

Chapter Update

Northeast

Big Apple #102

Many chapter members attended the National Symposium in March, including President-Elect **Anne Preston**, State Health Policy Consultant **Jewell Smith**, Northeast Health Policy Advisor **Karen Johnson-Fairclough**, and **Roberta Billman**.

The Art of Cannulation: Improving Your Skills was offered in Queens on May 12 and in Suffolk County on May 26 in collaboration with IPRO and the Long Island Chapter. These programs have been well-attended throughout the state. Look for future dates in ANNA Connected.

Sharon Campbell attended the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, on June 6-7. Anyone interested in working on KDAE Week or legislative issues should contact **Karen Johnson-Fairclough** through ANNA Connected.

NANT has established another chapter in Brooklyn. If anyone is interested in volunteering to support an educational program for nurses and technicians, call **Anne Preston** at 347-215-4078.

We also are planning a Certification Review Course. Date to be announced.

Colonial #103

On May 19 the Colonial and Mass Bay Chapters held their annual conference, *Renal Roulette*, at Mohegan Sun Casino. Approximately 150 nurses from several New England States attended the conference, and by all accounts it was a great success. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank several Lawrence & Memorial (L&M) and Middlesex Hospital physicians who took time out of their busy schedules to formulate and present 1-hour lectures at this conference. Most of these physicians were returning, by popular demand, as presenters for a second year. Thanks to the following presenters:

- **Dr. Jay Ginsberg** talked about *Newer Forms of Renal Replacement Therapy* with a special supplement on the role of the Renal Networks. Now we will be promoting nocturnal and/or home dialysis therapies as the data show significant benefits.

The Colonial and Mass Bay Chapters hosted Renal Roulette in May. Speakers included:



Dr. Jay Ginsberg



Dr. Dale Rowett



Drs. Paul Licata and Marc Fiengo

- **Dr. Mark Fiengo** discussed the *Cardio-Renal Patient*. Now we all know which renal patient will “ruin our day in the dialysis clinic” and the lungs are just an appendage of the heart.
- **Dr. Paul Licata** presented *Dry Weight in the ESRD Patient: A Pulmonary Perspective*. Now we all know the significance of the right heart.
- **Dr. Vanessa Johnson** talked on *Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT)*. Now we all know that a HIT diagnosis is based on clinical suspicion and treatment should not be delayed while waiting for the HIT lab test results.
- **Dr. David Miner** discussed endocrinology. Lipid disorders increase as renal function declines – HDL (healthy) and LDL (lousy). These are not improved with HD, and may be somewhat affected by hi-flux. Also, Januvia is not dialyzed out!



Mary Zorzanello

- **Dr. Dale Rowett** reinforced during his talk on adequacy that the dialysis catheter is “the true access of evil” and hemodialysis treatments of less than 4 hours are associated with higher mortality.



The Colonial Chapter awarded the Outstanding Achievement in Nephrology Management to Cathy Grant. Pictured are (sitting) Cathy Grant; (standing) Denise Garrison, Karen Meyers, Kelly Brennan, Tiffany Bearse, Stacy Deserio-Ellis, Sarah Young, Maria Toplosky, and Chris Comfort.

- **Mary Zorzanello** discussed why the U.S. has a smaller peritoneal dialysis population (7%) vs. Mexico (90%). Educating pre-renal patients on all modalities is extremely important.

The chapter also awarded the Outstanding Achievement in Nephrology Management to **Cathy Grant** from L&M Hospital in New London, CT. Cathy is the current manager of the 5.2 resp/renal and the acute dialysis unit. Cathy was nominated by staff from the dialysis unit and 5.2 as well as Dr. Jay Ginsberg.

Stay tuned for more educational opportunities that will be offered by our chapter in the coming year. Visit www.colonialchapter103.com for more information.

Three Rivers #104

It's summer in the city, and President **Stacie Fisher** has our chapter moving ahead quickly utilizing current media. Our last chapter meeting was held via a conference call, allowing members to attend without traveling a distance or leaving the comforts of home. We welcome everyone to dial in and join our active team.

Christie Krapp wants to thank everyone who supported her at the Mother's Day Breast Cancer Walk on May 8. The chapter was happy to make a generous donation to this worthy cause.

Brenda Stack with **Genzyme** was the sponsor for the chapter's recognition certification dinner held at Franco's restaurant in Harmarville, PA, on June 2. **Dr. Celen** from Meadville

Hospital made a difficult topic pleasurable, using his DaVita Meadville clinic as an example of excellence. Everyone shared a wonderful meal and enjoyed a relaxing time.

Diane Dering and **Sue Carter** attended the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, in June. Plans are in the works for KDAE Week for elected government officials to visit Children's Hospital and the DaVita Pittsburgh Center. If you would like to become involved in chapter projects, please call a chapter officer.

The chapter would like to acknowledge the DCI dialysis company in our area. They are celebrating 40 years of renal service this year. To celebrate this anniversary with the community, they are doing 40 "acts of service" for each year of their longevity.

Our chapter will be spending August 4 at "Kidney Kamp" this year. We continue to need assistance. The theme this year is modeled after the television show, *Survivor*. Come be part of this active team.

Keystone #110

Our chapter is hoping that all members have a relaxing and stress-free summer. The chapter is busy planning for KDAE Week (August 8-12). Nephrology Nurses Week is September 11-17. Watch for updates from the chapter with regards to this special week.

Be sure to mark your calendars for November 3 for the Annual Fall Symposium. Plans are well underway for an exciting day of presentations and networking with old friends.

Northeast Tri-State #120

On May 5 the chapter held a transition/planning meeting in Schroon Lake, NY. During this meeting the year's educational activities were planned. Please look at ANNA Connected for specific dates and events. We are planning a full-day fall educational offering and a fall membership/educational meeting.

Congratulations to our chapter officers for this year: President **Erica Fenton**, President-Elect **Michelle Mattison**, Treasurer **Bonnie McDonough**, Secretary **Marianne Sorrell**, and Health Policy Representative **Pam Casey**.

Our chapter won the Rising STAR Award at the National Symposium in Boston. After winning this award, we are motivated to win another chapter award at the next National Symposium in Orlando, FL. So, please, if you would like to be involved in any way, the chapter officers will take you under our wings. Please contact us via the ANNA Web site or ANNA Connected; or call **Marianne Sorrell** at 518-569-6318. We hope to hear from you!

Garden State #125

The chapter hosted an all-day educational program at The Oyster Point. It was well attended with over 120 attendees. Thanks to **Patte Kennedy** for organizing the entire program.

The chapter is planning an all-day program on August 18 at The Trump Marina in Atlantic City. The program will be a generic program so as to attract nurses from all care settings. An open invitation to all nurses will be extended. This event will be an excellent way to network with other nurses in various settings. The chapter will be celebrating our 20th anniversary.

