

NDANA

Vital Signs

President's Message



Jody Slominski, CRNA

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President for the past year. I am pleased to report that our state association continues to prosper and has faced few challenges as an organization. Our state, however, has continued to persevere this year as flooding and devastation has affected so many of our family and friends. Our hearts go out to all those who were affected by the flooding across the state.

The association is always seeking members who have an interest in getting involved. Please contact me at jodyslominski@ymail.com or any NDANA board member if you are interested in becoming more involved.

I would like to take a moment to thank those members who have served our state and national association in leadership roles and those who have worked on committees over the past year.

Did you know the following facts about your profession?

- Nurses were the first professional group to provide anesthesia services in the United States, and nurse anesthesia has since become recognized as the first clinical nursing specialty.
- The discipline of nurse anesthesia developed in response to requests of surgeons seeking a solution to the high morbidity and mortality attributed to anesthesia at that time. Surgeons saw nurses as a cadre of professionals who could give their undivided attention to patient care during surgical procedures. Serving as pioneers in anesthesia, nurse anesthetists became involved in the full range of specialty surgical procedures, as well as in the refinement of anesthesia techniques and equipment. Founded in 1931 and located in Park Ridge, Ill., the AANA is the professional organization for more than 44,000 nurse anesthetists. As advanced practice nurses, CRNAs administer more than 32 million anesthetics in the United States (AANA website)
- In North Dakota, CRNAs are the sole providers of anesthesia in 64% of the hospitals, all of which are in rural settings. CRNAs work in a team approach in conjunction with physician anesthesiologists in a third of ND hospitals, all in urban areas. CRNAs provide anesthesia services in over 65% of the 32 million anesthetics given annually in the United States and give 85% of all anesthetics in rural areas.

I am very proud to belong to an organization that has made the

commitment to advance our profession and to inform and protect its members. Our national AANA board of directors has had a busy year reaching out to other organizations, keeping up with Medicare changes and threats to reimbursement. They have recently contacted the NDCRNA organization and requested that there be a pause in their proposed plan of action until at least January 2013. I hope you have read your letter from Debbie Malina, CRNA our AANA President and returned the survey that was included in the letter. Your opinion really does matter.

There will be discussion at our upcoming meeting in Oct. regarding the upcoming proposed changes being made by the NDCRNA. I also encourage you to share your comments on the NDCRNA website. They really are interested in what you have to say

In August, the AANA celebrated its 80th Anniversary at the national meeting in Boston Ma. We viewed a wonderful video that the AANA developed of past achievements that have shaped the AANA of today and tomorrow. It will be shown this fall at our NDANA state meeting. Although nurse anesthesia has been around for 150 years, our organizations were founded only 80 years ago. If you will be unable to attend the meeting you can view it on your own at [You Tube video](#).

I am extending an invitation to all of you to attend the 2011 NDANA Fall meeting in Bismarck on October 21st and 22nd. By now you should have received your brochure in the mail and it looks like a very interesting line up of speakers. We will again have a NAPAC silent auction. I challenge each nurse anesthesia group to donate an item for our auction. Thank you for your support. Please take the time to vote this fall in the NDANA election for president elect (1), board of directors (5), and nominations committee positions (3). Deadline is October 17!!! A big thanks to all of you for your passion to be involved!

Hope to see you in October. Jody Slominski, CRNA

EXCELLENCE IN ANESTHESIA



NDANA Representatives with Congressman Berg

Mid-Year Assembly

Roseann Diehl, CRNA, DNP

Effectiveness Analysis of Anesthesia Providers published in Nursing Economics May/June 2010, and the Institute of Medicine's newest release, The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, published October 2010 were shared with our legislators.

Promote Competition, Choice and Cost Savings in Patients' Healthcare by Protecting Provider Nondiscrimination. The Provider Nondiscrimination Law takes effect January 2014 and should be protected against attempts to weaken this pro-consumer, pro-market principle of nondiscrimination.

