Alabam a

Hazel Taylor #239

Our chapter’s Nephrology Nurses Week event was well attended. Sponsored by Rockwell Medical, the program included dinner and a presentation on “Triferic- Finally, Iron Replacement Therapy that Maintains Hemoglobin.” Thanks to Rockwell for supporting our chapter!

Our 33rd Annual Nephrology Update will be held on October 20 at the Hoover Public Library. Topics and speakers include:

• Conflict Management – Jennifer Payton, NxStage Dialysis Unit Manager, Charleston, SC, and ANNA National Secretary
• The Kidney Gut Interaction – Dr. Jane Davis, UAB Division of Nephrology
• Nutrition Update, 2017 – Ellen Prey, Dietitian, Fresenius Medical Care
• Cardiac Stunning – Dr. Jane Davis;
• Infection Control: Update for the Dialysis Provider – Jennifer Payton
• Effective Patient Communication – Dr. Sondra Lee, Health Systems, Tuscaloosa

It is not too late to register! We have applied for CNE credit through ANNA’s approval board. Thanks to the vendors who have signed up for table displays at this meeting.

Watch for an email in November asking for nominees for chapter officers. Volunteers will be needed for the following chapter roles: president-elect, treasurer, and health policy representative.

Arizona

Desert Vista #501

The chapter held its annual mixer on June 22 with the kind support of Alexion. Posters were on display explaining the various officer roles within our chapter. Our officers also gave a brief description on the roles and encouraged members to seek out opportunities as they present themselves within the chapter. This was a great event to catch up with chapter members, and we also welcomed a new member, Scott Turk, who was the lucky recipient of our membership giveaway. We also were given some great information and education regarding the difference between atypical hemolytic-uremic syndrome (HUS) and thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura from Alexion.

We also have been busy planning our chapter activities for the remainder of the year. Our next event will be held in September. Stay tuned to ANNA Connected and our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/desertvista501 for all the details!

California

San Francisco Bay Area #504

We are happy to announce our new officers: President Sherri Lara and Health Policy Representative Gilda Jones. Sherri attended the 2017 Volunteer Leaders Workshop in Washington, DC, this spring.

We updated our chapter name to “San Francisco Bay Area” to better represent our region of outreach. We are planning to host two educational events this fall, including a CDN Certification Review. Watch for more details about these events.

If you are interested in becoming a chapter officer, the position of president-elect is currently vacant. Please contact Secretary Kannika Lam at kannika.lam.m@gmail.com.

Keep up to date with our chapter via Facebook at www.facebook.com/americanephrologynursesassociation chapter504 and our website at annachapter504.tumblr.com.

Nephros South #506

Our chapter has a 39-year history of providing the best educational opportunities for San Diego’s nephrology nursing community. As our members are enjoying time this summer for much needed fun and relaxation with family and friends, chapter officers continue to plan educational events with great topics at great venues for the coming months.

Nephros South hosted an educational event on August 9 at Seasons 52 near the San Diego Harbor. Mary Stromme, renal clinical consultant for medical affairs for Sanofi Renal, presented “Calcium Insights” based on KDIGO guidelines.

In September, Alexion will present an update on atypical hemolytic-uremic syndrome. We also are looking forward to learning more about the nurse-directed...
Chapter Update

protocol for the new FDA approved biomarker for acute kidney injury (AKI). Additionally, we are hoping to provide more education on topics our members have requested, such as AKI treatment, innovations in transplantation, and home dialysis.

Many of our officers and members are involved in outreach programs for student nurses as well as community activities for the elderly, homeless, and disadvantaged. Gloria Booth, although retired, continues to serve as a chapter officer and uses her expert nursing assessment and care coordination skills to provide much needed professional care in a local adult day care center.

In future issues, we will recognize other individual chapter members for their outstanding contributions in professional endeavors and community outreach. Stay tuned!

Los Angeles #508

On July 11, chapter members, UCLA’s nephrology clinical research team, and nephrology nurses met for an educational program sponsored by Sanofi held at Cafe Del Rey in Marina Del Rey. Dr. Anjay Rastogi from UCLA’s division of nephrology presented an informative talk on Fabry disease. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all.

