

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

Volume 8, Number 7

Official Newsletter of ARNPs United

July, 1997

A Note From The President

by Patti Varley

Well as we change from Spring to Summer it is with sorrow we leave the past and with anticipation we look forward. We regret leaving some things behind, but also remember the beauty and goodness that was. So is it with the changing of an organization. This past month, there have been changes in some of the people involved in ARNPs United, some leaving their posts after serving well and others stepping in to take on the challenges ahead. We mourn the losses but are excited about what lies ahead. Fortunately, the profession of nursing attracts a large number of wonderful individuals. It seems only fair that different individuals take their turn to serve the group as a whole.

ARNPs United has many important challenges to face in this coming year, many of which will be discussed in this and future issues of *ARNP Care*. As I look forward to the warmth and sun of summer, I also look forward to the opportunities for ARNPs and nursing in general to pursue its proper place in the care of those who look to us most and appreciate us most — our patients and clients.

Let us not forget why we're here as we pursue many of our goals in this coming year. They are the reason we exist and can be an asset to supporting the issues we pursue!

Tribute to Tracy

by Sally Plumly

ARNPs United Legislative committee will be in transition this upcoming season as Tracy Lin steps down as Chair. She served in that capacity for the past three politically active and challenging years and although she gave us ample warning that she would be moving on to more intensively pursue personal life goals, the full impact will only be realized in her aftermath. Her unique style, energy and contribution is difficult to capture in description but here is how some tried: she was the source of our direction and had a way of mobilizing the most constructive in all of us.

It was hard to ever say no to anything she asked and not because of pressure. She was so dedicated herself, clearheaded, steady and strong. A democratic leader who provided direction but also took on the work. Our Lobbyist Gail McGaffick recalls her spending many a Friday in Olympia skillfully testifying on behalf of ARNPs United issues or reviewing Bills and strategizing which she became adept at. A self described fledgling who quickly sprouted wings. She had a way of maintaining peacefulness in the face of political chaos! We were most fortunate to have her as chair, welcome

her continued presence in whatever capacity and wish her the very best as is what she gave.

Pivoting

Some days, you and I go mad.
Our bellies get stuffed full,
Hearts break, minds snap.
We can't go on the old way so
We change. Our lives pivot,
Forming a mysterious geometry.

Ming-Dao in
365 Tao Daily Meditations Copyright 1992

Goodbye

by Tracy Lin

Change without the interference of concepts, guilt, timidity, or hesitancy. Those are the points when our entire lives pivot and turn toward new phases, and it is right that we take advantage of them. I want to thank the membership for their support of my being legislative chair of ARNPs United. The last couple of years for ARNPs involvement in legislation has been challenging and successful. I am very proud to be a part of a group of individuals striving for delivery of quality care for people and children (our future) in our communities. And I am honored to have represented ARNPs to the legislative community. Special thanks go to the members of the legislative committee, the board, and Gail. We live in the moment and the rest comes naturally.

Nursing Commission Considers Changes to ARNP Rules

by Larry Kerschner, ARNP and Gail Toraason McGaffick
(Larry is the new Leg. Committee Chair)

Over the past year the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission has convened an Advanced Practice Roundtable to consider several issues concerning ARNP practice. Members of the Roundtable have included representatives from the following groups: ARNPs United, ACNM, WANA, NAPNAP, AAPPN, WSNA, and one representative from each educational institution with a nurse practitioner program.

The goal of the Roundtable was to review certain areas of ARNP practice and make recommendations to the Commission concerning areas where possible rule changes are needed. The following excerpt from The Nursing Commission Newsletter highlights the focus of the Roundtable's work:

"Current regulations state that nurses must be prepared in one of several defined categories to practice as ARNPs. Examples of these include family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife and certified registered nurse anesthetist. As

the health care delivery system changes, with new settings and alternative methods for providing care, innovative programs to meet patient needs are springing up across the country. Regulatory agencies in all states and at the national level are struggling to keep pace with the changes in this still emerging field for nurses. The Commission is interested in seeking solutions to new requests for nurse practitioner specialty areas without having to create a series of new regulations" (for each new specialty). Bracketed language added.

"The Roundtable will be making recommendations to the Commission about the current regulatory language and ways in which the rules for recognition of ARNP categories and licensing of ARNPs might be modified to allow for more flexibility. As always, the Commission's main purpose will be to assure that the regulatory language ensures adequate standards in order to protect the public."

Under the current requirements for proposed rule changes, the Commission must hold several public meetings to receive comments from ARNPs, as well as the public. The first of these meetings is scheduled for July 21, 12 noon, at the Sea-Tac Airport. You may have heard that Sea-Tac is the site of construction, so you may want to allow a few extra minutes in travel or park at one of the hotels. The meeting is being held on the Mezzanine Level, GSP Board Room. To get to the Mezzanine, you walk through the passage way between Delta and Continental on the ticketing level, past the elevator, and turn left. Go up the stairs and you should see a sign directing you to the GSP Board Room.

Depending on the number of questions and comments raised at this meeting, the Commission may hold an additional meeting in the Fall. After these initial meetings to discuss the concepts under consideration, the next step is that the Commission files the actual language for rules changes, and a rules hearing is held to consider those changes. After a hearing, the Commission

decides whether to incorporate or reject suggested changes. The entire process takes about a year.

If you care about these issues...which we are just about to detail...it is important that you either participate in person at the July 21st meet-

ing or send written comments to the Commission. Comments should be addressed to the Washington State Nursing Commission, Attn: ARNP Rules, P.O. Box 47864, Olympia, WA 98504-7864. A fax number for the Commission is 360.586.2165.