Support Nurse Workforce Development Funding. Legislation Congress enacted providing \$200 million over four years to graduate nursing education programs must be implemented, and funding for Title 8 Nurse Workforce Development program in Labor-HHS-Education appropriations legislation must be preserved.

Save Our Seniors' Medicare and Stabilize Medicare Part B. A longer term solution is needed to stabilize Medicare Part B and ensure our seniors can maintain access to effective and affordable care. Unless Congress acts to reform the Part B anesthesia and physician payment formula for the long term, AANA anticipates Medicare payment will be cut by more than 30% in January 2012, and more in future years—unsustainable for our seniors and for our healthcare system. For more information on important government issues please visit the AANA website or click this link <https://www.aana.com/federalissues.aspx>.

www.aana.com/federalissues.aspx.

Care to be Counted! campaign was launched at Mid-year for the CRNA-PAC 2011-2012 election cycle. Please visit the new and improved website www.caretobecounted.org. The next PAC event will be held at the AANA Fall Leadership Academy in Newport Beach, Saturday, November 12, at 6:30 pm. **Don't miss it!**

Upcoming Meetings: Jack Neary Advanced Pain Management Workshop October 16-18, 2011, Chicago.

Essentials of OB Analgesia/Anesthesia October 19, 2011, Chicago.

AANA Fall Leadership Academy November 11-13, 2011, Newport Beach California.

Assembly of School Faculty February 23-25, 2012, San Diego, California.

Mid-Year Assembly April 15-18, 2012, Washington DC.

AANA Annual Meeting August 4-8, San Francisco, California.

North Dakota Has Arrived! National Level Involvement by ND CRNAs: Mark Bjornstad—CRNA-PAC (2011-2012) Kevin Buettner—Nominating Committee (2010-2011), Education Committee (2011-2012) Roseann Diehl—Program Committee (2010-2011), Simulation Taskforce (2011-2012)

NDANA 2011 ELECTIONS

WWW.NDANA.ORG



CAST YOUR BALLOT FOR NDANA OFFICERS AT WWW.NDANA.ORG.

President-Elect: 1 Position

Jamie Sperle

Board of Directors: 2 Positions

Jennifer Henjum

Nicky Underdahl

Samantha Frigstad

James Stevenson

James Metzger

Nominating Committee: 2 Positions

Mark Bjornstad

Laura Filler

Summer Schauer



This past April several North Dakota CRNAs and SRNAs visited Washington DC to participate in political discussions, interesting and informative lectures, and to visit our North Dakota legislators. Yes, the Mid-Year Assembly was quite a success with record attendance by all states. Attendees included Jody Slominski (President), Kevin Buettner (FPD representative), Jamie Sperle (Board Member), Roseann Diehl (Treasurer), Andy Schott (UND student), Kristi Burgard (UND student), and Melanie Bossert (Texas Wesleyan student).

Our trip to Capitol Hill led us to appointments with all the North Dakota members of Congress: Senator John Hoeven, Senator Kent Conrad and Representative Rick Berg, along with their staff.

We were all very impressed and proud by the students' enthusiasm and involvement during the entire Mid-Year meeting. Each of the students spoke to our Senate and House leaders of issues affecting the nurse anesthesia profession, and emphatically made them aware that nurse anesthetists are critical to our community.

Here are the issues we discussed:

CRNAs Help Make Healthcare More Accessible, Work Better, and Cost Less. Evidence such as: "No Harm Found When Nurse Anesthetists Work Without Supervision by Physicians, published in Health Affairs, August 2010, The Lewin Group study, Cost

Region 4 Update



**Bernadette Henrichs, PhD,
CRNA, CCRN, AANA Region
IV Director**

I would like to say hello to the members from North Dakota. I am the newly elected AANA Region IV Director. I am replacing Mr. Dennis Bless, CRNA, MS, who has done an excellent job serving as your director for the past two years. The AANA is fortunate to have Dennis now serve as our new AANA Treasurer for the next two years.

