Alabama

Hazel Taylor #239

The chapter is working on some great educational offerings for members. On June 3, we enjoyed a presentation on Hyponatremia that was sponsored by Otsuka. We had a great turnout.

We are working on a possible Zoom meeting for late July and have our all-day Nephrology Update planned for October 15. We are trying to determine if we can safely hold this event in person and are looking for an ideal location. We have a great speaker line up, including Jennifer Payton from South Carolina, Tyson Moore from Ohio, Cynthia Thorn from UAB transplant, and more. Watch for more information!

Thanks to chapter member Tanisha Leonard for writing and submitting an article via the ANNA Leadership Committee on “Shared Governance in Nephrology Nursing.”

The chapter officers are here for you and want to hear your thoughts or suggestions for the chapter. Please feel free to reach out to any of us: President Dr. Angie Kurosaka (who is also ANNA National President-Elect); President-Elect Patti Patterson; Secretary Cindy Richards; Treasurer Sara Kennedy (who is also ANNA National Treasurer); Health Policy Representative Vickie Kanute; and Program Committee member Tanisha Leonard.

Florida

South Florida Flamingo #206

Our chapter is looking forward to a productive summer. Chapter officers for 2021-2022 are President Daniela Chetan, President-Elect Debra Hain, Health Policy Representative Pamela DePiola, Treasurer Linda Boucher, and Secretary Karen Hill. We are committed to continuing our educational meetings and are here to assist our members.

Welcome to our new members: Simone Barnes Douglas, Silvina Azpiroz, Marie Charlot, Tatiana Curbelo, Michelle Hilton, Rachael Lopez, Elsa Madeira, and Rosa Ramos. We are sure you will gain knowledge, enjoy networking, and find new friendships through ANNA and our chapter.

Our chapter is holding a membership drive from May 1 to September 1, 2021. Anyone who brings in two new members will receive a free 1-year ANNA membership.

In May, some chapter members attended the Florida Society of Nephrology’s annual convention. We met many of the leading nephrologists as well as other ANNA members from chapters around the state. The seminars were interesting and informative. Chapter President Dr. Debra Hain gave a lecture on Structural Racism and Kidney Health that was well attended and very engaging.

Thank you to Aurinia Pharma and Michelle Woodley for sponsoring a meeting at Brimstone Woodfire Grill in Pembroke Pines, FL, on May 18. Dr. Larry Agra gave a presentation on Lupus Nephritis that was very informative and well received. Congratulations to Beatrice

Bea Francois (right) was the winner of a raffle held during an educational dinner hosted by the South Florida Flamingo Chapter in May. Also pictured (from left) are Chapter President Daniela Chetan, Treasurer Linda Boucher, and Health Policy Representative Pamela DePiola.

California

Nephros South #506

We are emerging from COVID-19 survival mode with a renewed sense of purpose to our patients and ourselves. Chapter officers Wendy Lester, Gloria Booth, and Kathi Amarillas met in June to discuss plans for reaching out to our members, old and new. We are brainstorming ideas to rekindle interest in chapter activities. One of our goals is to create a culture of inclusivity that inspires leadership and participation. The lessons and challenges of this past year have taught us the importance of staying connected with colleagues and dialysis team members. As important as webinars and virtual conferences have been in providing education in the safety of our homes, we still value in-person educational meetings and the opportunity to network with each other.

With this in mind, we are exploring opportunities for small in-person presentations. Topics of interest are acute kidney injury, sepsis, and treatment of COVID-19 related renal failure, as well as new concepts in peritoneal dialysis and home hemodialysis. By sharing the experiences of this past year, we reaffirm our commitment to provide excellent dialysis care and to support the mission of ANNA to provide education to our chapter members. Thanks to all the members who have kept the spirit of Nephros South alive. We look forward to “seeing” you all soon!
Francois, who won the night's raffle of a beautiful wine set. The chapter raised $105, and we all had a good time.

Thank you to Dr. Cris Gibson and Amgen for hosting an educational dinner at Café Vico in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, on May 25. He spoke on Secondary Hyperparathyroidism and answered many questions from attendees. We always look forward to Cris’s presentations. Gilda Jones and Shushanne Wynter Minott were the lucky winners of the night’s raffle. They each received a gorgeous flamingo wind chime. We raised $145 for the chapter, and everyone enjoyed the evening.

On June 22, AstraZeneca and Brian Dragutsky hosted our meeting at Chops Lobster Bar in Boca Raton, FL. Daniela Chetan presented Identifying and Caring for Patients with Hyperkalemia.

We are excited to welcome everyone to the ANNA Nephrology Nursing Practice, Management, & Leadership Conference September 17-19 in Hollywood, FL. Chapter members are looking forward to meeting many of you and having a good time at the Diplomat Beach Resort.

