Congratulations to all of the 2008-2009 ANNA members! You have joined a nursing organization that is centered on its membership. Benefits for members are extensive. They range from offering vast networking opportunities to continuing nursing education programs. My personal favorite is the ANNA E-News, ANNA’s electronic newsletter, which keeps members up to date on the latest happenings in ANNA, health policy issues, and other events and activities concerning nephrology nursing. Then there is the Nephrology Nursing Journal, which publishes nursing research articles that help solidify our evidence-based nursing practice. ANNA also offers many other publications and products. The most recently released ANNA publication is the Core Curriculum for Nephrology Nursing (5th edition). This book is a comprehensive resource that is a “must have” for all nephrology nurses. Congratulations to Editor Caroline Counts and all the authors who contributed to this important publication.

Other great benefits for members are the conferences and educational programs that ANNA plans and sponsors. The ANNA Conferences Committee works diligently to plan exciting agendas for the National Symposium offered annually in the spring and the Fall Meeting for Nephrology Nurses, Managers, and Advanced Practice Nurses sponsored annually in the fall. See Table 1 for a list of the locations and dates for future conferences.

Congratulations to all of those ANNA members who have assumed leadership positions for 2008-2009. We appreciate the willingness of all the chapter officers for the 113 ANNA chapters to serve ANNA at the local level. Remember, the Board of Directors, regional officers, and national office are available to assist you with your chapter needs, concerns, or questions. ANNA volunteer leaders total over 700, counting leaders at the local, regional, and national levels. This is YOUR organization and it is only through the volunteerism of members and the expertise of our management firm, Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc., that ANNA continues to be such a great organization.

A big congratulations and thank you to all of you as we continue to move ANNA forward this year as THE organization for all nephrology nurses. Visit the ANNA Web site at www.annanurse.org for the latest happenings in YOUR organization. Soon the Web site will be experiencing a new “make-over” to enhance services and enable easier navigation.

Table 1
Future ANNA Conference Sites

<table>
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<tr>
<th>National Symposium</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 26-29, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANNA’s 40th National Symposium, San Diego, CA, San Diego Convention Center, Hilton San Diego Bayfront, &amp; Omni San Diego</td>
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| May 2-5, 2010 |
| ANNA’s 41st National Symposium, San Antonio, TX, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center & Grand Hyatt |

| March 27-30, 2011 |
| ANNA’s 42nd National Symposium, Boston, MA, Hynes Convention Center & Sheraton Boston |

| Fall Meeting |
| September 27-29, 2008 |
| ANNA’s Fall Meeting for Nephrology Nurses, Managers, and Advanced Practice Nurses, Chicago, IL, Hyatt Regency Chicago |

| October 9-11, 2009 |
| ANNA’s Fall Meeting for Nephrology Nurses, Managers, and Advanced Practice Nurses, Orlando, FL, Disney’s Contemporary Resort |

Take an Active Role in YOUR Organization

- Attend chapter meetings. The chapter officers work hard to plan the meetings to provide you with continuing nursing education and networking opportunities.
- Sign up with the ANNA Resource Corps as a volunteer to work with ANNA in whatever area you are passionate about.
- Attend ANNA’s national conferences to keep up with current and future happenings in nephrology. Take this opportunity to network with colleagues from all over the country and the world. Learn from your colleagues as you share your experiences with other professionals. Come and explore the exhibit hall and talk to company representatives about the latest products and technologies in the specialty, socialize at the Regional Receptions, enjoy the dynamic keynote speakers who share current information on exciting topics, and have
fun attending the "Big Event" offered at the National Symposium.

• Participate in health policy issues by visiting ANNA’s online Legislative Action Center at www.annanurse.org and utilizing CapWiz to contact your legislators on issues important to the nursing and renal communities.

• Share the experience of being an ANNA member by recruiting 3 nurses to become members and receive your 2009-2010 ANNA membership FREE.

Be proud of being a nephrology nurse — you earned it! Be proud of being a member of ANNA — it is YOUR organization! Congratulations!

Leaders understand that many have a stake in the vision and that achieving it requires others to have a sense of personal power, pride, and ownership.

Nancy Dickenson-Hazard, MSN, RN, FAAN
Reflections on Nursing Leadership

Sue Cary, MN, APRN, NP, CNN
ANNA President
Fleur-de-Lis Chapter

Nursing Organizations Alliance Offers NIWI Scholarships

The Nursing Organizations Alliance is offering two scholarships for the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) program, which will be held March 29-31, 2009, in Washington, DC. The scholarships provide assistance to nurses to help offset the costs associated with attending NIWI.

Eligibility Requirements
1. Current member of an Alliance member organization.
2. Within the applicant’s nursing organization, have experience in legislative activities at the state or national level in policy issues OR with minimal experience clearly articulate how the NIWI experience will allow you to advance the goals of nursing practice.

Funding
At least two Alliance Scholarships will be awarded. One full scholarship will cover travel expenses, lodging expenses for Saturday night through noon on Tuesday, and registration fees.

The second partial scholarship covers NIWI registration fees only; the recipient will be responsible for all other expenses related to attending NIWI.

Other scholarships will be awarded if funding is available.

For more information and application instructions, go to www.nursing-alliance.org. The deadline to apply for these scholarships is October 13, 2008.

ANNA Resource Corps . . .
Still Growing Strong

The ANNA Resource Corps (ARC) has celebrated its 1-year anniversary. Approximately 200 ANNA members have registered in the Web-based volunteer database since the August 2007 launch.

With more than 12,000 ANNA members, we are encouraging more individuals to register in ARC to make the program successful. So if you are interested in volunteering in ANNA activities at any level and have not already registered in ARC, please complete your profile today. Your initial registration should take less than 30 minutes. (Be sure to have an electronic version of your resume handy, and if possible, a current photo.)

• Go to www.annanurse.org and log in to your member account (use your ANNA member ID and password).

• Click on ANNA Resource Corps on the home page, and you will be directed to an instruction page. You should use the “print page” option to print the information and instructions about initial registration, how to maintain your profile, and what to expect after you register.

If you have completed a profile in ARC, you will be sent an e-mail during the anniversary month of your initial registration. The e-mail will request that you log into www.myvolunteerpage.com and take time to update your profile to reflect any new information about your skills, expertise, work, or volunteer positions. You also should review the activities in which you are interested and make changes, as necessary. Remember to save any changes or edits by clicking the “Save” button at the bottom of each modified screen.

ANNA leaders can find flyers, posters, and answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) describing ARC in the “Chapter Leaders Only” section of the ANNA Web site. These can be used to “market” ARC to others via e-mail, meeting minutes, chapter newsletters, and meeting handouts.

ANNA leaders continue to find new ways to use the volunteer profiles to identify ANNA members with skills and expertise to fill open positions in chapter, regional, and national volunteer activities. Don’t be left out. Get “on board” ARC today!

Suzann VanBuskirk
ANNA Resource Corps Advisor
Baltimore Chapter #101

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