I am a CRNA from St. Louis Missouri. I serve as the Program Director for a small nurse anesthesia program at Barnes-Jewish College. I also work in the operating room two days per week for the Washington University Anesthesia Department at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, a level one trauma center. So I always say that I have the best job in the world. I get to practice anesthesia and I also get to teach nurse anesthesia students!

Now I will be serving in another role as your Region IV Director. Please let me know what I can do for you. I am here to serve you, the AANA members of Region IV. I am happy to attend your state meetings to meet more of you and to give you an AANA update if you would like. Just let me know the dates of the meeting as soon as possible so I can get it on my calendar. I am happy to present on other topics, too, if you are interested.

For those who attended the AANA meeting in Boston, it was a very successful meeting. I enjoyed meeting members of our association and heard some great presentations on a variety of topics. Summaries of the presentations still remain available on the AANA website and I believe the presentations will also be available soon.

A topic that has drawn much interest and concern to members is the launch of the Continuous Professional Certification (CPC) program by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA).

The purpose of the NBCRNA is to determine certification and recertification standards and guidelines for CRNAs. The NBCRNA charted a possible future course for the recertification of CRNAs (the CPC) that was introduced at the Annual Meeting. The proposal is causing concern among some members and the AANA Board of Directors has received numerous emails. However, the AANA and the NBCRNA function autonomously, so CRNAs should go to www.nbcrna.com for more information and to express their concerns.

All questions should be directed to recertification@nbcma.com or Colleen Ahearn at (866) 894-3908.

A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document is now available on the website.

Feedback can be given through **November 14, 2011**

The NBCRNA is trying to have a representative at each of the state meetings so please plan to attend your state meeting so that you can ask questions to the representative face-to-face.

The AANA Board of Directors is also conducting their own survey to try to obtain more information from our members on the new proposal. Please fill out the survey so that we can learn more from our members.

I attended a Board of Directors and Program Committee meeting in Chicago from September 7-11 to learn more about my role and the

happenings of the AANA. The minutes of the meeting can be found on the AANA website. I encourage you to read these minutes. Again, please let me know if I can serve you in any way.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Henrichs, PhD,
CRNA, CCRN
Region IV Director for the
AANA
bhenrichs@aanabod.com

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SUPPORT NAPAC

WWW.NDANA.ORG/NAPAC



Please consider making a
Contribution to NAPAC.

A contribution form may
be found on page 6 or you
may donate
ONLINE via **PAYPAL**.
at
www.ndana.org/napac

NAPAC Silent Auction



The NDANA PAC will be
hosting a Silent Auction
at the Fall Educational
Meeting.

Please consider bringing
and item or two, either
personally or as a group.

If you have any ques-
tions, please contact the
NDANA State Office at
701-221-7797 or via e-
mail at
ndana@aptnd.com



NDANA Fall 2011 Educational Meeting

Friday, October 21, 2011

- 3:00 p.m. Registration**
- 4:00 p.m. Welcome & Comments,**
Jody Slominski, NDANA
President
- 4:05 p.m. UND Student Presentations**
- 5:35 p.m. Exhibit Break**
- 5:50 p.m. "Anesthetic Mgmt. of
Valvular Heart Disease in Non
-Cardiac Surgery,** Margaret
Contrera, MS, CRNA
- 6:50 p.m. "Anesthetic Mgmt. of the
Failing Heart in the 21st
Century"-Margaret Contrera,
MS, CRNA**
- 7:50 p.m. Exhibit Break**
- 8: 05 p.m. "Perioperative Detection &
Treatment of Myocardial/
Ischemia/Infarction-Margaret
Contrera, MS, CRNA**
- 9:05 p.m. "Crisis in the OR-Malignant
Hyperthermia"-Kevin
Buettner, MS, CRNA**
- 9:35 p.m. Adjourn/NDANA Social-
Sponsored by Metropolitan
Medical**