Also, for Nephrology Nurses Week we will be hosting a cruise brunch on the Cornucopia Princess which sails out of Perth Amboy, NJ, on September 11. The ship closes its gates at 11:30 to sail. All nephrology nurses and one guest are welcome to attend. The chapter will refund half the fee upon boarding the ship. More details to be announced at the August event.

The chapter is still in need of facility representatives to receive information and make it available in their units. It is a great way to get involved in the chapter with minimal effort. Anyone interested can contact **Sandy Miholics** at bsandym@aol.com.



The Jersey North Chapter presented three educational scholarships at their "Spring Fling" all-day conference. Pictured are Treasurer Lauren Webster-Garcia, scholarship recipients Kathleen Vnenchak, Sue Juliano, and Ray Agnello, President Alice Hellebrand, President-Elect Marilyn Eilert, and planning committee member Saramma Mathew.

Jersey North #126

The chapter had a very busy spring. Our all-day *Spring Fling* conference was held on April 14 at the Sheraton Newark Airport Hotel with 106 people in attendance. Special thanks to our speakers: **Lori Ann Iacovino** (Hemodialysis Bugs and Drugs), **Peter Staller** (Drug Abuse in the Dialysis Patient), **Melinda Leone** (Nutrition Therapy and Dialysis), **Indu Lew** (Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies-REMS), **Michael Shapiro** (Ethical Issues in Transplantation), and **Debra Wells** and **Alice Hellebrand** (Journal Club: A Review of the Literature).

An emotional presentation was given by the staff of the Frost Valley Camp for pediatric dialysis patients. Jersey North was once again pleased to present Frost Valley with a donation of three camperships for 2011.

Our annual educational scholarships were also presented at this meeting. Congratulations to recipients **Sue Juliano**, **Kathleen Vnenchak**, and **Ray Agnello**, who are all pursuing advanced degrees. The day was also filled with drawings for special gifts such as ANNA publications, free registration, and gift cards!

Another educational opportunity was presented by Jersey North on May 7 at Morristown Medical Center. The CNN/CDN Review Course 2011 was well received with 38 attendees. Thank you to our speakers: **Lori Finley**, **Alice Hellebrand**, **Marie Morgievich**, **Timothy Nguyen**, **Ray Agnello**, and **Madeline McLoughlin**.

Our chapter business meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the

month. Anyone interested in attending and joining our planning committee is encouraged to contact **Cathy Picarelli** at cpicarelli@humed.com.

Susquehanna Valley #130

Chapter Health Policy Representative **Jan Fardella** and **Kathleen Garcia** attended the ANNA Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC. Both were able to meet with staff of their respective legislators as well as Pennsylvania Senate staff. They would be happy to share their experience with chapter members. Jan or Kathy will be able to assist you in planning a visit to your clinic by any political party during KDAE Week in August.

A chapter meeting is being planned for July. Come for an educational/business meeting. Planning for upcoming meetings and fundraisers will take place.

Jersey South #133

Our chapter held its first successful Day of Learning at the Holiday Inn in Runnemede, NJ, on April 7. Attendees enjoyed the speakers, and the officers are already planning to hold a Day of Learning next year in the spring. Mark your calendars when you receive your "save the date" e-mail. Enjoy the summer, and we will resume the learning events in the fall. We look forward to our annual educational dinner sponsored by **American Access Care** of Cherry Hill.

Remember that we communicate with the members via e-mail. Please notify the chapter officers if your e-mail changes.

Southeast

Cardinal #201

Spring has quickly passed and now we are into the lazy days of summer. This is the time of year for chapters to develop an action plan for the upcoming year. The officers are striving to meet the needs of members. Let's keep those lines of communication open via e-mail to one of the officers, ANNA Connected, our Web site (www.cardinal.annanurse.org), or Facebook – our newest form of connecting.

We hope to keep the satellite telecasts for our educational meetings. Although it can be a costly venture, it has definitely proven to be an excellent way to reach our members and give them an opportunity to attend without the travel.

In March UNC-Chapel Hill held a Kidney Walk. Attendees included **Wanda Bandy**, **Linda Cheek**, **Patty Garlington**, **Lisa Pollard**, **Richard Scapura**, **Amy Woodard**, and **Connie Gilet**. On April 2 **Lorraine King** and several co-workers walked the 3 miles for the NKF Kidney Walk in Raleigh. The weekend of May 14-15 a Health and Wellness Fair was held at the North Carolina Fairgrounds. The NKF had a booth in which 600 screenings were done over the course of the 2-day event. Cardinal chapter members **Wanda Bandy**, **Lorraine King**, **Amy Woodard**, **Sharonna Johnson**, **Deb Siler**, and **Lisa Pollard** assisted with screenings. Also assisting were members from the Tar Hill Chapter with **Holly McFarland** spearheading the workers.

The North Carolina State Symposium was held at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro on May 23-24. Over 75 nephrology nurses and PCTs



Clara Neyhart accepted a Nephrology Nursing Journal Writing Award from ANNA President Donna Painter at the National Symposium in Boston.



Members of the Cardinal and Tar River Chapters volunteered at the National Kidney Foundation Booth at a Health and Wellness Fair. Pictured are (front) Lisa Pollard, Amy, Shelby Scott, Lorraine King, and Deb Siler; (back) Gracie Alston, Amy Woodard, Jackie, Sharona Johnson, Heather Boykin, and Holly McFarland.



Cardinal chapter members attended the North Carolina State Symposium on May 23-24. Pictured are (front) Lorraine King, Barbara Snively, Peg Marvich, Maura McCann, Brenda Martin, and Wanda Bandy; (back) Michelle Price, Lynn Johnson, Wendi Gwachney, Toni Garbini, Lesley Dinwiddie, Beverly Rodegest, Loretta Enzell, and Joyce Macklin.



Greater Charlotte chapter officers attended the North Carolina Annual Statewide & Southeastern Kidney Council Symposium. Pictured (from left) are Leah Smith, Linda Shenton, Rhonda Duggan, and Cyndy Rape.



The North Carolina Annual Statewide Symposium featured an exhibit hall.

attended the day and a half event. Speakers on Monday presented information related to transplantation and Tuesday's presentations focused on all stages of chronic kidney disease. The state meeting was a superb collaboration among all the ANNA chapters of North Carolina. Excellent job by the committee! After a dinner meeting on Monday night each chapter held a business meeting.

Health Policy Representative **Linda Newkam** represented the chapter at the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, on June 6-7. Thank you, Linda, for representing our chapter in these important issues regarding the care we provide and the needed funds for our patients. Linda met with our representatives and has again been instrumental in sharing the message with them. The chapter will continue to work with our legislators in the coming weeks, which will culminate in KDAE Week in August.

We are looking forward to a great year! We hope you are, too. Our members make our chapter great, and we thank you. If you have any questions or concerns, contact President **Wanda Bandy** at wbandy@nc.rr.com or Secretary **Lorraine King** at lorilee51@aol.com.