San Joaquin Valley #532

Chapter officers and members participated in our first educational offering for the ANNA year on May 26 at Community Regional Medical Center Fresno, CA. A representative from the California Department of Public Health spoke about Infection Control in the Outpatient Dialysis Setting. The event was a success with a good turnout of attendees.

Chapter members also met to plan activities for Nephrology Nurses Week. Members sold Jamba® juice cards for a chapter fundraising event. The fundraiser was a huge success.

Dialysis staff from Community Regional Medical Center who are also ANNA members participated in a fire drill as part of emergency preparedness. It is important that employees are knowledgeable in fire prevention and emergency response in healthcare facilities. The training included discussion on the types of fire extinguishers, parts of a fire extinguisher, and safe use of fire extinguishers. The drill emphasized the importance of personal safety and the safety of others when fighting a fire.

Colorado

High Country #502

Chapter President Meredith Swalm took advantage of the opportunity to meet with the ANNA National Board of Directors at their business meeting in Denver in July. She found the directors extremely helpful and generous. They had lots of advice that will help our chapter reach the goals we have set for 2017. They also provided her with introductions to some key contacts, who will be helpful as we plan future educational events. Thanks to the Board of Directors!

The chapter officers held a business meeting in July. We finalized the date for our “Fall Meet & Greet,” which is scheduled for October 10. Save the date announcements have been distributed as our members have expressed a need for plenty of notice for chapter events. The location has been finalized and postcards with details will be sent approximately 6 weeks prior to the event.

We also decided on the qualifying participation events that give members opportunities to be eligible for our National Symposium Giveaway. Look for details coming soon via ANNA Connected! Please be sure your contact information is updated so you receive all chapter mailings and ANNA Connected updates.

San Francisco Bay Area chapter members Sherri Lara, Gilda Jones, Kannika Lam, and Mei Chang held a meeting in Redwood City to discuss plans for the chapter’s fall educational events.

Dialysis staff from Community Regional Medical Center who are also members of the San Joaquin Valley Chapter participated in a fire drill as part of emergency preparedness training.

In future issues, we will recognize other individual chapter members for their outstanding contributions in professional endeavors and community outreach. Stay tuned!
Chapter Update

Connecticut / Massachusetts

Southern New England #135

Congratulations to our chapter members and IPRO for sponsoring the Annual Fall Meeting in October 2016. We had the largest attended local chapter meeting in the nation for 2016!

Our chapter is working with IPRO Network of New England to organize an event that will be educational and stimulating. The program will be held October 17 at The Mohegan Sun Conference Center in Uncasville, CT. Seven speakers will cover topics including ESCO, water treatment, fluid management from a cardio-nephrologist, reducing bloodstream infections, CKD/ESRD on a global level, and therapeutic relationships. As always, ESRD from a patient’s perspective will be included. There is something for everyone involved in the care of our renal patients, regardless of your role!

As our chapter is never idle, planning for dinner educational events and our annual spring conference will begin right after this conference. If you have ideas for topics or would like to become involved, email Deb Ware at anna.secretary@gmail.com.

In chapter member news, Tania DaSilva was married in October 2016 and celebrated a 5-year anniversary at her job. In addition, two of our chapter board members have furthered their education. Maria Toplosky, past president, achieved status of NP-C, Hospitalist, and Elyssa Noce, president, achieved status of APRN Transplant Team. Congratulations to all!

Florida

Sunshine Central #272

As we enter the fall, it is time to think about the new year to come. I know many have enjoyed attending chapter events, but events and other activities cannot continue without your involvement. Please attend upcoming chapter planning meetings and take an active role. We hope to see you soon! We know you have lots of new ideas to share.

Georgia

Dogwood #224

It is back to school time in Atlanta, and our chapter is continuing to focus on renal education with a certification review planned for October 28. Watch for details.

Welcome to our four new chapter members: Kay Lowe, Shawn Benjamin, Cecile Cooke-Morris, and Laquesha Walker. We are looking forward to seeing you at meetings and events!

