, Amy Canaday,
Ellen Halfpap, Linnea Johnson,
Sherita Monreal, Charlotte Ramey,
Karenirene Thomas

CAPA

Zelda Balitaan, Nancy Gagliano,
Judith Hamilton, Lori Schraer,
Judith Werkema

If you live in Missouri and certified in November please send your name to the editor for recognition in the next issue of Peri-Scope. (information on back page)

**Future Certification
Exam Dates**

The CPAN® and CAPA® exams are given twice a year, at sites around the country. The first Saturday in November and on the Sunday preceding the opening of the ASPAN National Conference.

2008 test dates are:

**May 4, 2008 and
November 1, 2008**

Visit the American Board of Perianesthesia Nursing Certification, INC (ABPANC) web site at cpancapa.org for more information.

**ILSPAN CPAN/CAPA
Certification
and
Recertification
Scholarships
for 2007**

Those who certified or recertified in 2007 will be eligible for these scholarships. An application form can be requested from the ILSPAN Secretary. (information on page 2) You can download the point sheet from the ILSPAN website at www.ilspan.org. These awards will be presented in September, 2008.

ILSPAN Candidates for Election April 5, 2008

**Vice President/President Elect
Keith Schumacher, RN**

I have been an RN for almost 15 years working at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, IL. I have been a perioperative nurse for most of that time. I started in the Operating Room in January 1995 & moved to the PACU in August 1997, working as both staff nurse and charge nurse in PACU. I left PACU for a brief 6-month stint in the Emergency Room in January 2007, returning in July 2007 as the Educator for the Main Pre-An and PACU, the Pavilion (outpatient surgery) Pre-An and PACU, the GI department and the Pain Management Clinic. Before becoming an RN, I was a Junior/Senior High School math/science teacher for 9 years.

I hope to bring new ideas & a new perspective to this position during my term. I also expect to learn a lot & increase my knowledge base about all aspects of nursing from professional to governmental. I look forward to serving on the ILSPAN Board of Directors.

**Treasurer
Wanda Ellenburg, BAN, RN
CPAN**

I am currently completing my second term as District II Director for ILSPAN. I am the Nurse Manager for the PACU at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, IL. I am a diploma grad from Methodist Medical Center in Peoria and received a Bachelors in Nursing from Sangamon State University in Springfield. I am currently pursuing a dual Masters degree in Health Care Administration and Masters in Nursing from University of Phoenix. I have worked in the Emergency Room and ICU environments prior to choosing PACU nursing almost 20 years ago. I have served as the Treasurer of the PTO for my son's school and currently I am the treasurer for his Boy Scout Troop. It is with great privilege I look forward to continuing to serve on the ILSPAN Board.

**District II Director
Debbie Walker, BS, RN,
CPAN**

I graduated from Lutheran Hospital School for Nurses in 1975. I work at Trinity Medical Center in Rock Island, IL. I have been in the PACU since 1990 & have been lead charge for 12 years. Before PACU I worked 15 years second shift on a med-surg, cardiac step down unit. After my children graduated from high school, I went back to school for my Bachelor of Science from the University of St. Francis. After thinking about CPAN Certification for several years I took the test in April, 2007 & passed. I am the Safety Ambassador for PACU, on the Pain Relief Initiative & Strategies for Management (PRISM) Committee, & a clinical coach. I am a CAP IV in Trinity's clinical advancement program. I am married, with three children, two stepchildren, & one granddaughter. In 2005 I was privileged to go on my first mission trip to Mexico City.

Vote on line at www.ilspan.org

Deadline March 30, 2008



**PeriAnesthesia Nurse
Awareness Week
February 4-10, 2008**

ILSPAN PANAW Award

Did your unit celebrate? Enter for a chance to win this award. Criterion considered includes: Education, Professionalism of the Peri-anesthesia Unit and Team Spirit. Send itinerary of events, photos and information to:

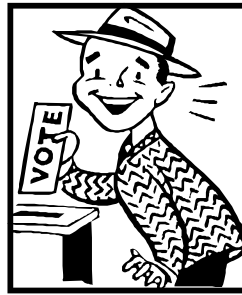
Kim Kraft, BSN, RN, CPAN
680 Rustic Valley Drive
Ballwin, MO 63021

Postmark deadline March 15, 2008. Award will be given to the unit at the Spring Conference on April 5, 2008.

