32
VOLUME
No. 2
SPRING 2011

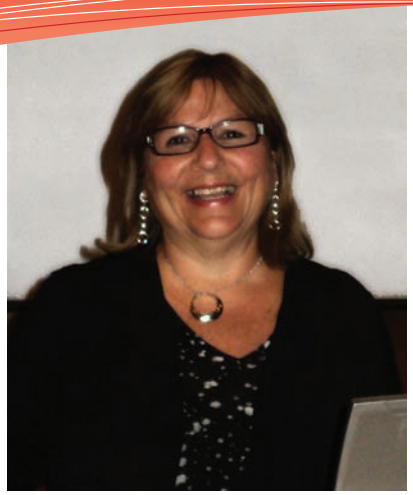
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs NOVA News

E-News from NOVA

Have you seen NOVA's new improved website? Visit the website and be sure to sign up for E-News from NOVA and encourage all NOVA members at your facility to do the same. Log onto www.vanurse.org to sign up. E- News from NOVA is NOVA's email news service highlighting the latest in health care and health care policies. NOVA uses E-News from NOVA to keep NOVA nurses updated on important legislative and other nursing issues.

NOVA needs your current email address!

Don't seem to be getting email messages from NOVA? We have some email addresses in the membership database that are not current. Be sure that you enter a valid, current email when signing up for E-News from NOVA on the NOVA website. If you have previously signed up for E-News from NOVA and are not receiving NOVA communications or have changed your email address since joining NOVA, please contact Luba Litvinova at the NOVA office at 703-444-5587.



this issue

Chapter News 3
NOVA Foundation Donations 6
Welcome Aboard! 9
Board of Directors 10

President's Message

NOVA: Supporting & Enhancing Your Professional Nursing Practice

By Joan Clifford
BSN, MSM, RN, FACHE

Spring is in the air and often brings about a sense of renewal, rebirth and new starts. In the spirit of renewal, I offer these thoughts on how NOVA supports your practice and professional development. Over time I have heard the questions asked, "Why should I join a professional organization?" "What can it do for me?" One of the most important things that I have learned as I have journeyed through my nursing practice is that professional organizations provide a sense of belonging and sharing common interests and experiences. Just as professional organizations have a responsibility to deliver value to their members; members also have a responsibility to get the most out of being part of an organization. We are familiar with patients' rights and responsibilities in our health care settings, so is it unrealistic to expect that we not only benefit from but have responsibilities to our professional organization?

*"**A professional association** (also called a **professional body, professional organization,** or **professional society**) is usually a non-profit organization seeking to further a particular profession, the interests of individuals engaged in that profession, and the public interest." (from wikipedia)*

Nursing organizations connect professionals in the field with one another, creating a community of nurses who work together to enhance and advocate for the profession. In NOVA we have the unique mission of enhancing the nursing profession and veterans' health care.

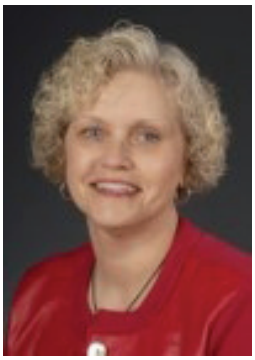
Some of the characteristics of a professional organization include membership, advocacy, networking, and education. Membership implies participation, coming together to accomplish things and giving back to the profession. Participation can be at the local level, starting a chapter, working within your chapter to promote VA nursing, running for office in your local chapter or at the national level, working on a committee or running for an elected office. Retired or planning to retire? Join VA Nurse Emeritus, the only professional nursing group specifically for and about retired VA nurses. It is through its members that a professional organization can accomplish its goals. The power of NOVA is belonging to a group that places similar value on issues that others may not share.

Advocacy/Legislative support means being on top of issues affecting health care and veterans before they happen, so that we can shape and influence instead of react. NOVA is a recognized voice on Capitol Hill, having given

continued p. 5

NOVA Annual Meeting 2011

"Hit the Jackpot: Empowering VA Nurses & Improving VA Care"



By Dolores Zander, MSN, RN-BC
Program Chair

Have you registered yet for the 2011 NOVA Annual Meeting being held in Las Vegas on June 29 - July 1 at the beautiful Venetian Hotel? Hurry up - you DON'T want to miss out on this event! The agenda looks wonderful - Leah Curtin, MS, MA, DSc, NEA-BC, a nationally renowned nurse leader, will be our Keynote Speaker. We are so excited we were able to have her speak to us on "Quantum Nursing!" We then move on to learning about current trends in "Palliative Care/End of Life," as well as the related subject of "Innovations in Pain Management," presented by Robert Kerns, PhD, National Program Director for Pain Management at VHA. To expand the opportunity for attendees to gain as much education as possible, Day 1 will include Concurrent Sessions held twice during the afternoon and will provide information on Proficiency Writing - Part I, Chapter Development, Advocating for Federal Employee Benefits, Spirituality & Aging, and Partnering with Soldiers Angels. Cathy Rick, Chief Nursing Officer, ONS, will present a session on "Linking the IOM Report to Nursing Strategic Initiatives"- a VERY informative presentation.