On September 12, chapter members met with Governor Nathan Deal at the Georgia State Capitol for a photo opportunity in honor of the proclamation for Kidney Disease Awareness and Education (KDAE) and Nephrology Nurses Week.

Visit our chapter website for weekly Capitol Hill legislative updates from Lillian Pryor.

We would love to hear about your summer activities and how you celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week. Please contact us via ANNA Connected and share your ideas and achievements. Visit our website at www.annadogwoodchapter224.com.

Our chapter will be hosting a Dialysis Infection Prevention Program. Details to follow.

What’s ahead for 2018? The Georgia Collaborative! Stay tuned for more information.

Illinois

Windy City #305

Our chapter’s annual summer Nephrology Nursing: Back to the Basics review program was successfully held on June 23 at the Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue
Donor Network Facilities in Itasca, IL. Members and several nonmembers enjoyed a day of study and networking, broken up by a continental breakfast, a box lunch, and a chapter fundraising raffle. Participants also toured the facilities and learned about Gift of Hope programs and activities. Gift of Hope President and CEO Kevin Cmunt also made a touching presentation during lunch. Thank you to the Gift of Hope coordinators for their wonderful hospitality in hosting this program. Thank you also to attendees who participated in the raffles. These fundraising raffles help us keep the costs of our programs so reasonable.

Plans are still underway for a fall dinner/educational program. Once finalized, chapter members will be notified through ANNA Connected and information will be posted on the chapter Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ANNAwindycity.

If you have not had the opportunity to attend a national conference, remember that the Nephrology Nursing Practice, Management, and Leadership Conference (formerly the ANNA Fall Meeting) will be held at the Hyatt Regency Miami on September 23-25, 2017. For more information, visit www.annanurse.org.

Our calendar year is already nearing an end, and we will soon be preparing ballots for national and chapter offices. It is not too early (or too late) for anyone thinking about becoming an officer for the next year to step up and let a current officer know that you are interested in serving. Chapter officers will be appointed if enough candidates are not available to fill a ballot. Think about it! Contact any chapter officer through our chapter Facebook page for further questions and support, or you can find us through the ANNA website (under Chapter Website Links).

We can always use help in planning chapter programs, events, and activities. Do you know a great location for an educational event? Do you have a contact for an interesting topic or program? Contact any officer through our chapter Facebook page with your suggestions. An active membership is what drives and sustains a chapter’s success and activities. Continue to learn, lead, and connect with your local chapter. Contact an officer today, and get involved!

Dogwood chapter member Lillian Pryor volunteered to perform blood pressure checks and provide kidney disease education at a health fair in Atlanta.

Donor Network Facilities in Itasca, IL. Members and several nonmembers enjoyed a day of study and networking, broken up by a continental breakfast, a box lunch, and a chapter fundraising raffle. Participants also toured the facilities and learned about Gift of Hope programs and activities. Gift of Hope President and CEO Kevin Cmunt also made a touching presentation during lunch. Thank you to the Gift of Hope coordinators for their wonderful hospitality in hosting this program. Thank you also to attendees who participated in the raffles. These fundraising raffles help us keep the costs of our programs so reasonable.

Plans are still underway for a fall dinner/educational program. Once finalized, chapter members will be notified through ANNA Connected and information will be posted on the chapter Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ANNAwindycity.

If you have not had the opportunity to attend a national conference, remember that the Nephrology Nursing Practice, Management, and Leadership Conference (formerly the ANNA Fall Meeting) will be held at the Hyatt Regency Miami on September 23-25, 2017. For more information, visit www.annanurse.org.

Our calendar year is already nearing an end, and we will soon be preparing ballots for national and chapter offices. It is not too early (or too late) for anyone thinking about becoming an officer for the next year to step up and let a current officer know that you are interested in serving. Chapter officers will be appointed if enough candidates are not available to fill a ballot. Think about it! Contact any chapter officer through our chapter Facebook page for further questions and support, or you can find us through the ANNA website (under Chapter Website Links).