Kentucky Bluegrass #322

Our chapter was busy in May. Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear proclaimed the month of May as Nurse Suicide Prevention Month. We celebrated Nurses Week. We continued to help community members get vaccinated by participating in vaccine clinics. We participated in Intersection of Social Justice.

Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear proclaimed the month of May as Nurse Suicide Prevention Month.
and Healthcare Movie Night 5: The Providers. This film goes along with Nurses Week and the governor’s proclamation. We celebrate all of our nurses and thank them for being there for our patients, but also for being there for one another during these times.

Our chapter was happy to receive the STAR Award for Advocacy. We continue to advocate for patients, our profession, and the role of nurses as leaders in advocacy.

The National Symposium was a great opportunity for learning and networking. Teresa Villaran attended the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) and enjoyed listening to what is expected of nurses in our role as health policy leaders and experts.

Maryland

Baltimore #101

Summer is looking like it will be so much nicer this year than last! With restrictions related to COVID-19 being eased, we are hoping to hold an in-person meeting very soon. With that said, we have had several virtual educational offerings with contact hours. Each program received great feedback.

The ANNA National Office has begun new incentives for nursing students interested in a nephrology career. Do you know any students who may be interested? Visit the ANNA website at annanurse.org/students for details, or contact a chapter officer for more information. Help spread the word so students can take advantage of these opportunities!

Michigan

Michiganna #312

Our chapter had the opportunity to offer six nephrology nurses a 1-day access to the 2021 ANNA Virtual National Symposium on Sunday, May 2. All the participants from our chapter were extremely satisfied with the relevant information and have shown interest in becoming more involved with the chapter.

On May 16, we had our first-ever virtual happy hour meet and greet to introduce new chapter members and the new chapter officers. Participants shared their opinions and learned about the benefits of joining ANNA and the local chapter.

The St. Louis Metro Chapter held an educational dinner program on “Keeping Patients on Course: Managing Recurrent HK” on May 11. Louise Elpers came all the way from Indiana, and Anne Cleveland won the drawing for a bottle of wine and an ANNA face mask.

St. Louis Metro Chapter members gathered together for food, professional development, and moral support at an educational dinner event on May 11.

Congratulations to Maranda Watts (right), who won an ANNA beach towel and margaritas at an educational dinner event hosted by the St. Louis Metro Chapter on May 11.
With the Year of the Nurse being extended for another year, our chapter celebrated self-care week, nurse recognition week, professional development week, and community engagement week. We held free drawings for gift cards, shared information, and uplifted each other after the challenges of last year.

One of the goals of the chapter’s new officers is networking and strengthening relationships with other nursing organizations in Michigan, such as the American Nurses Association and the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, given that some of our members are also part of those organizations. We are developing a new partnership with the Minority Organ Tissue and Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP) and some other joint activities in which MichiANNA will be participating in the upcoming months. We would love for you to join and be a part of our activities!

**Missouri**

**St. Louis Metro #307**

Several chapter members attended the 2021 ANNA Virtual National Symposium as a group on Sunday, May 2. This made it feasible and cost-effective for many of our members to benefit from the professional content and to obtain contact hours. Thank you to the ANNA National Office for this opportunity.

Thank you to Relypsa/Veltassa for hosting a dinner program on Keeping Patients on Course: Managing Recurrent HK. We enjoyed the evening, education, food, and most of all, getting together again. We held a drawing for an ANNA face mask and ANNA beach towel. Congratulations to the lucky winners: Maranda Watts and Anne Cleveland!

We held our quarterly chapter business meeting in June. All chapter members are valued participants and are needed to keep the chapter vital and thriving. Among the topics were the upcoming end-of-summer dinner program on anemia of CKD and the hypoxia-inducible factor (HIF) pathway disease state hosted by AstraZeneca, planning for Nephrology Nurses Week in September, and planning for our annual Fall Education Day.

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**New Jersey**

**Garden State #125**

The chapter has been busy hosting virtual online sessions with contact hours. We addressed the COVID pandemic with a presentation by Joy Baldridge entitled Riding the Corona Coaster, which shared helpful hints to deal with stressors. Dr. Christine Venuti from AstraZeneca presented three programs: Cardio-Renal Outcomes with Dapagliflozin: Focus on CKD, Clinical Burden and Management of Hyperkalemia, and Current Understanding of Anemia of CKD. The sessions were free, open to all professionals, and provided 1.1 contact hours each.

Chapter officers Sandy Miholics, Linda Ford, Miriam Rodriguez, and Caroline Steward, and past Leadership Committee members Trish Phulchand and Eileen Cieri attended the Virtual National Symposium.