Day 2 will provide "Proficiency Writing - Part II," where attendees can participate in a Mock Nurse Professional Standards Board and gain a better understanding of this process that is integral to nursing promotion and recognition. The presentation, "Retirement Planning- Don't Gamble on Your Future," is very timely for many of us! A Legislative Roundtable will be held to increase our overall knowledge of our role in, and the impact of, the legislative process. We will end the Annual Meeting with our traditional "Town Hall" held by our Chief Nursing Officer, ONS, Cathy Rick, which has been a favorite for many years!

Some exciting "fun" things have been arranged by our wonderful NOVA staff! You have the opportunity to attend a performance of the blockbuster Broadway smash-hit "Jersey Boys" on Wednesday night, June 29! This is a GREAT show-I have seen it. Also, on Saturday, July 2, you can attend the Red Rock Canyon Tour and Western BBQ! This is a perfect way to extend your holiday weekend! Both of these events require reservations, so make sure you submit your registration form to the national NOVA office as soon as possible.

I am so excited about our Annual Meeting and am looking forward to seeing all of you in Las Vegas!

Hit the Jackpot!

By Dianne Nelson, BSN, RN
Chair, NOVA Foundation Board

You can hit the jackpot this summer by applying for a NOVA scholarship and by contributing to the NOVA Foundation in support of these scholarships. The following scholarships are available for VA nurses the 2011-2012 academic year:

NOVA Foundation Scholarship - $1500 award for VA employees enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a baccalaureate in nursing, masters, post-masters, or doctoral degree program. A minimum of eleven $1500 scholarships will be awarded for 2011-2012. A maximum of five of the scholarships will be awarded to nurses enrolled in baccalaureate in nursing programs.

Jesse Brown Memorial Scholarship - $3000 award for VA employee enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a baccalaureate in nursing program. A maximum of one $3000 scholarship will be awarded for 2011-2012.

Application instructions and eligibility criteria can be located on the VA Nursing Office intranet site at http://vaww.va.gov/nursing. **The application deadline is June 13, 2011!**

On June 30, during the NOVA Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, the Foundation will host a ***Reception and Silent Auction***. You can support us by attending this event and/or submitting an item for the silent auction.

You can be creative and choose an item based on our Vegas theme. You can choose something unique to your home town. Your item can be big and bold, quiet and alluring, glittery and irresistible, or so totally unique that every guest will want it!

We need items that appeal to every age group and gender, nurse and non-nurse. Donate something totally unique. Keep in mind the less expensive items are sometimes the first to go and the higher value items have a greater potential of allowing us to give more NOVA Foundation scholarships to VA nurses. We need both - no donation is too large or too small.

A good time will be had by all thanks to your unique silent auction contributions and purchasing some of these items during the reception.

So, go ahead and hit the jackpot - support VA nursing scholarship!

chapter news

Chapter 166
Tampa, FL
By Mary Seaman, RN

The NOVA Regional Meeting was held at Tampa Palms Golf and Country Club on February 25 and was attended by over forty-five VA staff. Highlights included a warm welcome from the newly appointed Associate Director, Patient Care/Nursing Services, Laureen Doloresco and a continuing education program entitled, "VA Nurses: Caring for Our Heroes by Caring for Ourselves" that inspired everyone. The attendees also enjoyed a delightful luncheon on the veranda with views of the renowned golf course and scenic area. CEUs were awarded, and the winners of the silent auction were: Lucille Raia, Associate Chief/Education (Tampa) and Joan Clifford, NOVA President (Boston). It was a beautiful, typical warm and sunny Florida day enjoyed by all.

Immediately following the Tampa Regional Meeting, the 7th Annual Red Dress/Red Tie Gala was held in the Grand Ballroom. Over 175 guests attended the annual fund-raiser including the national NOVA President, Joan Clifford and the Executive Director, Susan Dove. The event began with a cocktail hour and silent auction followed by a three course dinner and fabulous entertainment. This year's event featured "The Comedy a Cappella of Ron Feingold." His one man vocal band has travelled thousands of miles and crossed countless stages since it all started back in January 1990. Ron has performed in forty-four of the fifty states and is a regular performer in the cruise industry. He has opened for bands including such notables as the Beach Boys, REO Speedwagon, Grand Funk Railroad, BJ Thomas and Grammy winning Jazz vocalist, Diana Krall. His musical comedy show was truly a one of a kind performance and received a standing ovation at the conclusion with his patriotic rendition of "God Bless America."