We can always use help in planning chapter programs, events, and activities. Do you know a great location for an educational event? Do you have a contact for an interesting topic or program? Contact any officer through our chapter Facebook page with your suggestions. An active membership is what drives and sustains a chapter’s success and activities. Continue to learn, lead, and connect with your local chapter. Contact an officer today, and get involved!

Dogwood chapter member Lillian Pryor volunteered to perform blood pressure checks and provide kidney disease education at a health fair in Atlanta.

Maine / New Hampshire / Vermont

Northern New England #131

Our chapter secretary recently held a mini conference for her peers at Maine Medical Center in Portland. The first biannual Dialysis Update included two speakers. Dr. Stuart Abramson spoke on “The Use of Hemotherapeutics as Treatment of Life Threatening Intoxication.” Sandy Harpell spoke on “Pediatric CRRT with Blood Prime for Infants less than 10 kg” as well as “Pediatric CRRT with Circuit to Circuit Exchange.” The activity was well attended and well received by the dialysis staff. We hope to continue this event in the future.

Maryland

Baltimore #101

Thank you to all nephrology nurses. We hope you celebrated and showed appreciation for each other during Nephrology Nurses Week.

On October 8, the Annual Fall Conference will be held at Good Samaritan Hospital. Topics will include sexuality in the dialysis patient, hospice, palliative care, and bone marrow transplant. We searched for speakers for unique topics to provide an educational and interesting conference.

Contact any officer via our website: www.baltimoreanna.com. We look forward to all suggestions and comments.

CEAB Chairperson Geraldine Zingraf was a speaker at the Windy City Chapter’s annual “Nephrology Nursing: Back to the Basics” program at the Gift of Hope facilities in Itasca, IL, on June 23.

Windy City chapter members Geraldine Zingraf and Kristin Uebel participated in the NKF Walk for Kidneys at Soldier Field in Chicago on June 25.
Michigan

Michiganna #312

Chapter officers have been busy as we continue to work on plans for educational opportunities for all our members across the state.

Save the date! Our Fall Conference will be held October 15 at the Frankenmuth Historical Museum, Fischer Hall, in Frankenmuth, MI. We would love the chance to meet some of our upper and lower northern Michigan ANNA members at this educational event. We encourage you to invite a co-worker or a friend to attend the conference with you. Topics will include vascular access, nutrition planning, hepatitis C, patient education, and palliative care. Please note that the Fall Conference is a repeat presentation of the Spring Conference that was held at the Gilmour Center in Detroit this past March. Watch for more information via ANNA Connected.

We celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week with a special event on September 12. Sanofi offered a dinner/educational opportunity for us to learn about Fabry’s disease. We also held an open chapter business meeting in advance of the presentation. The dinner was held at Ocean Prime in Troy, MI.

Our chapter website is up and running at http://michiganna312.wixsite.com/michiganna-312. You can find information about all the latest and greatest events being offered by the chapter.

We are fortunate to continue to welcome new members into our community. We appreciate your commitment to joining this incredible organization. New members are a vital part of our chapter’s success. We are always looking for new ideas or suggestions that can help the chapter grow. We encourage all members to take part in the educational opportunities that are offered, and we always welcome membership participation, suggestions, and feedback. Chapter officer contact information can be found on the chapter website. Please contact any chapter officer if you have questions.

Mississippi

Southeast Minnesota #316

Our chapter donated $500 to the Gift of Life Transplant Golf Tournament in July. This donation supports the Gift of Life Transplant house, a home where transplant patients and families can stay for free or a reduced rate at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.

Greater Minnesota #329

We are once again collaborating with the Southeast Minnesota Chapter to host an Educate, Collaborate, and Celebrate Symposium in January 2018. The symposium will be held at Chanhassen Dinner Theatre on January 14. More information to come. Mark your calendars!

On June 28, Dave Walz and Jodi Friedrichs presented a webinar on “Lessons Learned: Staff Assisted HHD in a Nursing Home.” This program was part of the monthly NRAA Webinar Wednesdays series.