Saturday, October 22, 2011

- 7:00 a.m. Registration/Breakfast**
- 8:00 a.m. "Coronary Artery Stents:
Implications for Perioperative
Management"-Margaret
Contrera, MS, CRNA**
- 9:00 a.m. "TRALI, TACO and Other
Trasfusion Complications"-
Michael Rieker, DNP, CRNA**
- 10:00 a.m. Exhibit Break**
- 10:15 a.m. "Certification/Recertification
Update"-Michael Rieker, DNP,
CRNA**

Saturday, October 22, Continued

- 11:15 a.m. "Calling Doctor Nurse!
Pathways to Doctoral Degree"-
Michael Rieker, DNP, CRNA**
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch/Business Meeting**
- 1:15 p.m. "TIVA: A Rational Approach to
Anesthetic Management"-
Michael Rieker, DNP, CRNA**
- 2:15 p.m. "Postoperative Cognitive
Dysfunction"-Michael Rieker,
DNP, CRNA**
- 3:15 p.m. Exhibit Break**
- 3:30 p.m. "Pulmonary Aspirtation-Do We
Know Where the Risk Lies"-
Michael Rieker, DNP, CRNA**
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn**

Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

St: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail _____

Place of Employment: _____

AANA Member Number _____

Planning to attend Saturday Lunch? (Saturday Lunch included with Registration Fee) Yes No

Make Checks Payable to **NDANA**

Detach & Return to:
**NDANA, PO Box 1755
Bismarck, ND 58502-1755**
Phone (701)221-7797 Fax (701)224-9824

[circle appropriate registration amount]

	<u>NDANA Member</u>	<u>Nonmember</u>
Pre-registration (includes entire weekend)	\$200.00	\$220.00
On-site registration	\$220.00	\$250.00
Friday only 10/21/2011	\$95.00	\$110.00
Saturday only 10/22/2011	\$160.00	\$180.00
Students	No Charge	
Sponsor a Student	\$50.00	



Register Online at www.ndana.org

FPD Update



Kevin Buettner, CRNA

“There is absolutely nothing going on in Washington, D.C. right now.” This was an opening remark made by Mr. Frank Purcell in April at the 2011 AANA Mid-Year Assembly. That comment, as you would expect, caused quite a bit of laughter in the audience. Mr. Purcell is the Senior Director for the AANA Office of Federal Government Affairs in Washington D.C. This office works diligently to ensure that CRNA’s have a voice with those individuals, agencies, and organizations that affect rules and policy that ultimately could impact our practice as CRNA’s. It behooves our professional association to have this presence in Washington and rest assured they are working extremely hard for the benefit of our profession in a very challenging environment.

A Critical Time

And I think it is safe to say, that no matter what side of the aisle you choose to identify with, there are certainly big issues that are looming for our country as a whole. Certainly the topic at the national level that currently garners the most attention is our national budget and the fiscal health of the nation. It seems that there is not a week that goes by where news of another “deadlock” in Congress with an agreement made “just in time” makes the headlines.

This is a critical time for Healthcare in our country. There are some who may say that we should let the politicians fight the budget battle in Washington.

However, the White House and all parties within the House and Senate are having conversations about health-care reform and the future funding of national programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. If there are significant cuts to these programs, many of us likely will feel the effects.

As CRNA’s, we are on the front lines in our communities providing excellent anesthesia care for our patients. We are the best ones to remind our congressional leaders of the important role we play in the delivery of healthcare across the United States, but especially in our rural state. Please consider contacting your congressional leaders in the near future to let them know that CRNA’s in North Dakota and across the U.S. do make a difference!!

Changes in Leadership

There have been a few changes to the North Dakota political environment in the past 10 months. After Senator John Hoeven won his bid for the Senate, Jack Dalrymple was sworn in as the 32nd Governor of our state in December. In addition, Congressman Rick Berg now occupies the House seat, which was formerly held by Earl Pomeroy, who supported CRNA’s throughout his many years of service. Members of the NDANA delegation met with legislative assistants and staff from all three offices in April during the Mid-Year Assembly and we look forward to working with each in the future.