Greater Charlotte #202

The chapter has experienced an exciting few months, beginning with a member retreat on April 28 at CMC Transplant Center in Charlotte, NC. We shared facts about ANNA, our 2011-2012 chapter plan, upcoming educational opportunities, the benefits of ANNA membership, and officer benefits.

The chapter would like to thank the other North Carolina chapters,



Greater Charlotte Chapter Secretary Leah Smith was one of the presenters at the North Carolina Annual Statewide & Southeastern Kidney Council Symposium.

including Cardinal, Tar River, and Blue Ridge, and the Southeastern Kidney Council for collaborating with us for the Annual North Carolina Statewide Symposium. It was a successful event held in Greensboro, NC, on May 23-24. Our chapter was represented at the meeting. We were also very proud to have two officers speak at the meeting on transplant and CKD. Great job, **Rhonda Duggan** and **Leah Smith!**

Congratulations to Health Policy Representative **Ericka Lee** on the birth of her daughter.

Our chapter is looking forward to the rest of the year and offering our members CNE sessions the fourth Thursday of every month. We also are making plans to celebrate KDAE Week and Nephrology Nurses Week. This will provide us the opportunity to inform our community of our efforts and thank all of our hard-working nephrology nurses.

Palmetto #203

Our new chapter officers are: President **Deborah Brooks**, President-Elect **Jacqueline Roper**, Secretary **Becky Cherrington**, and Treasurer **Michele Root**. Our first meeting of the summer was spent working on the strategic plan for the year. All of the new officers were in attendance.

Deborah Brooks and **Becky Cherrington** attended the Volunteer Leaders' Workshop (VLW) in Boston. They were encouraged, informed, and inspired to get started on the plan for the upcoming year.

Our kick-off meeting for the end of summer will be held on August 30. We hope to provide an informative discussion on phosphorus control in

the renal patient. Our contact for further details is **Jacqueline Roper**.

Gulf Coast #204

On April 30 chapter members made their presence known at the NKF Kidney Walk at MacGregor Park in Houston. On May 12 we held a chapter meeting at one of the newest clinics in our area, Dialyspa. **Dr. Jeff Kalina**, co-founder of Dialyspa, was the guest speaker and spoke on *Changing the Dialysis Experience One Patient at a Time*. He emphasized a patient-centered approach to guiding their business practice.

Chapter President-Elect **Alex Sardual** attended the VLW in Boston prior to the National Symposium. **Leisha Jackson-Sanders** represented our area at the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC.

We have big plans for the upcoming year, so stay tuned for all of the excitement!

Alamo City #205

The chapter had a small representation at the National Symposium this year, but plans are in place for increased participation at the Fall Meeting in Atlanta. Chapter officers met for the annual retreat at the home of President **Frank Borse**. We discussed educational meetings and the need to provide CNE credits for members.

This year's chapter officers are: President **Frank Borse**, Secretary **Maria Sanchez**, Treasurer **Pauline Michaud**, Health Policy Advisor **Esme Guerra**, and PCT Liaison **Vicki Atherton**.

Southeast Vice President **Janie Martinez** attended the Health Policy

Workshop in Washington, DC. Health Policy Advisor **Esme Guerra** is preparing for KDAE Week. This year we are hoping for a City Proclamation. Last year we were able to get a County Proclamation.

This is the time we need to ask for more member participation. The chapter needs members to step up to the plate and keep Alamo City viable. We have many, many members who could provide great leadership, ideas, and education. This is your chapter. Nephrology nursing is your chosen profession. Let's keep it alive and well in San Antonio. Contact **Frank Borse** at frankborse@yahoo.com and offer your much needed support.

South Florida Flamingo #206

President-Elect **Angela Robinson** attended the VLW in Boston. She shared the information she received with chapter officers and members, which is allowing us to "soar." Our theme is "Dare to Soar." We have had several committee meetings and conference calls to plan and finalize events for the upcoming year.

On April 14 we were privileged to host a meeting with the help of American Access at American Access center in Broward. This meeting drew many attendees, offered 3.25 CNE credits, and featured raffles in addition to distribution and receipt of membership applications.

On April 15 chapter officers and members participated and hosted a booth at the Florida Nurses Association Symposium held at the Signature Grand in Ft. Lauderdale. Infomercial boards were displayed. Appeals were made for new members, and current members were encouraged to renew as well. Also at this meeting chapter member **Judy Scaglione** received the award for Nurse Practitioner of Year. Kudos to Judy!



South Florida Flamingo Chapter President-Elect Angela Robinson (left) posed for a photo with ANNA President Rowena Elliott at the National Symposium.



South Florida Flamingo chapter members enjoyed networking while attending the National Symposium in Boston.

Chapter officers met at Dade Dialysis on May 12 to plan for upcoming educational seminars, KDAE Week, and Nephrology Nurses Week. An educational meeting was held during the month of June. Plans are also underway for a review course to be offered some time during the fall.

Dallas #208

Currently, the chapter meets at 6:00 pm on the first Tuesday of every month at the Dallas Nephrology offices on Viceroy. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have had to postpone our annual board retreat until later in the summer, and we look forward to that event.

Chapter Treasurer **Angie Wieler** represented the chapter at the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, on June 6-7. Also attending this work-



The South Florida Flamingo chapter officers include President Maite Molander Barraza (left) and President-Elect Angela Robinson (right). Also pictured is Norma Gomez.



The Dallas Chapter won the Southeast STAR (Successful Teamwork = Achievements and Recognition) Award. Pictured are Rowena Elliott, 2011-2012 ANNA President; Mary McGraw, Dallas board member; Glenda Harbert, Dallas member; Camille May, Dallas president; Donna Painter, 2010-2011 ANNA President; Donna Bednarski, 2009-2010 ANNA President; Angie Wieler, Dallas treasurer; Mary Schira, Dallas member; Cindy Wright, Dallas immediate past president; and Glenda Payne, ANNA President-Elect.



South Florida Flamingo chapter members participated and hosted a booth at the Florida Nurses Association Symposium in Ft. Lauderdale.



Dallas chapter member Glenda Harbert was awarded the Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award at the National Symposium in Boston. Pictured are Janie Martinez, Angie Wieler, Glenda Harbert, and Donna Painter.



The Dallas Chapter won Honorable Mention for their poster display at the National Symposium. Thanks to Immediate Past Chapter President Cindy Wright for creating such a wonderful poster!



The Caribbean Chapter's educational activity, "Trends in Management of CKD: Challenges and Opportunities for the Multidisciplinary Team," drew a large audience.



Caribbean Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Rita De Jesus manned the ANNA informational desk at a chapter educational activity.



A recent educational activity hosted by the Caribbean Chapter included a question and answer session with Renal Transplant Director Eduardo A. Santiago-Delpin.

shop were chapter members **Donna Painter** (Immediate Past ANNA President) and **Glenda Payne** (ANNA President-Elect).

Congratulations to **Glenda Harbert** for winning the Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award. Welcome to long-distance member **Marilyn Muir** from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Marilyn is the incoming President of the Canadian Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technicians (CANN'T).