Pictured Left to Right: Laureen Doloresco, MN, NEA-BC, Associate Director, Patient Care/Nursing Services; Laura Miller, RN, SCI-E; Grisel Burgos, RN, 5 North Polytrauma; Lyn Vigna, RN, 4 North Acute Care; Innette Sarduy, MPH, RN, NEA-BC, Chief Nurse, Acute Care.

Four nursing scholarships were awarded this year and the first place winner of the Tampa Chapter Contest was Laura Miller who received the $1,000 grand prize. Grisel Burgos, Lynn Vigna and Innette Sarduy all received a $500 nursing scholarship.

The Tampa Chapter is planning a dinner meeting for early summer to install new officers following the spring election. Stay tuned for upcoming events from this local chapter.

Chapter 224
Bedford, MA
By Sharon Bouchard, RN

Several NOVA chapter members of Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial VA gathered for dinners to celebrate the recent retirement of two past NOVA members, Lula Cumberlander and Paula Torti. They were both recognized and gifted with VA Nurse Emeritus memberships from our chapter as a token of celebration for all they have contributed over the years. Although Lula and Paula are quite busy in retirement, it is our hope that their new Emeritus membership will keep them connected with NOVA colleagues and the nursing profession at large. Emeritus NOVA member, Lula Cumberlander is featured in the picture below.

Chapter 226
Boston, MA
By Kelly Skinner, RN

On February 15, 2011, we coordinated a Meet & Greet (see picture on page 4) in the Dining Room of Unit 42C at the Brockton Campus. Those nurses who were able to attend this event enjoyed a pizza luncheon and Victoria Holsinger's delicious red velvet cakes for dessert. Our next Meet & Greet is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at PF Chang's at Legacy Place in Dedham, MA. Hopefully, the weather will be nice so we can dine outside. We recognize that the benefits of this type of networking opportunity include meeting other VA nurses at our local facility, staying up-to-date with changes in our field, and making connections. Here in Boston, we certainly try to make the most of our NOVA membership.

Bake sales are one of the more popular and consistent ways we raise money. Our chapter organizes a minimum

continued next page

Be a NOVA News Reporter

NOVA News is published four times a year and is your newsletter.

Submit articles that are of interest to our members. Let us know about your chapter activities. Write a few lines about what your chapter did this year and send a picture. Sharing what you do can provide recognition for your chapter as well as ideas for other chapters.

The next deadline for articles: August 1, 2011. Send your articles via email to kellydskinner@hotmail.com

chapter news continued...

continued chapter 226

of three bake sales per year. We don't have chapter dues so this is a great money maker. There is no actual capital required because all of the baked goods are donated by our members. Our most recent bake sale took place on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at the Jamaica Plain Campus. Victoria Holsinger, Laurie Doherty, Sue Vickory, Donna DeMartino, Donna Simono & her husband, and I participated in this two-hour fund raising event which raised $300.

Since the role of volunteers is essential, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the numerous dedicated volunteers within our chapter. Fund raising is hard work yet our members always find the time to volunteer in one way or another. We have such a passionate group of nurses who feel a sense of connection and believe in the mission of the organization. Thank you for your efforts and continued support!

On a more serious and solemn note, we are still mourning the loss of two of our NOVA nurses, Donna Smith and Maribel Vidro, who recently passed away. They were both long-time, active members of NOVA. Donna and Maribel will be remembered with great fondness. In their honor, donations have been made to the NOVA Foundation.

Pictured Left to Right: Kelly Skinner, Erica Sullivan, Kathleen Grab, Denise Daly, Heidi Eaton, Victoria Holsinger, and Donna DeMartino.

Chapter 364
Ft. Meade, SD
By Emily Larimer, RN

Susan Dove, NOVA's Executive Director, and Sharon Johnson, National Board Member, joined the VA Black Hills in South Dakota, celebrating the launch of National Nurses' Week on May 5th and 6th. In addition to the festivities of Nurses' Week, presentations were provided by Susan Dove and Sharon Johnson at the Ft. Meade and Hot Springs facilities to encourage and collaborate with NOVA members, who will soon be creating their first local chapter. During Susan and Sharon's visit to VA Black Hills, there was an opportunity to tour Mt. Rushmore and Custer State Park. We really appreciate Susan and Sharon taking the time to encourage us!