Editorial Comment



Winter drags on in many of our areas. The days, however, are starting to become a little longer and with that the promise of spring. Sunshine even on the coldest of days can brighten our spirits. This winter the ILSPAN Board has been hard at work 'advocating' for you, the members. Your vice president has made many phone calls trying to find candidates for office. This organization needs members to

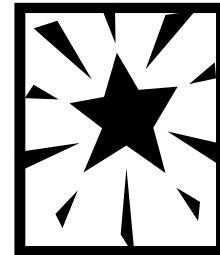


Important Deadlines
Deadline for voting in the ASPAN National Election is February 29, 2008. Vote on line at www.aspan.org. By voting you let your ILSPAN leaders know your choices.

ILSPAN Election will be held on April 5, 2008 at the ILSPAN General Membership Meeting. If you are unable to attend please vote on line at www.ilspan.org. Deadline for voting is March 30, 2008. See candidate profiles on page 7.

Service Excellence ASPAN Star Recognition Program

This ASPAN program honors member for their contributions. Full criteria can be found on the ASPAN web page under Members/Awards.



Deadline for submission is March 31, 2008. Nominate one of your colleagues now!

by Marigrace Clarke, RN, CAPA

be involved in managing the business of the organization. This management is and can be very rewarding. Yes, it is 'work' so to speak, but gives a great sense of accomplishment and pride. This year Kelly has found three members to be candidates for offices. I would like to encourage you to become active with the ILSPAN Board. Attend a Board meeting to become familiar with the managing of the organization. Call the Board member who currently holds the office and speak to them about the office (contact information on page 2). This organization can only be as strong as you the member make it. As winter ends and spring

arrives, there is new growth all around us. Why not look for something new in your professional career and offer your talents to ILSPAN. You will profit from the friendships and rewards of becoming involved.

Your ILSPAN Board also needs your input on a national level. Please vote in the ASPAN election on line at www.aspan.org. The ASPAN Representative Assembly (RA) will be held at the ASPAN National Conference on May 4, 2008. At this time your ILSPAN RA members will cast IL-



Education Article

Is Hollywood affecting your practice? A look at anesthesia awareness.

By Kelly Logli, BSN, RN, CPAN

Recently a movie was released that could have a large impact on your everyday nursing career as a perianesthesia nurse. "Awake" is about a patient who is aware during a surgical procedure. The new focus on this subject may be a cause for concern with our patient population. Therefore it is the nurse's role to alleviate any concerns that a patient may have both before and after their surgical procedure.

"Anesthesia awareness, also called unintended intraoperative awareness, occurs under general anesthesia when a patient becomes cognizant of some or all events during surgery or a procedure, and has direct recall of those events." (JCAHO, 2004) Research has indicated that approximately 20,000 to 40,000 of the 20 million patients who receive general anesthesia have experienced anesthesia awareness. (JCAHO, 2004) This phenomenon typically occurs during general anesthesia when paralytics are used; therefore the patient is unable to communicate. Anesthesia awareness causes patients to feel that they can not breathe, have auditory recollections of surgery, and painful sensations, all while not being able to tell anybody that this is happening. This complication most often takes place when lower doses of anesthesia must be given to reduce side effects. Patients most at risk for experiencing awareness are those having cardiac, obstetric, and major trauma surgery. (JCAHO, 2004) Posttraumatic stress disorder can develop with these patients, causing symptoms such as panic attacks, flashbacks, and sleep disturbances.

All members of the healthcare team must be knowledgeable about this topic in order to alleviate concerns patients may have. Perianesthesia nurses are on the front lines when dealing with patient concerns. Starting with the pre-op interviews, nurses should be alert for cues indicating a previous negative experience with anesthesia. This type of screening can alert the perioperative team caring for the patient during the current surgical experience. Anesthesia providers can follow several recommendations to help prevent anesthesia awareness; such as premedication with amnesic medications, administering more than a "sleep dose" of induction agents when followed immediately with tracheal intubation, avoiding muscle paralysis unless necessary, and regularly maintaining anesthesia machines.