Missouri

Central Missouri #318

On July 19-20, we celebrated Aloha Day. Chapter members, staff, and patients participated. Patients and staff wore Aloha T-shirts with a dialysis theme or Hawaiian shirts. Leis and grass skirts were available to all. We made snow cones and handed out fortune cookies and gummy candy shaped as flip flops. The heat index was over 100 degrees for the 2 days that we celebrated so snow cones were a welcome treat.

Our 1-day conference, Dialysis Update 2017, is scheduled for September 14 at The Courtyard by Marriott in Columbia, MO. We have an impressive lineup of speakers and topics. Nurses, hemodialysis technicians, social workers, dieticians, and any others who are involved with the health and management of patients on dialysis are invited. Contact hours will be offered. We look forward to a day of fellowship and learning.

Save the date! The Second Annual Minnesota ANNA Collaborative Conference sponsored by the Southeast Minnesota and Greater Minnesota Chapters is scheduled for January 13-14, 2018, at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre in Chanhassen, MN. Planning is in full swing via conference calls. We hope to include a vendor-sponsored dinner theatre and show on Saturday evening followed by the all-day conference on Sunday. We have many exciting topics in the works. Stay tuned for updates!

The chapter is planning a CE on Wheels to celebrate Nephrology Nurses Week. The topic is Acid Base Imbalance in the CKD Population. We will notify all chapter members once the sites are confirmed. We are planning to make this a free chapter CE event, including nonmembers.

Be sure to connect with us on ANNA Connected and Facebook, or email any of our chapter officers at seminnesota316@gmail.com.

Central Missouri chapter members created and distributed Father’s Day bookmarks to patients.

Central Missouri chapter members created and distributed Mother’s Day bookmarks to patients.
Montana

Big Sky #527

Our chapter stepped forward to coordinate with emergency preparedness officials in Montana to conduct a 3-hour educational training webinar with CE credits on August 24. Chapter President Nancy Pierce coordinated this event and helped present.

The Big Sky Educational Meeting is planned for October 27-28 with a Tabletop Disaster Drill planned for all dialysis centers in the state should they decide to participate. Northwest Renal Network 16 is also sending Barbara Breckler, Quality Improvement Director for Network 16 and 18, to give two presentations on emergencies and coordination of care. More presentations are planned, including one by Alice Luehr on ultrasound for AV needle insertion for her DNP project. Chapter officers Carey Phelan, Raechel Lydon, and Bobbi Soper have worked very hard on this conference!

Our chapter celebrated Nephology Nurses Week by sending care packages to all the dialysis units in the state. Secretary Raechel Lydon and Treasurer Bobbi Soper participated in the ANNA Nephrology Nurses Week video and did a great job! Special presents were ordered from the ANNA store by St. Peters Hospital Dialysis Director, Nancy Pierce, to honor all the dialysis nursing staff. They really loved the cool infuser tumblers!

Congratulations to Chapter President-Elect and Advanced Practice Specialty Practice Network SPN Publication Advisor Carey Phelan, who successfully defended her DNP project in July and is now officially a candidate!

Nancy Pierce attended the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) “Making Dialysis Safer Coalition” meeting in Atlanta, GA, on September 7 as ANNA’s liaison to the CDC. She is assisting CDC in planning educational presentations at the fall and spring ANNA meetings.

New Jersey

Garden State #125

Chapter officers, committee members, ad hoc volunteers, and chapter members enjoyed all the activities the summer had to offer. As fall approaches, we have been planning for Nephrology Nurses Week. Our goal is to recognize all the nurses whose selfless commitment and unending compassion have made a significant difference for patients.

Our chapter is collaborating with Quality Insights Network 3 on a meeting that will be held on October 5 at Pines Manor in Edison, NJ. We hope to see you all there!

Jersey South #133

Our chapter will be hosting a full-day spring conference. Save the date of March 22, 2018, and watch for more information.

We encourage current members and welcome any new members to join in and share experiences and information. Contact the chapter through the Jersey South ANNA Facebook page, or email Mary Dyson at naturenurse@gmail.com.