Pictured Left to Right: Lisa Wiederrich, Taryn Janae Wilcox-Olson, Susan Dove, Sharon Johnson, Cindy Levee, and Emily Larimer.

Chapter 420
Richmond, VA
By Judy Craggs, RN

We were honored to have Alan Bernstein, MS, RN, Director for Career Development and Workforce Management, join us for our December membership meeting. President Beverly Ross presented him with a Chapter 420 Award.

"My job is about the nurse," said Mr. Bernstein. Currently there are about 77,000 nursing personnel in the VA system; 45,000 of those are registered nurses. Information was presented by Mr. Bernstein about practice dimension, promotion and performance awards. "The work you do promotes you," he advised. Issues on attracting and retaining nurses were discussed, as well as outcomes of the innovative "Let's Get Certified" campaign. A lively question and answer period followed the presentation. Catered refreshments were provided by the chapter with door prizes.

At our March meeting Dr. James Levy, an endocrinologist at the Richmond VA, introduced a new algorithm that is being developed in VISN 6 for the management of inpatient hyperglycemia. The new guidelines are a performance improvement effort to make care more consistent and improve outcomes for our patients. Dr. Levy gave an excellent presentation and encouraged feedback from registered nurses on this process.

continued from p.1

NOVA: Supporting & Enhancing You Professional Nursing Practice

both written and oral testimony on many occasions. The Annual Legislative Roundtable, hosted by NOVA, is an example of advocacy in practice. It's our opportunity to share our legislative priorities with members of the House and Senate as well as our partners in VA health care. All politics is local and we all have the ability to influence our elected officials in their home districts, where it really matters.

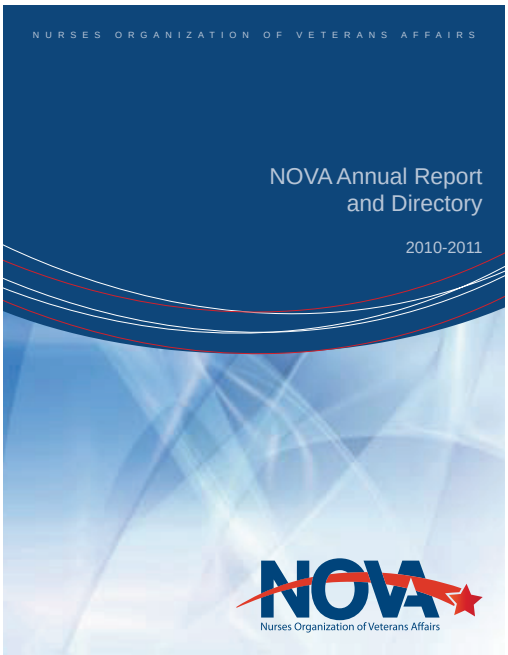
Networking allows us to build strong relationships and gives us access to vast levels of expertise that is within our colleagues. We all know that VA nurses are a special breed, and the ability to share our experience and gain from those who walk in the same shoes across the country is priceless.

Educating the nurse and others on the issues important to VA nurses and the health care of our veterans is the fourth characteristic. Annual and Regional Meetings are forums for acquiring timely knowledge and gaining skills. They allow us the opportunity to participate in presentations and discussions on topics relevant to our practice. This publication, NOVA News, is another means of getting the latest information on topics in VA health care, education, legislation and local chapters. This opportunity to learn recharges our batteries and encourages us to try something new. It also helps to reconfirm our dedication to promoting the health and well-being of our veterans.

It is the uniqueness of a professional organization and its members relationship to it that makes it stand out. As an RN in the VA, NOVA gives you the ability to network with others in a similar situation. Change is a constant in VHA but we have an advantage in being able to keep up and learn from our peers. Have you ever felt like you are reinventing the wheel? Chances are, someone else has been in the same situation but he/she may have actually found a solution. By talking with peers in your professional organization, you can learn about solutions that others have already discovered. With such a large system, surely someone has had the experience before!

NOVA recognizes the power of community to enhance our voice; joining with other societies and organizations in health policy initiatives is one way we do that. We are thrilled to have become an organizational affiliate member of the American Nurses Association in addition to our membership in the Nursing Community and Americans for Nursing Shortage Relief (ANSR) Alliance.

The effects of active membership in a nursing organization can support your practice and professional development. Get the most out of NOVA - it's YOUR organization!



NOVA's 2010-2011 Annual Report & Membership Directory

You should have received your copy of NOVA's 2010-2011 Annual Report & Membership Directory.

Hope you enjoy the new look!