Caribbean #210

Our chapter started this year off with an educational activity entitled *Trends in Management of CKD: Challenges and Opportunities for The Multidisciplinary Team*. The activity was held at the Best Western Pichis' Hotel and Convention Center in Guayanilla on May 21 and was approved for 7.0 contact hours and 40 pharmacology minutes. The presentations were all delivered by excellent and renowned teachers and professionals in their respective fields. Topics included Chronic Kidney Disease and Cardiovascular Disease: Implication of Collaborative Management in Clinical Outcome; Advanced Nursing Practice in the Nephrology Field; Managing Patients with Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD); Kidney/Pancreas Transplantation; and Peritoneal Dialysis: A Review of Trends and Challenges. In spite of torrential rain and unusually bad weather, the attendance was excellent with 82 registered nurses.

We also promoted our chapter and distributed ANNA membership materials. We raffled an ANNA membership, which was well received. The nurse who won was very enthusiastic to receive the prize.

On June 23 we held a business meeting to discuss our action plan for the year. Special thanks to Southeast regional officers **Janie Martinez**, **Cindy Richards**, and **Becki Benfield** for their support and inspiration in this walk to excellence in nephrology.

Arkansas #215

The ANNA year is off to a great start. Our first CNE meeting was held at Brave New Restaurant in Little Rock on July 14. **Dr. Kevin Martin**, Professor of Medicine & Director of the Nephrology Division at St Louis University School of Medicine, presented *The Importance of CKD Management*. He focused on when and how to optimize phosphate control to get the best clinical outcomes. Thanks to **Abbott's Nicole McCain** and **Jack Larson** for making this program possible.

On August 26-28 the American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP) is holding their 38th Annual Convention, *Bridging the Future of Kidney Care*, in Little Rock. There will be both general sessions and tracks on CKD, transplant, and dialysis to provide educational opportunities for all. Continuing education credits will be available for nurses, social workers, and dietitians pending approval from accrediting agencies. The meeting kicks off Friday at the William J. Clinton Presidential Center with AAKP's first Public Policy Forum, then moves on for later sessions at the Peabody.

Arkansas ANNA is so happy to collaborate with AAKP in this endeavor. What an excellent opportunity for our patients, nurses, and other health care professionals to network and be educated at a national level locally. Grants for patient's registration fees may be available. Please promote the program to your patients and peers. We look forward to seeing many of you. If you have any questions, contact **Linda Owens** or **Andrea Easom** at 501-661-7910.

Dogwood #224

We are preparing to start planning for KDAE Week. Health Policy Representative **Carolyn Dorsey** attended the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, on June 6-7. We are asking all members to go to the ANNA Web site and start sending letters to your local and state representatives regarding issues that will help ensure patient access to quality nephrology care. Invite them to your facilities and provide them the opportunity to visit with your patients. The chapter would love to hear your plans for KDAE Week. We will be sending additional information via ANNA Connected and our Web site at www.annadogwoodchapter224.com.



Dogwood chapter member Angela Taylor-Smith (right) joined other volunteers at the NKF Kidney Walk at Turner Field in Atlanta.



Dogwood chapter members participated in the NKF Kidney Walk in Atlanta. Pictured (from left) are Joan Wokpara, Angela Taylor-Smith, Lillian Pryor, and Cara McKinney.



Dogwood chapter members and friends recently gathered for a celebration and educational meeting at Maggiano's in Atlanta.



Lesley Dinwiddie gave a presentation on the HeRO catheter at an educational event hosted by the Dogwood Chapter.

On May 12 the chapter had an educational meeting and celebrated our chapter recognition as Outstanding Chapter of the Year. The meeting was held at Maggiano's in Atlanta with an attendance of 40 nurses, technicians, and social workers. Guest speaker **Lesley Dinwiddie** presented *Making It Happen with the*

HeRO catheter, and Chapter President **Lillian Pryor** spoke on *Dialysis Interventions*. Both presenters did a fabulous job, and we thank them for their contributions. Many gifts were raffled, including ANNA's new edition of *Nephrology Nursing Scope and Standards of Practice*. **Dolat Ebriham** won the grand prize, a fully



Dogwood chapter members helped perform blood pressure screenings at a KEEP event in Athens, GA. Pictured is nurse Cecile Morris.

paid registration to the 2011 Fall Meeting in Atlanta. Several nurses also signed up as new ANNA members. We want to thank our sponsor **Hemosphere** for a wonderful and successful meeting.

Lillian Pryor volunteered for the KEEP program in Athens, GA, in April. We thank Lillian and others who volunteer their time and their skill to help educate the public on kidney disease.

The NKF Kidney Walk was held on May 21 at Turner Field in Atlanta. Our chapter raised more than \$450 for NKF. **Erma Boykin** and **Angela Taylor-Smith** volunteered to do blood pressure checks while other members and officers walked.

Save the date! **Genzyme** will be sponsoring our next educational meeting on August 11. The chapter is also planning a Certification Review Course in the fall.

Open positions: We are looking for volunteers for three positions beginning in 2012 – Treasurer, Secretary, and Health Policy Representative. The job descriptions are listed on the ANNA Web site. We are looking for YOU to become our future leaders to continue to help our chapter “Soar to Excellence.” All information is available via ANNA Connected and at www.dogwood-chapter224.com. We look forward to serving you, our chapter members, as you serve our patients.

Music City #228

Some of the topics discussed for the upcoming year at our chapter dinner business meeting held May 31 at Amerigo’s were certification review, determining the coverage area for our chapter, and manning the registration tables for Network 8’s annual meeting.

Monet Carnahan has been busy recruiting. We have several new members who have joined the chapter and we would like to welcome each one of them. Thanks, Monet, for all your hard work! Attention new members: If you have any ideas for CNE programs or another event you are interested in, please contact one of the officers and share your ideas.

For those of you who are interested in participating in a certification review, we are making plans for one in the fall. We will be sending out the information once we have everything finalized. If any of our members are interested in participating in a review session, please contact one of the officers and let us know what area you can teach or if you know someone else who might teach.

Shades of Gray: Venous Access Management in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease was the topic of a very informative educational meeting

that was held on May 5. There was a good turnout for the educational dinner sponsored by **Teleflex** at the Sunset Grille in Nashville, TN. **Dr. Matthew Leavitt**, Medical Director for Interventional Nephrology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, was the speaker. Another interventional nephrologist was present at the dinner. **Dr. William Pettus** with Nashville Nephrology Associates joined our chapter for the evening to hear Dr. Leavitt. Thank you to **Alexandrai Fulginiti** for the flowers she gave to all of the mothers for Mother’s Day as we left the restaurant. Thanks also to President-Elect **Monet Carnahan** for helping to arrange the meeting.

Western Carolina #229

Our chapter now has a Web site through Facebook – Western Carolina 229 ANNA. It is free and easy to set up.