Early recognition by the healthcare team is vital when a patient has experienced an awareness event. Patients need the healthcare team to believe their story and affirm that an awareness event took place. The patient needs to understand what has happened and why it took place. Nurses should assess patients post operatively to determine if they have any complaints that are consistent with an awareness event. It is recommended that patients remaining hospitalized be assessed 2-3 days after the procedure and ambulatory patients receive a phone call within the 2-4 day window following a surgical procedure. If a patient does have awareness of the surgical procedure, nurses should

approach the patient with concern, compassion, and support along with standard post-op care. First and foremost, the patient should receive an apology. From there, the patient needs to be referred for psychological counseling.

As patients may learn more of anesthesia awareness from watching the movie or media related to it, it is vital that perianesthesia nurses can have an open dialog with patients. Nurses can play a large part in correctly educating the public about this complication. It is extremely important for healthcare workers and perianesthesia nurses in particular to remember that analgesics do not automatically reduce recall of traumatic events and sedatives have no effect on pain. Awareness is a real complication that can take place during surgery for small number of people. It is critical that nurses do not trivialize or dispute reports of awareness and take appropriate steps to make the situation better.

References:

AANA & ASA team with JCAHO on sentinel Event Alert on Patient Awareness Under Anesthesia. (2004). AANA Journal:AANA News Bulletin, 59(11), 10-12. Retrieved December 23, 2007, from ProQuest Nursing & Allied Health Source database. (Document ID: 763899521)

(Continued on page 10)

There are many times that ASPAN's National Office receives questions regarding appropriate staffing and competencies for Phase I and II PACUs. To answer your question, I'd recommend that you use the 2006-2008 Standards of PeriAnesthesia Nursing Practice, Standard III and Resource 13. Standard III (page 14) says, "ONE RN, competent in Phase I postanesthesia care nursing, is responsible for the direct care of the patient at all times." Resource 13, (page 88-89) talks about Recommended Competencies for the Peri-anesthesia Nurse. The recommended competencies listed on these pages "may include but are not limited to the fol-

lowing: BLS, ACLS, PALS, Airway management, anesthetic agents and adjuncts ..." ACLS is included as a competency in BOTH Phase I and II. When considering the combination of these two references, you may very well say that only one nurse need be ACLS prepared; however in actual practice (of which I have twenty years in Phase I), I'd recommend that BOTH nurses be ACLS prepared.

ACLS provides outstanding research-based algorithms for the practitioner to follow. In reality, if and when I'm in such a situation, I want my co-worker to be able to support efforts using ACLS recommendations, as well as both of us being able to "bounce" treatment plans off one another. A second "nightmare" that may present it-

self if both staffs are not fully ACLS prepared is that of scheduling. Do you have enough staff to be able to create a schedule of ensuring that ACLS prepared individuals are not OVERLY burdened by having to work more hours (call or regular schedule)? In the unit where I practice, we allow the new person to attain ACLS certification/validation within the first year of employment. This practice seems to help ease the stress and burden of all the new learning that needs to take place for the new staff person (if they do not already have ACLS preparation).

Congratulations !!!

An ASPAN
Development \$1000 BSN
Scholarship was
awarded to
Amy Matthews,
RN, CAPA

An ASPAN
Development \$1000
MSN Scholarship was
awarded to
Linda Beagley, BSN,
RN, CPAN



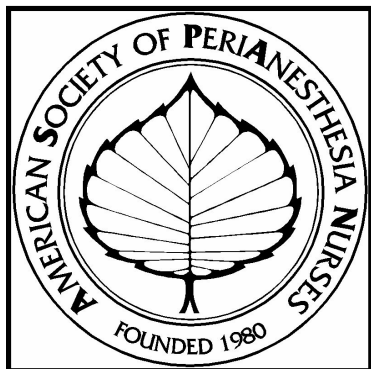
Education Article

(Continued from page 9)

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Unless you've been living in a vacuum, you know that the buzz word in this year's election campaign is "change". The primary definition of change is *to make the form, nature, content, future course, etc., of (something) different from what it is or from what it would be if left alone.*

Change is nothing new for the healthcare arena; we face or embrace change almost daily in our perianesthesia practice. New technology allows us to change the way we deliver care to our patients. New evidence allows us to make improvements in the care we provide for better patient outcomes.