VA NURSES: CARING for AMERICA'S HEROES
Sponsored by the Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs Foundation

Calling for Your Chapter's Board List and Bylaws

The NOVA National Office is in the process of updating the chapters' files and records. It is important for us to have a current Board list for each NOVA Chapter and a current set of your chapter bylaws.

Please send a copy of these documents to the National Office as soon as possible, via email to luba@vanurse.org or fax to 1-703-444-5597.

Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming NOVA Regional Meetings

Friday, October 28 , 2011
in Philadelphia, PA
and
Friday, December 2, 2011
in Dallas, TX

Registration and program details will be forwarded shortly.

Visit Us on facebook!

The bulletin board on the NOVA website (www.vanurse.org) was set up as a way for members to network by posting a message and reading responses. The bulletin board has been removed as NOVA is now on facebook (www.facebook.com). Since facebook has become a common way for individuals to keep up-to-date with friends and interests, the NOVA Board decided this was a great way to communicate. Membership to facebook is free and it is easy to set up a profile page. Once you set up a page, or if you are already a member, enter Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs in the search box at the top of the page and you will find our group page. Send a group member request and we will add you. NOVA Foundation has a group you can join too!

Here is the link to NOVA's facebook page:

http://www.facebook.com/?sk=2361831622#!/group.php?gid=76597218404

Visit Us At

NOVA Foundation Donations

January 1, 2011 - May 1, 2011

$500
Vince Elliott
Individual Donation

$250-$499
Nancy Claflin
Individual Donation
John & Nancy Di Maggio
Golf Tournament Donation
Margaret Freda
Individual Donation
Margaret Kruckmeyer
Individual Donation

$100-$249
Russell Chandler
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Constance Minix
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
The Larry Gilbert Foundation
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose

$1-$99
Betty Allen
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Donna & Frederick Dugger
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Nancy Hill
Individual Donation
Billie Hurt
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Kim Kabbech
Individual Donation
Tina Lesevic
Individual Donation
Joseph & Peggy Mann
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Michael Minnix
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Betty Minnix
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Linda Mullen
Individual Donation
Mildred Noll
Individual Donation
Elaine Raisler
Individual Donation
Antoinette Rappa
Individual Donation
Karen Scott
Individual Donation
Marti Watts
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose
Sara & Arch Williams
In memory of Marvin Van Hoose

NURSES TRUSTED to CARE

National Nurses Week

May 6 - 12, 2011

By Joan Clifford
BSN, MSM, RN, FACHE

Happy Nurses Week!

The American Nurses Association's theme this year was "Nurses Trusted to Care" and nowhere is that trust so sacred than in VA nurses caring for America's heroes. Caring for our veterans throughout the continuum of care; promoting wellness and self-management, helping the mind, body and spirit heal and providing comfort and respect in the final days is a mission that is so powerful it draws us into this Organization and helps sustain us. So on behalf of the Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs, thank you to all of you who keep the promise each and every day.

Visit the NOVA Website!

www.vanurse.org

- **Become a NOVA Member**
- **Register for the Annual Meeting**
- **Sign up to Receive E-News from NOVA**
- **Keep up to date on Legislative News**
- **Update your personal Membership Profile**
- **Securely pay your annual dues with a credit card**
- **Contact your Board Members**
- **Check out the Health Policy Handbook**
- **Check out NOVA's position papers**
- **Check out NOVA Foundation Scholarships**
- **Securely donate to the NOVA Foundation**
- **Learn about NOVA's history**
- **Learn about nurses & the legislative process**
- **Review previous issues of NOVA News**
- **View pictures from Annual Meetings**
- **Purchase NOVA merchandise**

NOVA Membership Committee Update

New Membership Campaign!

By Dolores Zander, MSN, RN-BC
Membership Secretary

11% by November 11, 2011 Veterans Day!

The Membership Committee, along with our National Office support, has launched a new membership campaign to create an interesting challenge to each chapter. With Veterans Day being a very special day to NOVA nurses, we are launching a campaign to increase our NOVA membership by 11% by November 11, 2011 - Veterans Day! Our current NOVA membership is nearly 3,330. To reach the goal of an 11% increase, we just need to recruit 363 new members by November 11! And…we can always EXCEED that goal!

All NOVA members who recruit at least one new member between May 15 and November 1 will be eligible for a GRAND PRIZE DRAWING! The winner will receive a check for $250 PLUS a $100 donation will go to the NOVA Foundation in the winner's name and be announced in NOVA News. Check your email for the announcement and membership application. Remember - there are 3 ways to pay your NOVA dues:

- Payroll deduction-take the completed application to your fiscal department
- Pay online with either a VISA or MasterCard
- Write a check and send it to the NOVA National Office.