On April 28 we had three great chapter events. First, we enjoyed an educational meeting entitled *Incident Dialysis Patients: Improving Patient Outcomes through Bone-Mineral Disease Management* at The Lazy Goat restaurant in downtown Greenville, SC. The program was presented and sponsored by **John Williams** of **Genzyme**. Second, we held a fundraising raffle that raised \$95 for our chapter funds. The winner of a new Samsung Bluetooth headset was ANNA member **Lee Ann Brooks**. Lastly, **Zainab “Zen” Kapasi** of the Medical/Renal Unit at Greenville Memorial Medical Center is our new chapter secretary.

NKF’s Kidney Walk was held for the first time in Upstate South Carolina. Team Western Carolina ANNA raised \$204 for the NKF. The walk was held at ICAR, Greenville on



Nephrology nurses from the Medical/Renal Unit at Greenville Memorial Medical Center, nephrologists from Carolina Nephrology, and members of the Western Carolina ANNA Chapter participated in the Kidney Walk at ICAR in Greenville SC. ANNA member participants included Kim Moran (left), Patricia Sitarski (fourth from left), and Western Carolina Chapter President Ana Endaya (third from right).



Western Carolina chapter members participated in the Kidney Walk at ICAR in Greenville SC on May 14. Pictured are Patricia Sitarski (front, second from left), Kim Moran (center), and Chapter President Ana Endaya (right).

May 14. Chapter President **Ana Endaya** and members **Kim Moran** and **Pat Sitarski** participated in the Kidney Walk.

On May 26 we held an educational meeting featuring the CNE on Wheels program entitled *Community-Acquired vs. Hospital-Acquired MRSA in Patients with CKD*. Hors d'oeuvres were donated by California Dreaming.

Hazel Taylor #239

Angie Kurosaka represented the chapter at the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, in June.

Our updated chapter Web site is now up and running. Check it out at www.hazeltayloranna.org.

The ANNA Fall Meeting is in Atlanta, and **Jane Davis** is one of the speakers.

On the chapter level, we have something special planned for Nephrology Nurses Week. Save the date for our *Annual Nephrology Update* to be held on November 1 at the Gardendale Civic Center.

Please make sure to update your e-mail address with ANNA, so you can continue to receive the latest information, in addition to our Web site.

Tidewater #241

It has been a busy couple of months for ANNA members in the Tidewater area: awards, walking for cancer, and a trip to a far away place. Our president and devoted leader, **Beverly Grier-Smith**, was honored with an award from the American

Red Cross. She achieved 15 successful years of leading Minority Blood Drives. Our chapter helped fight cancer by doing a weekend of walking and raising funds for Relay for Life. We are called the Sentara Renal Knockouts, and we "powe" those cancer cells away.

The highlight of April for Secretary **Jenny Steed** was her involvement in a 9-day Nephrology Nursing Ambassador Program in South Africa. She met up with fellow renal nurse colleagues to learn about the "Renal World of South Africa." This Red White and Blue group had 300 total years of renal experience. Hooray for the USA!

This program involved visiting



Tidewater Chapter Secretary **Jenny Steed** participated in a 9-day Nephrology Nursing Ambassador Program in South Africa.

nursing educational programs at well-known universities in the coastal cities of Durban and Cape Town along with outpatient chronic dialysis units. **Lesley Dinwiddie** was the group's fearless leader, and both ANNA and NKF provided many publications as gifts to the appreciative renal programs.

The group enjoyed cultural experiences in each city. In Durban they visited the Valley of 1000 Hills and spent a whole day with the Zulu culture. In Cape Town, Mandela was the topic of historical choice. This was an amazing and enlightening trip of African wonder!

Acadiana #252

During National Nurses Week the chapter presented a free safety seminar for area nurses and patient care technicians. The program was provided by **Chris Ricord** with **Ethicon Biopatch** and included dinner at Shane's Barbeque and Seafood restaurant in Shreveport, LA. **Julie Stringer** with Protection Against Crime gave an inservice. Twenty-two attendees enjoyed the information and a wonderful dinner.

Health Policy Representative **Kathy Ballard** attended the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, on June 6-7. **Charla Litton**, ANNA National Treasurer and Acadiana member, also attended. The workshop provided opportunities to meet with national and state officials and address issues important to nephrology nurses.

On June 13 **Mary Michael Bogues**, **Kathy Ballard**, **Ty Belteton**, and **Courtney Harris** drove to Ruston, LA, to assist with the NKF's 2011 Liberty Mutual Invitational Century Link, Clarke M. Williams Memorial Golf Tournament at Squire Creek Country Club by registering teams and being all around "go-fors." Our chapter donated \$300 to sponsor a beverage cart. This event is a lot of fun, and we look forward to it every year.

On June 23 **Mary Michael Bogues** presented *Home Therapies: Treatment Options Awareness* for 1.0 contact hour at Willis Knighton Career Institute. This program was provided in collaboration with Network 13.

On July 17 **Gwen Austin** put together our annual Bowl-A-Rama chapter fundraising event at the Holiday Lanes in Bossier City. Friends and families came out to enjoy a day of bowling, pizza, and raffle prizes from jewelry to holiday decor.

On August 18 **Dr. Sachdeva** will present *Access Management* and will



Central Virginia chapter members attended the Southeast Regional Reception during the National Symposium in Boston. Pictured are Secretary Anne Webber, President Cathy Bishop, and President-Elect Robyn Jones.

include several area patients with a fistula to enhance the educational opportunity. The event is being sponsored by **Bard Access Systems** representative **Melissa Mazur**.

Northeastern Oklahoma #256

The chapter held meetings in April and May sponsored by **Amgen**. On April 12 at The French Hen restaurant, **Dr. Chonchol** discussed the *Role of Sensipar in the Management of Secondary Hyperparathyroidism*. On May 12 at the Polo Grill, **Dr. James Wetmore** discussed *Optimizing Outcomes in the Bundle*. Thank you to **Amgen** for their support.

Coming up soon we will have a meeting from **Pentec** on *The Impact of Nutritional Interventions on Nutritional Related Parameters in Hemodialysis Patients*. Watch your ANNA Connected e-mails or information coming to your units.

If you have any questions or ideas for the future, contact Katie Colpitts at 918-744-3536 or katie.colpitts@sjmc.org.

Central Virginia #258

Congratulations to **Toni Sperandeo**, chapter health policy representative, who attended the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, June 5-7 this year. She had a wonderful experience, and we look forward to her sharing her knowledge with all our members.

Four chapter officers attended the National Symposium in Boston. It was a great learning experience and a wonderful arena for networking with other colleagues.

Congratulations also to many of our members who are returning to school for their bachelors, masters, and even doctoral degrees. We

applaud your motivation and determination.

The summer is here, and vacations are underway. We are looking for educational topics our members are interested in learning about. We welcome any suggestions. Contact Secretary **Cathy Bishop** at cathybis@aol.com for suggestions and ideas of interest.

Blue Ridge #262

The ANNA state meeting in May was informative and well presented. We had a good turnout from our region.