One of ASPAN's goals is that the art and science of perianesthesia nursing will be advanced through evidence-based practice and research activities. Questions come in weekly to the ASPAN Clinical Practice Network looking for benchmark data for staffing. This past quarter the Staffing Strategic Work Team met to explore the evidence related to nursing workload fatigue and work environment as it relates to patient care outcomes. These findings could have an impact on the manner in which Phase I and II units are staffed in the future.

ASPAN also remains an influential force for perianesthesia patient safety, public policy and practice standards. The Governmental Affairs committee continues its involvement with the Americans for Nursing Shortage Relief (ANSR) Alliance. The ANSR Alliance is comprised of fifty-one national nursing organizations that united in 2001 to identify and promote creative strategies for addressing the nursing and nurse faculty shortages, including passage of the Nurse Reinvestment Act of 2002 and Title VII funding – important first steps in increasing the number of qualified nurses in America.

If you received a member survey from ASPAN please take a few minutes to share your opinions

ASPAN continues to have representation at the table of several organizations, such as the Society of Perioperative Assessment and Quality Improvement (SPAQI), the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF) and the Council on Surgical and Perioperative Safety, which are working to improve patient outcomes.

Other changes that ASPAN is involved with include improving the services to our growing membership which currently stands at 12,744. We developed a member survey and emailed it to randomly selected members. If you received an invitation to complete the survey and haven't done so yet, please take a few minutes to share your opinions with us. When you

receive your renewal notice, be sure to include your email address so you can receive important updates and news from ASPAN. In the next few months, ASPAN will unveil the new website. You will still be able to find us at www.aspan.org but the new website will have many features that will improve your experience such as a members' only section where you'll be able to access information relevant to your perianesthesia practice. The ASPAN Conference Center will return as the ASPAN Forum and you will be able to post questions and receive input from perianesthesia nurses across the country and internationally as well.

While change will happen, with or without us, it is important to remember that we must continue to advocate for our patients, our practice and ourselves so that these changes do not adversely affect patient outcomes. I encourage you to *be the voice* of change to your patients, your practice and yourself.

ASPAN would like your e-mail address to send you news & updates. Be sure to put your e-mail address on your renewal notice

Live Large and Think Big in Texas

ASPAN 27th National Conference Preview: May 4-8, 2008

By: Susan McDonald, RN, CPAN, CAPA - 2008 National Conference Strategic Work Team Coordinator

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Perhaps by now, you have browsed through the 2008 ASPAN National Conference brochure trying to decide which educational sessions to attend. Conference offers many interesting topics and excellent speakers, so choosing may not be easy! With the many options available, **you could earn 40-50 contact hours** during Conference week. In addition to the regular education sessions, contact hours are awarded for participating in the Research Poster Grand Rounds on Tuesday and Celebrate Successful Practices on Wednesday.

Several of your peers participated in a Speaker Development Workshop at the 2007 National Conference. After formulating, researching and developing an educational presentation, these colleagues have honed their presentation skills and will offer the topics during Conference. Please support them by attending these presentations and earn some additional contact hours. Seating during the sessions is limited, so come early.

Welcome First Time Attendees

The sheer size of National Conference can be a little overwhelming for newcomers. If this will be your first ASPAN Conference, plan to attend one of the two First Timers' Orientation sessions. The orientation sessions will help you navigate the syllabus and pocket guide, explain the evaluation forms, preview the social activities and provide an opportunity to meet the ASPAN Regional Directors,

who can answer your questions about Conference and ASPAN. If you are interested in sharing a hotel room, information is provided in the brochure to help you find a roommate.