So…do you have some folks in mind you have been meaning to ask about joining NOVA? Now is the time to make a list and give them a call! A check for $250 right before the holidays PLUS being responsible for the NOVA Foundation donation - that's a winning combination to me!

In the next issue, I will catch you up on what our newly-combined NOVA VISN and Chapter Contacts Committee is doing. We are working hard to improve the communication process for each facility as well as the role of the VISN Contact.

I hope you had a wonderful Nurses Week!!!

(Taken from a news release by Canandaigua VA Medical Center)

AORN Selects Canandaigua VA Nurse as Their President-Elect

The Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses (AORN) recently announced that their members have elected Deborah G. Spratt, RN, of Avon, NY to be the association's next President-Elect. Ms. Spratt is the Chief of the Sterile Processing Department (SPD) at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center. She has also held perioperative manager/director positions at the University of Rochester's Strong Memorial Hospital, Highland Hospital and the Lattimore Community Surgicenter.

She earned her diploma in nursing from Highland Hospital, her BSN from Alfred University in Alfred, New York, and a Master's in Public Administration from the State University of New York at Brockport. In 1979, Ms. Spratt achieved her CNOR and in 1993 obtained her CNAA. She has been a perioperative nurse since 1973 and a member of AORN since 1975. She contributed to the AORN publications, Ambulatory Surgery Principles and Practices, and Leadership in Action-A Manager's Guide to Success. She is one of several authors of the book Operating Room Management. Ms. Spratt has testified as an expert witness in the areas of ambulatory/office-based surgery and OR nursing practice and is a member of the New York State Department of Health's Committee on Quality Assurance in Office Based Surgery, and the Procedural and Site Verification Panel. She has served AORN both locally and nationally on many committees and task forces with a specific focus on surgical patient safety and workplace safety.

AORN represents the interests of more than 160,000 perioperative nurses, provides nursing education, standards, and services that enable optimal outcomes for patients undergoing operative and other invasive procedures. AORN's 40,000 registered nurse members facilitate the management, teaching, and practice of perioperative nursing, are enrolled in nursing education or engaged in perioperative research.

NOVA FOUNDATION
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs

1st Annual Golf Tournament & Evening Reception

The Courses at Andrews
Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland

Thursday, November 10, 2011

Go to www.vanurse.org to host a disabled veteran, donate to the auction and/or to register for the event.

"VA Nurses are the Heart and Hands of VA Health Care"

Welcome Aboard!

March 1, 2011 - May 1, 2011

114 SOUTHERN ARIZONA HCS
Sigrid Ahlmark
Tina Hoover
Melinda Jacobs
Janet Ohm
Peggy Schmidt
Mary Walters

129 PALO ALTO HCS
Linda Mullen
Sandra Stafford Cecil

130 GREATER LOS ANGELES HCS
Sandra Robertson

144 EASTERN COLORADO HCS
Karen Schwach

158 BAY PINES HCS
Katherine Malek

164 MIAMI HCS
Gloria Lewis
Maria Valentin

165 WEST PALM BEACH VAMC
Michelle Dickinson
Charles Faile
Dawn Farrell
Ruth Morales
Dianne Ragno
Shova Rajbhandari
Reva Williams

166 JAMES A. HALEY VETERANS HOSPITAL
Connie Garrett
Yvette Ugarte

168 AUGUSTA VAMC
Iresdella Mason

188 NORTHERN INDIANA HCS
Laura Bigger
Alisa Briones
Denise Rosa

202 EASTERN KANSAS HCS
Diane Hern

204 ROBERT J. DOLE VAMROC
Travis Nickelson
Cathy Steele

224 EDITH NOURSE ROGERS VAMC
Ama Asantewaa
Rosa Barrios
Jessica Cunniff
Gloria Duclet
Larry Johansen
Brian Korp
Thomas Mahoney
Patricia Pearce
Nichole White

226 BOSTON HCS
Marlene Cruz
Michele Lacroix
Stephanie Lee
Kathleen Olszak-Theobald
Joan Pavidis
Bonnie Jean Russell
Rebecca Shultz

246 MINNEAPOLIS VAMC
Denise Lingen
Tamera Weber

260 ST. LOUIS VAMC
Carla Sugg

276 NEW JERSEY HCS
Tina Lesevic

340 BUTLER VAMC
James Bilanich
Karen Dunn

344 ERIE VAMC
Pamela Sedney

346 LEBANON VAMC
Nancy C. Elliott

348 PHILADELPHIA VAMC
Amina Abdul-Sharif
Beverly Brown
Lourdes Cabrales
Maureen Cook
Susan Egler-Cruice
Lynnette Greene
Mary Henninger
Gerdyne Joseph
John Keller
Brenda Lingham
Melissa Trost
Annette Wright
Yinbing Zhu
Sara Ziccone-Halton