We are planning several events for the year. Mark your calendars for August 2 at 6:30 pm. We are meeting on Chapter President **Lucy Todd's** patio overlooking the mountains for a Journal Club, which will be facilitated by **Nancy Pelfrey**. Come join us for dinner, contact hours, and networking. Everyone is invited – RNs and PCTs. Work on those CNE credits you need to re-certify. RSVP by e-mail to suzanne.caldwell@davita.com by August 1.

We also will again host the Fall and Winter ANNA Webinars. We have plans to host a KEEP screening in the Asheville area. Watch for flyers and updates. We hope you join us and get involved.

Tar River #268

On May 14-15 chapter officers **Holly McFarland**, **Shellby Scott**, and **Gracie Alston** along with chapter member **Sharona Johnson** participated in a Wellness Fair co-sponsored by NKF, Amgen, and ANNA. Holly coordinated the event for ANNA. Over 700 people were screened during the 2-day event and many expressed gratitude for this service. ANNA members

from the Tar River and Cardinal Chapters took blood pressures and advised patients on their risk factors for kidney disease.

The Fourth Annual North Carolina ANNA Collaborative Chapter Meeting, *Unique Challenges for the Nephrology Professional*, was held May 23-24 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro, NC. The program received high marks on evaluations from the 100 nurses and technicians who attended. Topics included transplantation, CKD, vascular access, acute kidney injury, patient-centered care in the ESRD Network system, professionalism, and home therapies. Thank you to the many vendors who helped make this meeting a success!

Future plans for meetings include educational sessions on vascular access care and CKD for the new nephrology nurse. ANNA awareness for nurses and technicians along with a membership drive are underway.

Sunshine Central #272

Chapter members **Rose Lee**, **Vivene Falconer**, and **Renee Hill** participated in Orlando's Inaugural NKF Kidney Walk on May 22. Chapter members along with a local dialysis center, Central Florida Kidney Centers, Inc., were able to exceed their team goal of \$1,000 in donations.

The chapter is asking all members to mark their calendars and remember that August 13 will be the *Second Annual One Day Conference* to be held by our chapter at Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies. Fantastic speakers, networking, food, and prizes are in store for participants. We want to see all of our members there! CHTs/CCHTs are welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact hours will be offered.

First Coast #276

The chapter is gearing up for the summer. Our chapter officers held an executive meeting and after official business was taken care of, we discussed activities our chapter could provide. We are planning for KDAE Week in August and lining up local and state politicians to visit local dialysis units. We are also in the preliminary planning stages for a weekend nephrology seminar to be held in the fall. We have some exciting ideas for this seminar.

One of the drug companies presented an excellent dinner meeting at the local Bistro Aix. There was a great menu, and a wonderful speaker from the University of Florida provided a great talk on PTH. I think we all learned something new!



Members of the Sunshine Central Chapter participated in the NKF's inaugural Kidney Walk in Orlando, FL

Sunshine Coast #278

The new Sunshine Coast Chapter has elected the following officers to serve our chapter this year: President **Susan Jones**, President-Elect **Judy Parker**, Secretary **Sandee Alsobrooks**, Treasurer **Jami Cook**, and Health Policy Representative **Francia (Cece) Keller**. Susan, Judy, and Cece attended the VLW in Boston and were able to network and find resources from other chapters to get ideas to create a great chapter. The first governing body meeting was held May 31 to adopt the chapter bylaws. The very first meeting for all chapter members will be held July 14 at 5:00 pm EST at 2410 S. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32301. We are excitedly looking forward to our first chapter meeting and greeting all chapter members.

North Central

Windy City #305

Congratulations to **Mary Haras**

for winning the Alcavis International, Inc. Career Mobility Scholarship at the National Symposium in Boston. Mary is an assistant professional lecturer at St. Xavier University in Chicago, and this \$2,500 scholarship will assist in her pursuit of a PhD in nursing at the Illinois State University, Mennonite College of Nursing.

As this issue was going to press, the chapter was taking registrations for the Fifth Annual *Nephrology Nursing: Back to the Basics*, a nephrology certification review program, scheduled for July 29 at Loyola University Medical Center, in Maywood, IL. Besides rehearsing their course presentations, chapter officers and members also were busy preparing for a variety of raffles to break up this long summer day of study. Read about our success in the next issue of the *ANNA Update*.

Plan now to celebrate Nephrology Nurses Week, September 11-17, with chapter colleagues. **Dr. Debra Rose Wilson**, who presented *Holistic Care for the Nephrology*

Nurse to our chapter in 2007, will be our guest speaker for a dinner/educational meeting this September. The date and location have yet to be finalized, but we are trying for a weekday evening during Nephrology Nurses Week. The topic, date, location with maps, and fees will be posted on our Web site at <http://home.comcast.net/~anna-windycitychapter305/annawindycitychapter.html> as soon as this information becomes available. Chapter members also will receive a notification through ANNA Connected.

Believe it or not, the 2011 year is half-way over. The "dog days of summer" are a great time to start thinking about what chapter officer position you would like to see yourself in for the 2012-2013 year. We will be seeking nominations by December 1. Please find a little time to enjoy some sun, relax from that job, and think about starting next year as a chapter officer. Contact a current chapter officer for further information. Consider getting more involved in your chapter. It is not as tough of a commitment as you may think!

Stay up to date with all chapter events by visiting our chapter Web site. The Web site is updated monthly, and the chapter also will send out information through ANNA Connected. Remember to keep your e-mail address up to date through the ANNA Web site at www.annanurse.org.

MichigANNA #312

ANNA National Secretary **Sharon Longton** and Health Policy Committee Chairperson-Elect **Donna Bednarski** attended the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, on June 6-7. Sharon and Donna had an opportunity to meet with the staff of their two Senators and one of their members of the House of Representatives. The meetings and the workshop were very interesting and productive.

Our chapter desperately needs your help. If you are interested in helping to preserve and strengthen our chapter, please contact Treasurer **Carol Stack** at rustybigdog@aol.com to discuss our chapter's current needs.

Heart of America Chapter #313

This year is flying by. We already have hosted some amazing events. We had a good turnout for the half-day *Spring Fling* educational event in April. Thank you to **Amgen** for hosting our "Get To Know ANNA Night" with information, recruitment, and opportunities available with ANNA. We had a great turnout for our ANNA night at the T-Bones game.

We are planning some events for KDAE Week (August 8-12) as well as Nephrology Nurses Week (September 11-17).

Save the date! October 13 is the date for our all-day Fall Meeting in Kansas City. Watch for a flyer with more details.

Go to our Web site to keep current on all of our events and contact information: <https://sites.google.com/site/annaheartofamericachapter313/home>.

Tri-State #317

The chapter is cruising into summer! We are in the process of designing a chapter banner that can be displayed at community and ANNA events. Our design will include a steamboat and the motto: "Honoring the past and cruising into the future." In the 1800s steamboats revolutionized travel, bringing together people of various cultures along the Ohio River. Gala welcomes greeted the adventurers at every port. We strive for revolutionary change, excitement, welcoming, and times of gentle cruising represented by steamboats.