Our chapter remains active in helping the community during the pandemic. Caroline Steward assisted with COVID testing and vaccinations at Homefront, a homeless shelter in Ewing, NJ, and Sandy Miholics provided assistance to several food banks. Many other members are going beyond their daily jobs to help those in need.

We look forward to putting this epidemic behind us as we eagerly plan for future events. Our officers are discussing how to celebrate Nephrology Nurses Week in September and planning our Fall Meeting at The Breakers on November 3. We miss everyone and hope to see you soon!

**Jersey North #126**

We held a virtual chapter educational program on CKD-Associated Pruritus on June 3. As of this writing, we had 23 registrants.

Plans are underway for an educational meeting during Nephrology Nurses Week. We hope to host a dinner meeting.

We welcome volunteers to help plan activities. Also, we will mentor any volunteers for chapter officer positions. The chapter continues to recruit volunteers for chapter president, president-elect, secretary, and treasurer for future years.

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**New York**

**Northeast Tri-State #120**

The chapter has been busy planning our educational offerings for 2021. We held two virtual programs so far this year: one was a non-CE offering and the other program offered 2.0 contact hours.

We are busy planning a full-day program to be held in-person, now that the COVID restrictions have been adjusted to allow gatherings of a certain size. We feel that we all need to get back together. The program will be held in the Lake George area in October. Please watch ANNA Connected for details.

If you want to get involved within the chapter, please reach out to any officer via ANNA Connected. We would love to hear from you.

**Long Island #122**

Welcome to our new chapter officers: President RoseAnne Bonello and President-Elect and Secretary Francesca Babel. Lorraine Harte will remain as our treasurer, and Kathleen Rice will continue as health policy representative.

Our chapter held our first virtual conference on June 6. Mary Rzeszut spoke about the Psychological Effects of COVID-19 on the Renal Patient. Dr. Manju Chandra presented Causes of CKD and ESRD in Children: Special Considerations in Management. Elsa Santos-Cruz discussed Infection Control Challenges in Dialysis Facilities, and Kelly Holm spoke about the Northport VAMC COVID-19 Vaccine Program. Participants received 5.0 contact hours.

RoseAnne Bonello is excited about serving as chapter president. We hope our fall conference will be in person. We look forward to seeing everyone!

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**North Carolina**

**Greater Charlotte #202**

Thank you to Todd Hopps of Relypsa for sponsoring our first educational dinner. We appreciate Dr. Etomi taking the time to discuss Veltassa, research studies, and indications for use with hyperkalemia. It was wonderful to connect with our nephrology team in the Charlotte area.

We are planning several educational dinners over the next few months leading up to our 1-day educational conference in November. Watch for more information!
North Dakota

Red River Valley #341

Save the date for our 11th Annual Dialogues in Dialysis Conference. We will be holding our conference virtually this year with three amazing speakers on November 4 at 5 pm CDT. Watch for additional registration information coming soon on ANNA Connected.

Welcome to our 2021-2022 chapter officers: President Angela McCarvel, President-Elect Amy Lamb, Treasurer Sandy Kantola, Secretary Kelly Leach, and Health Policy Representative Maria Regnier.

Pennsylvania

Keystone #110

Our chapter gained a lot of new members over the past 2 months, and we would like to welcome them: Christina Caravello, Maria Nelina Quinno, Jocelyn Seier, Nicole Dolan, Glorifino Juan, Birukti Kasay, Patricia Ladele, Nancy Lidle, Linda Roberts, Colette Stitt, Casey Stockman, Kathleen Templin, Ana Verna, Bich Anh Vuong, and Yelena Yefimov.

Our chapter has been busy securing presenters for bimonthly educational offerings. On May 27, Paula Richards presented Managing Fluid Issues in ESRD Patients, which proved very relevant and informative. Another program is planned for July 15-16. Sherri So will present Chronic Pruritis in Patients with Non-Dialysis Dependent Kidney Disease. Welcome to our new chapter president-elect, Shelby Hisler. Past President Icar Noel will serve as the next treasurer.

Texas

Gulf Coast #204

At the close of the 2021 ANNA National Symposium, the 2021-2022 chapter officers officially assumed their roles: President Tanya Scott, President-Elect Marichelle Antonio Espiritu, Treasurer Manjusha Thomas, Secretary Chantal Scott, and Health Policy Representative Mario Braza. As your elected leaders, the chapter officers will continue to be committed to our mission of upholding the welfare of chapter members through education, advocacy, collaboration, and leadership. Our vision is to provide service, inspire, inform, and connect nephrology nurses in the community to contribute to health and promote professional excellence of nephrology nursing through innovative, evidence-based practice.