Northeast Tri-State #120

Our chapter held several activities this past spring and is planning for our annual fall educational conference in October. On June 13, Paul Barros, a representative from Outset Medical, sponsored an educational

Nebraska

Platte River #324

On August 10, we held our Fourth Annual Distance Learning Education Day. Along with the main site for the education day, we offered several telesites as well as the option to watch the sessions live-streaming. The topics ranged from sepsis to medication updates to calciphylaxis. Thank you to our great vendors who supported the day and exhibited in the vendor area.

Several chapter members plan to attend ANNA’s Nephrology Nursing Practice, Management & Leadership Conference. Denise Murcek is presenting a session on acute kidney disease.

The chapter donated to several organizations over the past year, including DCI Camp for Kids and the National Student Nurses Association. In addition, the chapter has an emergency fund used to help patients at times of crisis.

Congratulations to one of our long-term members on her retirement. Rose Wickey has retired after 40 years in nursing, many which have been in nephrology. She will be missed by her coworkers and chapter members.

It is that time of year again – when your chapter officers are looking for members interested in running for a chapter office. Please contact us if you have questions or are interested.

Nephrology nurses enjoyed networking and dinner at the historic Queensbury Hotel while learning about the innovative Tablo dialysis machine. The program was hosted by the Northeast Tri-State Chapter.
Briand in Carle Place, NY, on October 18. Early bird registration is discounted and is available through September 15. Regular registration is open September 15 to October 15. Registration is available on our website at https://annali122.nursingnetwork.com. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

For more information regarding our chapter, contact Faith Lynch at faithfullynch83@yahoo.com.

**Great Lakes #128**

We hope you attended our annual teaching day in September. We welcome your comments and feedback on the program as we start planning for next year’s conference. If you were unable to attend this year, make plans to attend next year’s conference, which will also be held in September. Contact a chapter officer if you have ideas for future topics or speakers. We welcome your suggestions!

As we head into the fall months and upcoming busy holiday season, our chapter officers will take a well-deserved break before our next event. Early next year, information about a spring non-credit educational program and a membership meeting will be sent to members. We had a great presentation this past spring along with a wonderful dinner. We hope more members will attend next year.

Please contact a chapter officer if you have any questions or suggestions about our chapter, or if you would like to volunteer to serve as an officer or education planning committee member.

**North Carolina**

**Greater Charlotte #202**

Chapter members enjoyed summer with a dinner on August 14 at George’s at Southpark. The dinner was sponsored by Todd Hoppes with Relypsy and featured speaker Dr. Michael Etomi of Metrolina Nephrology.

Congratulations to Holly Garner, who published an article with Dr. Benjamin Hippen in the June 2017 issues of Nephrology News & Issues. The article is titled “CKD tracking tool can increase rates of primary permanent dialysis access in patients with failing renal allograft.”

We will be offering several upcoming educational opportunities. On September 14, we will celebrate Nephrology Nurses Week with a dinner at Ruth Chris sponsored by Stephanie Kuhns of Keryx. On October 10, Kim Bremer of Amgen will sponsor an educational dinner; location to be announced. On October 23, Alexion will sponsor an educational dinner; location to be announced. On November 11, we will hold a full-day CNN Review Course at CMC Main Transplant Center.

**Black Swamp #323**

Save the date! On October 25, Ari Sytner, author of the book *The Kidney Donor’s Journey*, will discuss living related donation at the Maumee Indoor Theatre in Maumee, OH. Following his presentation, there will be a panel discussion with a transplant coordinator, a kidney recipient, and a kidney donor. Mr. Sytner also will speak at the University of Toledo Medical Center for Grand Rounds and at the Jewish Community Center on October 26. Mr. Sytner is an author, a social worker, and an Orthodox rabbi. This event is being planned by The University of Toledo Medical Center, Promedica, Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio, The Jewish Center, and Black Swamp Chapter of ANNA. We hope to see you there!

**Tennessee**

**Memphis Blues #240**

Chapter President Kathy Austin continues to lead our chapter while mentoring Chapter President-Elect Artrena Ores. Margaret Ventura, our treasurer, has kept us in a positive balance. Susan Bridger has been learning her role as chapter secretary.

We participated in the NKF of West Tennessee Kidney Walk by displaying a booth for our chapter. In July and September, we held two educational meetings on cannulation review offering 2.0 contact hours each.