In June our chapter meeting included a CNE offering on ethics in nephrology nursing. In August we plan to celebrate KDAE Week by co-sponsoring a booth at the Cincinnati Black Family Reunion, where we will expand our presence in the community by providing blood pressure readings, education and follow-up phone calls. Please e-mail kathy.woodson@thechristhospital.com if you would like to volunteer for this exciting event.

We continue to work with the Kentuckiana and Bluegrass Chapters to present an education day at Newport on the Levee this fall.

Our recent successes include a CNE offering in March presented by **Teresa McArter** on *Conflict Resolution with the Renal Patient*. In May we presented a well-attended *Certification Review Course*. We thank each of our excellent presenters in this event: **Teresa McArter**, hemodialysis and CKD; **Amy McQuattie**, peritoneal dialysis; **Jan Walker**, test taking tips; and **Kristin Gleis**, transplant. The reviews were so outstanding that we intend to offer something similar annually.

We continue our journey, honoring the past and cruising into the future.

Bluegrass #322

Chapter President **Jan Jurgensen** has been busy networking with the Tri-state and Kentuckiana Chapters to present an all-day educational meet-



Heart of America chapter officers attended the National Symposium in Boston. Pictured are Sondra Brasfield, Christine Corbett, Carol Pope, Laurie Hippensteel, and Joann Ross.



The Heart of America Chapter received the North Central STAR (Successful Teamwork = Achievements and Recognition) Award at the National Symposium in Boston.

ing in September. Watch for further information! This should be a spectacular meeting in a special location. Also, we anticipate a very special guest speaker at this meeting.

Gail Starnes, our chapter president-elect, represented our chapter and nephrology nursing at two KHAKY (Kidney Health Alliance of Kentucky) events in Lexington – a disability fair and a health fair.

We wish all our nurses a happy Nephrology Nurses Week and hope to see you at some of our special events.

Black Swamp #323

Chapter members are assisting the Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio with obtaining speakers and contact hours for their annual fall symposium in October. More details will be coming soon.

Chapter member **Trish Carter** successfully obtained her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) from the University of Toledo, College of

Nursing on May 7. Trish, as a true educator working with nephrology patients, presented *The Development of the Dialysis Decisions Patient Education Program: An Evidence-Based Practice Improvement Project* at the Midwest Nursing Research Society in March and again at the 5th Annual University of Toledo Nursing Research Day in April.

ANNA member **Theresa Felton** was in charge of a Community Health Fair for the Toledo Masonic Association on July 9. Educational topics as well as a variety of health care professionals, including nephrologists, were featured. Chapter members participated in this local community event.

Platte River #324

We are currently busily collaborating with the Nebraska Kidney Association on our annual Fall Joint Workshop. The workshop, titled *Back To Basics*, will be held at Regency

Lodge in Omaha on September 15. We hope everyone received "Save the Date" cards via snail mail. The card also was sent to everyone via ANNA Connected so please log in and check your mail.

Take a minute to sign into ANNA's Web site at www.annanurse.org and make sure your e-mail address and personal information are correct. If you are not receiving information from your chapter, e-mail the chapter secretary at tmunsinger@nebraskamed.com so your contact information can be updated in the chapter-specific list also. If you are a snail mail person, we are happy to mail the chapter information to you, so just let us know.

Remember to renew your ANNA membership if it is due and recruit your coworkers to become ANNA members. Our chapter needs new members!

Questions? Contact any of your chapter officers: President **Denise Murcek**, dmurcek@unmc.edu; President-Elect **Peggy Delaet**, pdelaet@unmc.edu; Secretary **Terry Munsinger**, tmunsinger@nebraskamed.com; Treasurer **Jen Walker**, jen.walker@dciinc.org; and Health Policy Representative **Dana Zeiss**, danazeiss@creighton.edu.

Greater Minnesota #329

On May 5 we all gathered for our Education and Business Meeting at Cabin Fever Restaurant in Little Falls, MN. The Education Meeting consisted of planning for our *18th Annual Renal Symposium* to be held on October 20 at St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. Following the Education Meeting, we were honored to have **Eva Petkac Donnelly** talk about *Improving Self-Management of Dialysis Patients with Secondary Hyperparathyroidism (HPT)*. Eva gave us great tips on how to deal with patients with elevated phosphorus levels – something we all found very helpful! Following the Education Hour, we held our Business Meeting and talked about various subjects that included STAR point reporting, items from members who attended the National Symposium and VLW, new membership, health policy reporting, and possibly initiating a LinkedIn Web site for our chapter.

We are planning another chapter meeting on August 4 at Jimmy's Pour House in Sartell, MN. We hope to see you all there!

Kentuckiana #336

The chapter has been busy! In April we enjoyed an **Amgen**-sponsored educational dinner at Cozza Osteria restaurant. **Dr. Abdul Ali**

Abdellatif gave a great presentation on *Optimizing Quality Outcomes in the Bundle*. We are planning another dinner in July with a focus on acute dialysis.

We recently had **Mary Layman** rejoin our chapter officers as a secretary along with **Marsha Evans**. We look forward to the extra help since we have a busy year planned!

We are meeting with the Lexington and Cincinnati chapters to possibly join together for a tri-state meeting in the fall. We also are working with the NKF on planning a walk in October. We will be sponsoring a walk team as well as providing education on renal disease, diabetes, and hypertension with blood pressure checks.

Our chapter is pleased to announce the date for our Day at the Downs! The event is set for November 10. We will send out more info via ANNA Connected. Also, look for updates on our Facebook account.

Duneland #338

Our newly elected officers include: President **Barbara Hasbargen**, President-Elect **Holly Beres**, Secretary **Melissa Allen**, Treasurer **Christine Witt**, and Health Policy Representative **Karen Hildebrand**. Since election, our chapter has held two executive officer meetings and one conference call to determine chapter direction and focus. Our goal is to determine past efforts non-contributory to growth and examine new paths of promotion. Seeking opportunities to promote membership and increase involvement among nurses within our chapter area has led us to investigate Internet usage to disseminate chapter information.

This summer we will be designing a Facebook page to improve communication and interaction among participants. We also are planning to become involved with nursing school events to promote nephrology nursing by arranging informational booths and tables. We plan on sponsoring another educational event this fall with content yet to be determined.

June 23rd marked our first educational event. Information regarding this event will follow in the next issue.

Thank you to President-Elect **Holly Beres** for diligently seeking to allocate funding for future events and chapter needs. Thank you to Health Policy Representative **Karen Hildebrand** for the wonderful information brought back from the VLW. Your contributions have assisted in guiding the direction of this chapter.