A change that is right around the corner is with Senator Kent Conrad, who announced his decision not to run for re-election. Like

Pomeroy, Conrad has been a long time supporter of CRNA’s in our state. Your NDANA delegation made a request in April, to Conrad, to write a letter to the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), which he did. The intent of this letter was to urge the Administrator to review the rules related to the current federal supervision requirement, with the ultimate goal of removal, which your AANA continues to seek.

Care to Be Counted

The “Care to be Counted” CRNA-PAC campaign was officially announced and launched for the 2011-2012 election cycle. They have developed a new and improved website:

www.caretobecounted.org

Please visit this website as it offers a plethora of information that is valuable to CRNA’s. It contains information that is relevant not only at the federal level, but also at the state level. Please consider making a contribution to the CRNA-PAC campaign. There are challenging times ahead and it is important that our voices are heard. Your financial support is also needed at the state level. Please consider a contribution to our NDANA PAC fund in addition, which will help to support political activities here in North Dakota.

Looking Towards the Future

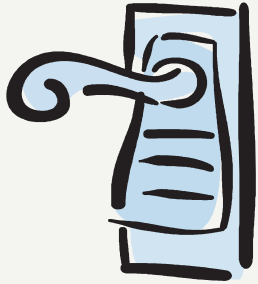
While we continue to assess the present environment for potential threats to practice, we must also be alert to potential issues that are on the horizon. Some states continue to battle over interventional pain management and payments for pain manage-

ment services. Other states have seen a slight increase in the number of Anesthesiology Assistants (AA’s). While not current issues in our state, it is prudent to stay abreast of developments with these and other issues so that we can be prepared. Further information about issues at both the state and federal levels can be found at www.aana.com under “Government Relations” (AANA Login and Password Required).



NDANA
Fall 2011
Educational
Meeting

Hotel Information



Best Western
Ramkota Hotel

800 S. 3rd Street
Bismarck, ND
58504

701-258-7700
Or
1-800-WESTERN

A block of rooms
has been reserved
for NDANA
participants.

Please be sure to
indicate you are
with NDANA when
making your
reservation.

Rooms must be
reserved by
October 5, 2011.



NAPAC

Contribute

A special thanks to all who contribute to Nurse Anesthetist
Political Action Committee.

Your generosity has gone a long way to further the Nurse Anesthesia profession.

Complete and return form to NAPAC PO Box 1755, Bismarck, ND 58502-1755

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Contribution Levels

(Check One)

- Gold Level Membership—\$200.00
- Active Membership—\$100.00
- Associate Membership—\$50.00
- Other—\$ _____

Memberships are payable by check or credit card, if you wish to pay by credit card, please fill out the information below. FOR YOUR PROTECTION, the address you provide should be the same as the billing address of your Credit Card.

Card Type: Visa _____ Mastercard _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Contribute online at
www.ndana.org/napac

UND Student Report

Kristi Burgard, SRNA



UND Nurse Anesthesia College Bowl

Greetings from the University of North Dakota Nurse Anesthesia Class of 2011!

The University of North Dakota extended the Nurse Anesthesia curriculum from a 24-month program to the current 28-month program in 2009. This curriculum extension included didactics in health assessment, business, and availability of more clinical experience. My eleven classmates and I will be the first of the 28 month program to graduate this December. In addition, due to the program extension, UND currently has three Nurse Anesthesia classes for the total of 36 students in the program! It is exciting to see these changes as the UND Nurse Anesthesia Program continues to strive for excellence in our profession and as they work towards transitioning into a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. As NDANA Board Student Representatives, both Andy Schott, SRNA and I were exposed to the functions, purposes, and importance of the NDANA at the state level through attending regular meetings. Along with Melanie Bossert, SRNA (Texas Wesleyan University), we were also afforded the opportunity in April to travel to Mid-Year Assembly in Washington D.C. with NDANA board members Jody Slominski, Kevin Buettner, Jamie Sperle, and Rosanne Cannon-Diehl. We actively "Lobbied on the Hill" with Senators Kent Conrad, John Hoeven, Congressman Rick Berg, and their respective legislative assistants.