Congratulations to chapter member Delores Evats on attending her first national meeting this year.

**Texas**

**Alamo City #205**

On September 13, our chapter collaborated with the International Transplant Nurses Society on an educational meeting at University Hospital. We celebrated Nephrology Nurses Week during the meeting with one lucky attendee receiving a free 1-year ANNA membership. Recognition gifts included T-shirt, pens, pencils, and “kidney” cookies.

On October 7, our chapter will host the annual rummage sale with proceeds...
going towards the patient holiday gift fund. October will also feature an educational meeting on emergency preparedness presented by Mikki Ward and sponsored by Outset Medical (Tablo™).

**Dallas #208**

The Dallas Chapter hosted a CNE event to raise awareness of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 2017 Emergency Preparedness Conditions for Coverage. The deadline to meet the expanded requirements is fast approaching. By November 15, 2017, each facility must have conducted a risk-based assessment for emergencies that could impact that facility, develop plans that use an all-hazards approach, educate all staff and patients on these plans, conduct two drills (one of which must be community-based), and use the results of those drills to update their plans. Bob Loeper from Fresenius Medical Care reprised the ANNA National Symposium session he presented on this topic. This half-day event included a review of the new Emergency Disaster Regulations by Glenda Payne, Administrative Challenges, and a Panel Discussion with IDT and ESRD Network representation. The program concluded with Mr. Loeper’s well-received Tabletop Exercise. The Dallas Chapter was able to provide this program to our members via an education grant from Fresenius Kidney Care. We greatly appreciate their generous support.

Two additional CE programs were planned before the Fall Conference. A CE on Wheels program on Acid Base Imbalance in the CKD Population will be held in Waco, TX, and our annual Nephrology Nurses Week (NNW) celebration will be held during NNW week in September. Further details will be communicated shortly. Please be sure to keep your email address current; communications to chapter members will be sent via ANNA Connected and the Dallas Chapter website: annadallas.nursingnetwork.com.
Virginia

Greater Puget Sound #503

We are celebrating Nephrology Nurses Week with an 8-hour Fall Workshop and lots of door prizes, including big registration discounts for members.

This is a reminder to all members that applications for scholarships are due by October 1. This is a great opportunity for back-to-school funds, so don’t hesitate to apply!

Planning for Meet and Greet dates is underway. We are working on and looking forward to these gatherings. They are the perfect opportunity to share knowledge, get to know your neighbors, and see what ANNA offers its members.

Puerto Rico

Caribbean #210

Our chapter is proud of the alliances and collaborative relationships that we have established throughout the years with renal organizations in Puerto Rico. One of them is the annual educational meeting for renal patients and their families sponsored by the Puerto Rico Kidney Foundation. This year’s event was held in Hacienda Marangeli on June 4. ANNA chapter members organized the educational sessions, which were very successful with 400 patients in attendance. Four ANNA members participated as speakers on topics such as vascular access care, transplantation, and hypotension during hemodialysis.

Another collaborative event was the 2017 Quality Insights Renal Network Three Puerto Rico Annual Meeting co-sponsored by our chapter. This 1-day conference for the professional renal community was held at the Dorado del Mar Beach Resort, Dorado, on June 8, and 6.25 CE credits were offered to 220 attendees. Excellent speakers presented current information on topics such as health care in Puerto Rico, renal transplantation in the island, evidence-based practice, and antibiotic stewardship. Workshops for nephrology nurses, dietitians, and social workers were part of the afternoon session.

Our chapter’s commitment to ANNA members is demonstrated through our monthly educational offerings as part of the 2017 Nephrology Nursing Review Course. The two goals of this project are to empower nephrology nurses to pursue the CNN/CDN certification and expose participants to basic nephrology concepts to enhance their practice. The program has offered 33 contact hours, as of the last activity held on July 17. Thank you for the efforts and long hours of preparation of the following ANNA members who participated as speakers: Iris Rivera, Ruth Lebron, Elizabeth Gines, Luis Maldonado, Christian Medina, and Myriam Centeno.