352 PITTSBURGH HCS
Thomas Bassett

362 W. J. BRYAN DORN VETERANS HOSPITAL
Jack Holdford

364 BLACK HILLS HCS
Jacqueline Hedlund
Lynette Rhoden

386 EL PASO HCS
Timothy McMurry
Virginia Rojo
Laura Sarmiento

418 HAMPTON VAMC
Carolyn Latta

420 HUNTER HOLMES MCGUIRE VAMC
Marsha Calesa
Tina Fulcher
Marta Riquelme
Doreen Schlimmer
Ronda Toms

Non-Chapter
Jennifer Hill
Ninilola Ogundale
Theressia Polk

NOVA Mission Statement

"NOVA: Shaping and Influencing Health Care within the Department of Veterans Affairs."

NOVA Vision Statement

VA nurses will provide high quality nursing care. VA nurses will have an optimal work environment. VA nurses will be well informed on relevant issues that impact VA health care and nursing practice. VA nurses will have a strong voice in the legislative arena. VA nurses will have a strong presence at the VHA corporate leadership level.

NOVA 2011 Board of Directors

President
Joan Clifford, BSN, MSM, RN, FACHE October 2010-June 2013
Boston VA Health Care System
244 Shute Street
Everett, MA 02149
B 857-203-5040 **C** 617-839-4392
Email: Joanco2149@comcast.net

Vice President
Larry Lemos, MSN, MHA, RN, GCNS-BC June 2009-June 2012
Long Beach VA Health Care System
2425 East 4th Street
Long Beach, CA 90814
B 562-826-8000 x 4146 **F** 562-826-5662
H 562-826-7267
Email: larrylemos@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Mary Seaman, MS, RN, NEA-BC October 2010- June 2013
James A. Haley VA Hospital
18017 Arbor Crest Drive
Tampa, FL 33647
B 813-979-3672 **H** 813-991-7835 **C** 707-799-5163
Email: maryseaman@hotmail.com

Secretary
Sharon Johnson, MSN, RN-BC June 2009- June 2012
Maryland VA Health Care System
6108 Hopeton Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
B 410-605-7097 **F** 410-605-7993
H 410-889-6547
Email: SJDST120@verizon.net

Membership Secretary
Dolores Zander, MSN, RN-BC October 2010-June 2013
Philadelphia VAMC
1658 Bush Road
Cochranville, PA 19330
B 215-823-5800 x 3990 **H** 610-593-2951 **C** 610-563-9552
Email: mzdzpa@epix.net

Directors

Mary Ann Church, MSN, RN-BC October 2010-June 2013
Manchester, New Hampshire VAMC
20 Lisa Beth Circle
Dover, NH 03820
B 800-892-8384 x 5714 **H** 603-742-6984 **C** 505-350-4954
Email: Macshat@aol.com

Janet Minard, BSN, RN-BC June 2009-June 2012
Lebanon VAMC
749 Houtztown Road
Myerstown, PA 17067-1604
B 717-272-6621 x 4994 **H** 717-933-5738
C 717-304-4912
Email: arminard@comcast.net