I was nominated and chosen to participate in an AANA sponsored student mentorship program at the Mid-Year Assembly. As part of this program, I had the privilege to be paired with a very active and well-respected AANA member from

Nebraska, Nancy Gondringer, CRNA for a day. I was introduced to all the past and current AANA board members and experienced firsthand how active the AANA works on preserving and protecting our profession as CRNA's on a national level. If you ever questioned, "Why should I pay annual state and national dues?" I challenge you to get involved and plan to attend the upcoming Mid-Year Assembly. Without a doubt you will answer your own question.

This past August, I was fortunate to travel to the AANA Annual Meeting that was held in Boston with six of my classmates: Jessica Bratrud, Tracie Christianson, John Lonneman, Sara Skatvold, Tracy Stanz, and Alicia Wolfgram as well as UND faculty Darla Adams, Kevin Buettner, and Jamie Sperle. We experienced amazing educational opportunities, participated in the AANA "College Bowl", and were allowed many interactive experiences with other CRNAs and fellow students.

Finally, on behalf of all the students in the UND Nurse Anesthesia Program, I would like to extend an enormous "THANK YOU" to all the Clinical Coordinators' and many clinical preceptors that have been working with us. Your clinical knowledge, skills, experiences, patience, and kindness have had a profound impact as you helped to guide us towards achieving clinical excellence and reaching our ultimate goal of becoming Nurse Anesthetists. Words cannot express the immense appreciation we have for all of you!



TWU Student Report

Melanie Bossert, SRNA



Melanie Bossert

Greetings from TWU Nurse Anesthesia class of 2011!

I am Melanie Bossert RN BSN CCRN RRNA currently in my final practicum of nurse anesthesia school. It has been a great privilege of mine to be a TWU student representative in the NDANA. Texas Wesleyan University holds the largest graduate nurse anesthesia program in the U.S. and is based out of Fort Worth Texas. They provide the option of distance learning at various sites throughout the U.S. via live interactive television. This has been a great benefit to those who would like to stay in North Dakota and pursue a degree in nurse anesthesia. The majority of the 28 month program is completed in Bismarck ND. In addition to offering a Master of Science in nurse anesthesia, the Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice DNAP is offered as well. A commencement ceremony will be held on December 9, 2011 for the first class to complete the DNAP program through TWU. Congratulations!

Through this exciting journey, I have begun to appreciate and recognize all of the hard work and volunteered time going into maintaining and advocating for the nurse anesthesia profession. I encourage all SRNA/RRNAs to be active and get involved with your

organization by attending board meetings, annual conferences and assemblies.

Being a student representative for TWU, I had the opportunity to attend the AANA Mid-Year assembly in Washington DC April 10-13th 2011. The meetings focused on our main political issues that affect Nurse Anesthesia practice and patient access to safe and cost effective anesthesia care. The CRNAs from ND along with all three of us student representatives met with the ND congressional leaders at Capitol Hill to discuss our issues and concerns.

This was an incredible experience for us students to learn about the political aspects and how important it is to keep up with what's going on and to stand up for our profession. This was also the perfect opportunity for networking and meeting with CRNAs, students and others who share the same interests as we do.

On behalf of the class of 2011, we would like to express our sincerest thanks and appreciation to the NDANA and to all of the CRNAs that have provided us with excellent clinical experience throughout our education. Your contribution of knowledge, guidance and support will never be forgotten. We look forward to working with you in the Nurse Anesthesia



AANA 79th Annual Meeting

August 4-8, 2012

www.aana.com

NDANA

FALL

2011

NDANA

EXCELLENCE IN ANESTHESIA