Western

Greater Puget Sound #503

The chapter's Peritoneal Dialysis Workshop on April 17 was well attended by approximately 50 nurses from all across Washington State. The chapter was pleased that a nurse from Oregon was able to join us for the 8-hour day also. Thank you to our presenters: **Steven Guest**, **Katy Wilkens**, **Ramona Wong**, and **Ann Mancini**. Thank you also to our planning committee: **Lynda Ball**, **Gerry Cullins**, **Nancy Colobong Smith**, **Cathy Hansen**, **Judy Mallon**, and **Nancy McAfee**.

The chapter officers held their first planning meeting on June 2 and are looking forward to events in 2011-2012. *Acute Dialysis* is planned for October. The chapter is working with the Northwest Renal Network to present *Explore Transplant* on November 6. The Planning Committee for *Renal Update 2012* is coming back together this summer to work on the program for March 2012. If you are interested in helping with any of the events, contact **Nancy Smith** at ycnan@u.washington.edu.

Let your colleagues know that events and updates are posted for members and nonmembers on the "ANNA Greater Puget Sound" page on Facebook. We hope to see you at an event soon!

Nephros South #506

All the chapter officers have volunteered for another year: President **Wendy Lester**, President-Elect **Anneli Ford**, Health Policy Representative **Gloria Booth**, Treasurer **Barbara Merkle**, and Secretary **Kathi Amarillas**. We are still having fun and enjoy working together. Our membership has increased this past year and participation in educational events is very good.

Anneli Ford and **Gloria Booth** attended the National Symposium in Boston in March. We are planning a business meeting soon so they can share their adventures with us.

Our last educational event was sponsored by **Genzyme** at Fleming's Steakhouse in La Jolla on May 17. **Dr. Shagun Chopra**, director of dialysis at Naval Medical Center San Diego, presented *CKD-MBD: Calcium and Calcification*. Thank you, Dr. Chopra, for another informative presentation. Many of us have known Shagun Chopra since her fellowship at UCSD. Also thanks to Genzyme clinical specialists, **Simone Simard** and **Brent Haberman**, for facilitating the dinner presentation.

Chapter member **Jeannette Benner** brought her son Ethan, a new RN, to the meeting. It is exciting to attract new RNs to become active in ANNA. Much to her surprise, we also remembered Wendy Lester's 29th birthday with a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday." Wendy, thank you for all you do to make Nephros South a successful ANNA chapter!

Los Angeles #508

A nephrology workshop entitled *Understanding the Pathophysiology of Renal Disease and Continuous Renal Replacement Therapies* was held on May 1 at the Hotel Palomar in Los Angeles. The meeting featured the following speakers and topics: **Dr. Anjay Rastogi**, What is the Renin Angiotensin System?; **Dr. Mitra Nadim**, USC Nephrology, Pathophysiology of Disease Leading to the Implementation of CRRT; **Dalton Grizzard**, Liver Dialysis: An Overview and Understanding the Technology; and **Patrice Daniels**, How Money Works for Nurses (non credited). Thank you to **Gambro Renal Products** and **Playa Healthcare and Education Consultants** for sponsoring this event. Monies raised from this event were donated to the American Red Cross to benefit individuals affected by the tsunami in Japan.

On October 22 the chapter plans to present a workshop focusing on chronic hemodialysis.

Inland Empire #526

Chapter President **Debbie Szczepczenski** and Secretary **Linda Mullen** attended the VLW in Boston in March. It was a great time to network with other chapter officers and hear about the fantastic activities that chapters are conducting across the United States.

Our chapter is planning to hold a Nephrology Nurse Recognition Dinner in September. We look forward to seeing you all there.

The chapter is in need of a president-elect. This role requires a 2-year commitment, serving 1 year as president-elect and 1 year as president. The president-elect will have the opportunity to attend the VLW in Orlando next year. If you are interested, e-mail **Linda Mullen** at latkm@sbcglobal.net.

Big Sky #527

Our chapter is planning our annual state meeting and educational sessions for September in Missoula, MT. In the meantime we are discussing ways to increase ANNA participation and membership in our state. Chapter Health Policy Representative **Lisa Jewett** and Western Region Vice President **Alice Luehr** attended the Health Policy Workshop in



The San Joaquin Valley Chapter was awarded the Chapter Health Policy Advocacy STAR Award during the National Symposium in Boston. Pictured (from left) are chapter members Cathy Gage-Ivers, Maria Gonzales, Marycela Tamez, and Anita Hall.

Washington, DC. They met with Congressman Rehberg and Senators Baucus and Tester.

Our chapter won the Regional STAR Award at the National Symposium in Boston. Representing the chapter and participating in the VLW were President **Anita Masters**, Secretary **Dee Trombetta**, Treasurer **Jamie Seymour** and Western Region Vice President **Alice Luehr**.

San Joaquin Valley #532

It's hard to believe that we are at mid-year already. Our chapter would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to: San Joaquin Community Hospital for their generous donation of \$2,500 to help fund the KEEP screening held in Bakersfield on June 4; **Mitchell Beavers** from **Watson Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**, for the delicious lunch; **Natalie Kanooni**, KEEP Manager of NKF Southern California, for her support and technical advice; **Dr. Mubin** and **Dr. Varanasi**, medical advisors; and **Marycela Tamez**, chairperson, for all her sweat and tears that went into a very successful KEEP screening.

Maria Gonzales, Western Region CCE and chapter secretary, attended the Health Policy Workshop in Washington, DC, on June 6-7. She made appointments to meet with California Senators and Congressmen to help educate and inform legislators of the needs facing the renal community. Health Policy Representative **Cathy Gage-Ivers** sent out invitations to local congressional representatives and is planning tours of dialysis units and hospitals during KDAE Week (August 8-12). The tours will provide legislators with education on kidney disease and its effect on the community.

Plans are underway to celebrate

Nephrology Nurses Week, September 11-17, with lots of enthusiasm in the Bakersfield and Visalia areas.

We welcome **Shirley Williams**, who has stepped in as chapter treasurer. Thank you, Shirley!

For more information and upcoming events, visit our Web site at www.sjvanna.org. We want to hear from you, especially our members in the Fresno and northern areas of our chapter. What is happening in your neck of the woods? What can the chapter do to help you "soar" with us?

Silver State South #533

A chapter business meeting was held on May 11 to discuss upcoming events. On May 21 Chapter President **Suzanne DuBois**, along with **Eileen Cunningham** and Secretary **Janice Beatty** participated in a community service project. The chapter was asked to participate in the local Electricians Union Health Fair, where we had a booth to discuss the importance of doing foot checks, especially if you have diabetes. We checked interested fairgoers' feet and provided them with information about proper foot care.

For the next chapter meeting we plan on hosting a social mixer to increase membership. The meeting place and date are to be announced. We are looking for a venue to accommodate our group which has karaoke, so we can share our talents. If you have a suggestion, let one of the officers know.

Call for volunteers: President-Elect **Susan Latimer** is asking for chapter members to help with program planning and development. Please contact her at sueinwa@aol.com if you would like to help with developing educational programs that the chapter can provide.