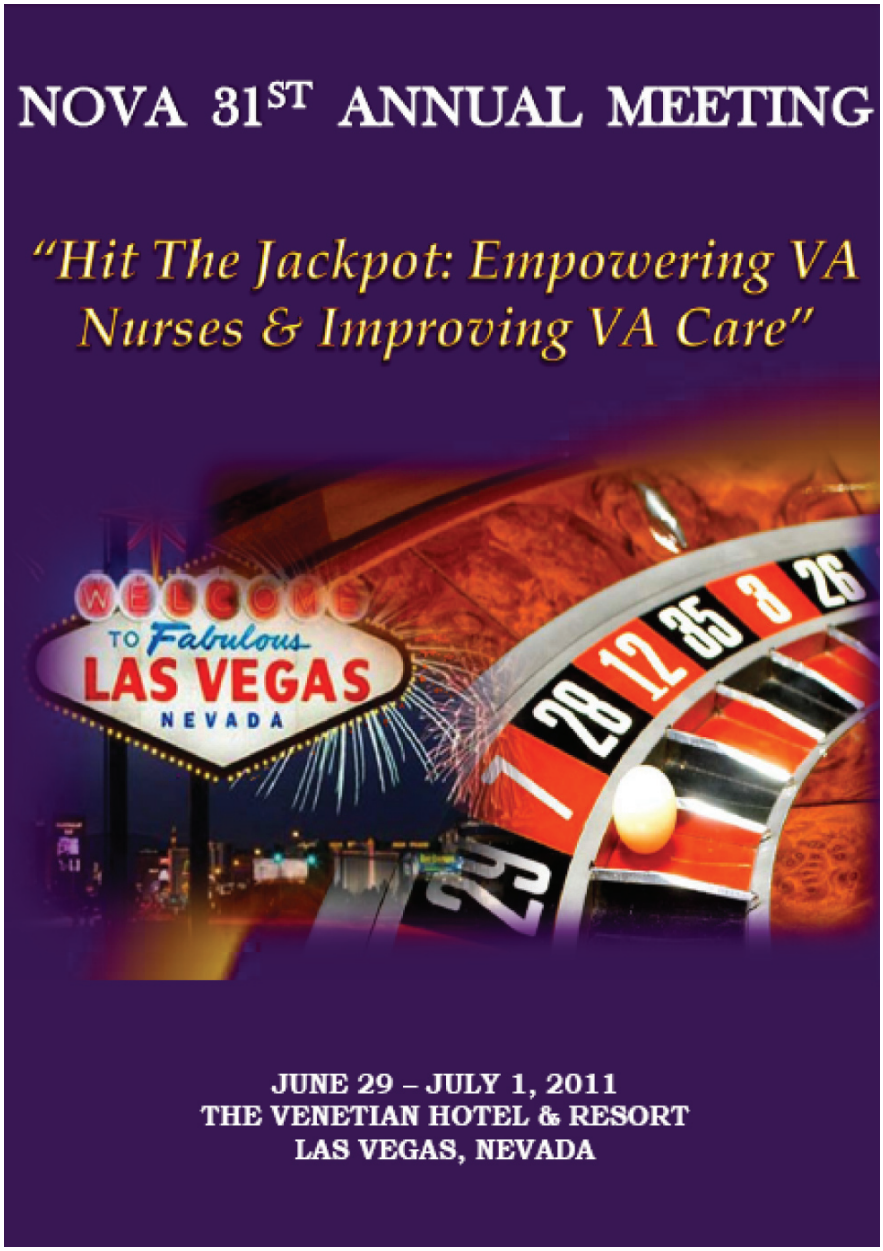
Melissa Nixon, MSN, RN, ANP-BC, COHN-S June 2009-June 2012
St. Louis VAMC
1269 Rocky Meadow
Barnhart, MO 63012
B 314-652-4100 x 64262 **H** 636-475-3757
Email: Mnixon03@yahoo.com

Thelma Roach-Serry, BSN, RN, NE-BC June 2009-June 2012
Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center
8104 Wyntrebrooke Court
Richmond, VA 23235
B 804-675-5582 H 804-745-5697 **C** 804-363-7413
F 804-675-6496
Email: hserry@verizon.net

Kelly Skinner, MSN, RN, CRRN, WCC, APRN, BC, GNP-BC
June 2009-June 2012
Boston VA Health Care System
8 Appletree Lane
Walpole, MA 02081
B 857-203-6578 **H** 508-660-5016 **C** 617-775-3317
Email: kellydskinner@hotmail.com

Immediate Past President
Nancy Claflin, PhD, RN, CCRN, CPHQ, FNAHQ
October 2010-June 2013
Phoenix VA Health Care System
2237 East Tahitian Way
Gilbert, AZ 85234
B 602-277-5551 x 7037 **F** 602-222-6489
H 480-926-9519 **C** 602-625-3628
Email: nclaflin@cox.net

Executive Director
Susan H. Dove
NOVA
47595 Watkins Island Square
Sterling, VA 20165
B 703-444-5587 **F** 703-444-5597
Email: sdove@vanurse.org



Important Information!

NOVA News is edited by Larry Lemos and Kelly Skinner. This newsletter is yours, please feel free to quote, photocopy, or share, but always reference NOVA News.

NOVA News is the official publication of the Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs. It is published four times per year. Subscription price is included in the annual dues for members.

It is extremely important that you notify the National Office as soon as possible whenever you have a change of address or VA facility. Crucial legislative and other correspondence will then reach you in a timelier manner. If you have not received NOVA News, the Annual Meeting brochure, or other NOVA communications, please contact the National Office so we can correct the problem.

REMINDER
Put your questions or requests in writing when communicating with NOVA National Office. Use our website for faster service: www.vanurse.org or fax your comments to: 703-444-5597.