Monday, May 5 is CPAN/CAPA

Day. All certified nurses are invited to register to attend the CPAN/CAPA Celebration Breakfast held bright and early on Monday morning. Besides offering the certification examinations on Sunday, May 4, ABPANC will present several sessions throughout Conference to help you certify, recertify, promote certification, and participate in item writing for potential future exam questions.

Plan for Some Fun

Your conference brochure includes an Optional Tour booklet. See the many sights of the Dallas/Fort Worth area and let someone else do the driving! Register for a tour showcasing area museums and attractions, shopping venues and historic sites. The roadside highways will be resplendent with spring wildflowers such as Bluebonnets, Indian Blankets and Brown-Eyed Susans, making the drive to the world-renowned wild life conservancy, Fossil Rim, a special treat.



ASPAN's National Conference Strategic Work Team has worked hard to bring you an outstanding 2008 National Conference. Our plans for the education sessions, special social events and optional tours are as big as Texas, and we are eager to welcome you to our home state. So come on down, y'all, and stay a spell!

ILSPAN's National Conference Scholarship Winners for 2008

Susan Cramton and Jeanette McAllister

Component Night is Sunday, May 4, 2008

Contact the ILSPAN Board for our theme or

if you want to help at the ILSPAN table.

Keep Tuesday evening free for an ILSPAN Dinner. Watch the bulleting board at National Conference location and to sign up to attend.



ILSPAN WILLINGNESS TO SERVE FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

ASPAN Membership # _____ Place of Employment _____

Please circle position of interest:

- BOD position _____
- Editor/publication committee
- PR/Marketing
- Computer networking

Previous experience that will help me: _____

My goals for this position: _____

Questions I have: _____

Submit form on line at www.ilspan.org or mail to:

Kelly Logli, BSN, RN, CPAN
12311 Empire Street
Loves Park, IL 61111

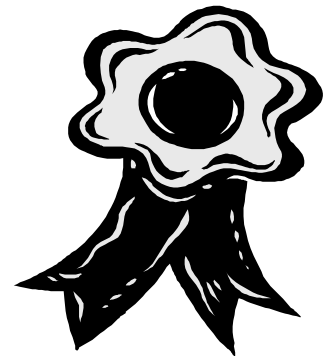
ILSPAN Awards and Scholarship Information

ILSPAN Awards include the following:

- ◆ CPAN/CAPA certification
- ◆ CPAN/CAPA recertification
- ◆ Recruiter of the Year
- ◆ ASPAN National Conference Scholarship.
- ◆ Spring Conference Scholarship
- ◆ Fall Conference Scholarship
- ◆ PANAW Award

For more information on these awards visit the Scholarship section of the ILSPAN website at www.ilspan.org.

Many of the awards go unclaimed because no one applies. Contact us through the website if you have questions.



ILSPAN Illinois Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

Peri-Scope

Published three times a year by the
Illinois Society of
PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Publication deadlines:
Winter Issue.....January 1
Spring/Summer Issue.....May 1
Fall Issue.....September 1

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ILSPAN

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EFFECTIVE CARE FOR PATIENTS , THEIR FAMILI-
LIES, & THE COMMUNITY, THROUGH PUBLIC
& PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, RESEARCH &
STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

ILSPAN on the web at www.ilspan.org

Looking Ahead.....

ASPAN on-line voting deadline.....	February 28, 2008
CPAN/CAPA Exam Postmark deadline for May, 2008 exam.....	March 4, 2008
ASPAN Review for Certification: CPAN, Oakbrook, IL.....	March 29, 2008
ASPAN Review for Certification: CAPA, Oakbrook, IL.....	March 29, 2008
ILSPAN Election on-line voting deadline.....	March 30, 2008
CPAN/CAPA Recertification Application deadline.....	April 1, 2008
ILSPAN Spring Board Meeting.....	April 4, 2008
ILSPAN Spring Conference, Rockford, IL.....	April 5, 2008
ASPAN 27th National Conference, Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas.....	May 4-8, 2008
ILSPAN Summer Board Meeting (Two-day) Bloomington, IL.....	July 12-13, 2008
ILSPAN Fall Conference, St. Louis, MO.....	September 27, 2008

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