

Vital Signs

Excellence In Anesthesia



High Quality Anesthesia: Protecting Patients, Serving our members

President's Report, Fall 2019

To all the members of NDANA, greetings and salutations from your outgoing NDANA president. This has been an interesting and at times busy year for the NDANA. As many of you know, this will be our last meeting in Bismarck and our last year scheduling two NDANA conferences. Following the fall conference in Bismarck we will officially make the transition to one meeting per year. It was decided by the members and the board that one meeting in the spring could be a better fit for our organization, so April 2020 will mark our inaugural annual meeting. The spring meeting will now be 3 days long and will offer more CE credits. The hope is that we will be able to provide better education at a greater value for our members. We will be releasing more information as the meeting planning comes together. This year has also been marked

In June, Jen Hoggarth CRNA attended the AANA Leadership Workshop in Nashville Tennessee. In August, SRNA's Amanda Versteeg and Joseph Carter were accompanied by Amber Johnson, DNP CRNA at the AANA's annual congress. Chelsea Lennon is scheduled to attend the AANA's leadership summit in November of this year. I am thrilled to see our members take part in activities such as these in an effort to grow themselves professionally.

I owe many thanks to the board members and to those of you who participate in NDANA. For those of you who haven't taken an active role in NDANA I would encourage you to try it out. We have a few different options for you to get your feet wet. Your input is valuable and important for CRNA's in North Dakota now and for the future. Thank you for allowing me to help guide our organization as

with quality experiences by our board members and students. In March, Char Huber-Manstrom, CRNA attended an AANA leadership conference in San Diego California.

the NDANA President.

Sincerely
Andy Schott, CRNA



Federal Political Director's Report

The Mid-Year Assembly provides an opportunity for attendees to develop professional skills in dealing with federal legislative and regulatory issues as well as the legislative process. This national assembly features speakers addressing important issues which influence nurse anesthesia practice. This past April, the NDANA was not able to send a delegation to Midyear. Highlights and issues of emphasis this year included the following:

1. Ensuring Veterans Access to High Quality Care
2. Supporting the Role of CRNAs in Pain Care & the Opioid Crisis
3. Emphasizing the Value CRNAs Have in Healthcare
4. Protecting Access to Rural Anesthesia Services

The reputation and role of CRNAs in North Dakota continues to thrive from Williston to Wahpeton and everywhere in between. We need to continue to be involved and stay in tuned to the political and legislative issues that affect the delivery of anesthesia by CRNAs in our state. Thank you

The North Dakota Association of Nurse Anesthetists has a long history of being intricately involved in the legislative process both at state and local levels but also at the federal level. The advocacy and hard work of early members of the NDANA set the groundwork for years to come. The "opt-out" in North Dakota, which was signed by then Governor Hoven, did not occur by accident. It happened as a result of the hard work and determination by a group of CRNAs who had the foresight to see that this piece of legislation would solidify the role that CRNAs have in the state of North Dakota.
To those CRNAs, Thank You!

Each year, many of our fellow CRNAs and SRNAs gather in Washington DC to attend the Mid-Year Assembly.

UND Student Update

On December 19th, 2019 the University of North Dakota (UND) will graduate its final Nurse Anesthesia Master's Degree program! This will close a strong chapter for the UND Nurse Anesthesia program and began a new and exciting journey as the Doctoral prepared anesthesia students are trained. My classmates and I are feeling the excitement as commencement rapidly approaches. We are beginning to wrap up our clinical rotations and study hard for the NCE. We are all excited for the possibilities ahead!

This past August a few students (Amanda



hospital committees, at our state and national organizations, and politically at the state and national level to advocate for and advance our profession. We greatly appreciate the support and funding of the NDANA and feel that this is a great experience that everyone attends!

As we approach our final days as SRNAs we reflect back on all of the passionate and dedicated professionals we have had the privilege to work alongside of. We are thankful

Versteeg, Lindsey Holter, and I had the privilege of attending the 2019 AANA Annual Congress in Chicago. This was an amazing experience that really opened our eyes to the many facets of our organization. We were able to network with fellow students from across the nation and even ran in to a few friends. The passions that were displayed ignited the spark within us to become involved with our state and national organizations. It was great to see the advocacy and drive alive in the CRNAs and SRNAs attending the event. While we learned a great deal at the Annual Congress, the most significant point that we gathered was the need for involvement on all levels. CRNAs must be present throughout

for our instructors Kevin, Amber, and Jamie who have devoted themselves to our education and development. They not only show us how to be skillful anesthetists, but also powerful professionals. They have left a lasting impact on us that will shape our practice and future involvement. We would also like to thank the clinic sites, coordinators, and CRNAs for their mentorship as we learn the art and science of anesthesia from practicing professionals who show personal interest in our education to become the next wave of CRNAs!

Joseph Carter, SRNA



Cast your votes for 2019 Board Officers at our website.

www.ndana.org

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