The new officers acknowledge and express their sincerest gratitude to the 2020-2021 chapter officers – Aelyn Abardo, Ursula Chester, Marichelle Espiritu, and Alex Hagad – who displayed grace and resilience throughout a year of uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we start our new year we encourage each one of you to come along for the journey. Stay tuned to ANNA Connected for communication regarding meetings, events, and educational opportunities. Thank you for your continued support!

Alamo City #205

Our first chapter meeting was held on June 3. It was hosted by Marissa Escobar Quinones and Ellen Colman from AstraZeneca who spoke on the Use of Dapagliflozin in the Management of CKD. We enjoyed a meal together again after 15 months, and there was a lot of networking among our chapter members and guests.

The chapter officers participated in the Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Workshop, which was held during the National Symposium. President Jeff Tyer, co-President-Elects Annabel Campbell and Jane Wilson, Health Policy Representative Kathy Herrera, Treasurer, and Secretary Gail Dewald spent Sunday, May 2, learning to lead our chapter throughout the 2021-2022 year.

We have big plans for the chapter’s 132 members, like getting back to monthly meetings and in-person board meetings. We have missed seeing all our members and look forward to more wonderful reunions.

Dallas #208

Congratulations to chapter member Dr. Mary Schira on receiving the 2021 Outstanding Contribution to ANNA Award. Pictured (from left, front) are Glenda Payne, Camille May, Mary Schira; (back) Donna Painter, Teleshia Coleman, Cynthia Wright, Deidre Parikh, and Nenita Cuellar.

Dallas chapter officers congratulate chapter member Dr. Mary Schira for receiving the 2021 Outstanding Contribution to ANNA Award. Pictured (from left, front) are Glenda Payne, Camille May, Mary Schira; (back) Donna Painter, Teleshia Coleman, Cynthia Wright, Deidre Parikh, and Nenita Cuellar.
planning a live dinner with contact hours and a virtual offering later in the week with a meal voucher for attendees.

Utah

Intermountain #516

We hope you had the opportunity to attend the ANNA National Symposium in May. It was worth every minute!

We continue to provide educational meetings for our chapter each month. The meetings are a wonderful opportunity to learn and network. Each meeting has been informative and enjoyable. We are grateful for the support of our vendors over the past year.

In May, Velphoro presented Clinical Experience and Implications: High Potency Phosphate Binding to Activate Control with Velphoro. In June, Ardelyx sponsored a program on the new phosphorous binder.

Stay tuned regarding upcoming meetings being scheduled via ANNA Connected. We also welcome suggestions for future educational events. If you have topic suggestions, reach out to chapter officers via ANNA Connected.

We are excited to announce the annual education update is scheduled for October 8-9. Save the date! We are currently finalizing the meeting details, so stay tuned for more information.

Reach out to your chapter officers if you want to get more involved with our chapter: President Kristin Larson, President-Elect Phyllis Aseltine, Treasurer/Secretary Melanie Harper, Health Policy Representative Danette Borg, and planning committee member Karri Hoopes. We are always looking for volunteers to help. You can reach us via ANNA Connected.

Virginia

Tidewater #241

After 15 months of COVID restrictions, chapter members were finally able to gather for an in-person meeting on June 10. We are grateful to Aurinia Pharma for hosting the educational dinner meeting at a local restaurant. Guest speaker Dr. Elizabeth Clayton gave an informative presentation on LUPKYNIS™. We learned all the details about the only FDA-approved oral medication to treat people with active lupus nephritis.

Chapter officers have plans to offer additional educational topics throughout the rest of the year with some virtual and some in-person gatherings. Make sure your email address is up to date on ANNA Connected so that you will receive all notifications about chapter activities.

Congratulations to our chapter officers for continuing to guide and educate people in our community about COVID-19 vaccination sites. The team also has followed up with families with homebound family members who require vaccines to be brought into the home. Our goal is to help our country heal and recover as quickly as possible.

Finally, our chapter recertified our charter, even through the pandemic. Congratulations to the Tidewater team on a job well done!

Washington

Pacific Northwest #503

We can see the light at the end of the tunnel. With more Washingtonians getting fully vaccinated, we hope Washington state will be fully open by the time this newsletter is printed.

Our chapter education committee is preparing for the Fall Workshop in September. We are planning to hold an in-person educational event. Now, we are facing a new challenge of easing back into “normal.” Currently, we are not able to confirm a location that can accommodate a large attendance. At the same time, interest is divided between in-person and virtual. Hopefully, things will shake out soon. We are looking forward to seeing you at our fall education event and meeting our new ANNA members. Please continue to follow us via ANNA Connected.