Also, it's important that you ask to be placed on the Commission's mailing list for notice of future hearings, as well as an opportunity to review and comment on specific language when it is developed. Please use the address above for inclusion on the mailing list.

Patti Varley, ARNPs United President, will be attending the July 21st meeting. It would be most helpful if you would send copies of your written comments to Patti. Comments may be sent to: pvarley@u.washington.edu via E-mail or the traditional route at 2504 NW 202nd St. Shoreline, WA 98177.

Now for the "beef." Because of the growth in nurse practitioner specialties, the Commission wants to avoid having to adopt new rules each time a new specialty is created by educational institutions. We've just described the rule-making process, and it's fair to say that it's become much more complicated in recent years.

In order to avoid adopting new rules each time a new ARNP category is created, the Roundtable is recommending that the Commission primarily protect the title "ARNP." In addition, there would also be protection for the designations of "CRNA" and "CNM" because they do not contain the words "nurse practitioner" within them. There would no longer be any title protection for other designations. It's our understanding that this would make it easier to bring new "specialties" under the tent, without the necessity of new rules. For licensure purposes, the title "ARNP" would be the generic, as "MD" is the generic for physicians, but it's anticipated that ARNPs would still utilize the specialty designations if they choose.

Another focus for the Roundtable was how to allow ARNPs to "retool." The Commission's newsletter stated: "Some specialty areas are expanding, others are becoming more narrow and unique in scope, and many nurse practitioners are interested in moving from one area of specialty to another." As a result, the Roundtable explored ways to make it easier for "retooling" to occur. Currently, if an ARNP wants to change specialties or has one of more specialty designations, he or she must apply for an entirely separate license for each specialty. In addition, the licensure requirement for ARNP practice in many of the specialties is national certification. An alternative discussed by the Roundtable would allow an ARNP who is initially certified in a particular specialty to work in another specialty area without the necessity of a second certification. Instead the ARNP could document their competence in the additional specialty through a number of routes, to include certification. For example, an ARNP could

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"provide evidence that the theory and precepted clinical hours in direct patient care are equivalent to the education for an individual seeking initial recognition for the specialty" in order to practice in a separate specialty area.

A third area which the Roundtable focused on was the incorporation of new clinical skills in ARNP practice. An example would be colposcopy for those ARNPs who provide well women care. One alternative that will be discussed at the July 21st meeting would be to require ARNPs who incorporate new clinical skills to maintain a "professional portfolio" that documents a "learning plan", documentation of supervised clinical experience in the new clinical skill, and a method for evaluating their competence in the new skill. Enforcement of these requirements could be through random audits by the Commission.

To conclude, we want to emphasize that the Commission is very interested in receiving input on the above described suggestions...and that these are only suggestions, put forward for the purpose of further discussion. Don't forget about your opportunity to participate in the decision making in person on July 21st, or through written comments.

WSNA Meeting

by Ted Ritter

On June 21, 1997 Jerry Henry and I met with the executive board of WSNA to discuss some of our outstanding issues. This meeting was generally positive and we agreed that we would work toward renewing our affiliative agreement and work towards better lines of communication. To facilitate this the immediate past-president of ARNPs United or a designee would serve as the official liaison to WSNA and would attend their Board meetings. We hope that this year will be even more productive than the past.

Past President's Corner

by Ted Ritter

This has been a very exciting and somewhat disappointing year for us politically. We were unable to complete our prescriptive authority but were able to convert some legislators. We are in better financial shape than ever thanks to all of you who have voted with your checkbooks. It has been an honor (although sometimes a dubious one) to have served as your president this past year. I want to thank all of you for your help and ask that you provide the same support to Patti Varley the incoming President. I will continue to serve to the best of my ability.

On a more personal note, anyone with information about jobs let me know as I am in need of one.

Classified Ads

Locum Tenens Wanted

Dedicated, enthusiastic, experienced (10 years) Women's Health Care ARNP is available for vacation, sabbatical, maternity leave coverage. Flexible, independent holistic clinician with Rx authority and DEA number who is looking for position in greater Seattle, Eastside, Yakima or Wenatchee area for summer and fall. Contact Sherry Hill, 425.454.0603 or PO Box 2857, Redmond, WA 98073.

Psychiatric NP

Kaiser Permanente has a 32 hour/week position for a certified psychiatric nurse practitioner at our medical office in Longview, Washington. The position includes brief individual and group therapy and requires experience in medication evaluation and management. The ability to work within a multidisciplinary mental health team is necessary. We offer a competitive salary and flexible benefit package which includes family medical/dental insurance, life/disability insurance, a generous pension program, paid continuing education, relocation allowance and more. Please refer to #9702089 to forward resume to Judy Parmenter, Professional Staff Recruiter, Kaiser Permanente, 500 NE Multnomah, Suite 100, Portland OR 97232. EOE.

Family NP Faculty

Half-time Faculty teaching position in the Family Nurse Practitioner Master in Nursing Program. PhD in Nursing preferred; minimum qualification of MSN with eligibility for Washington State RN licensure; teaching and/or clinical experience as an advanced registered nurse practitioner. Send letter of application, vita, transcripts and three letters of recommendation to: Faculty Administrative Assistant, Saint Martin's College, 5300 Pacific Ave SE, Lacey, WA 98503. For further information contact: Kathleen Kapaun, Administrative Assistant, Nursing Department 360.438.4376. EOE/AAP.

Women's Health NP

Washington - Planned Parenthood of Spokane and Whitman Counties are seeking women's health care ARNPs. Positions are in Pullman and Spokane. Both are safe communities, offer good schools and outstanding outdoor recreation. Interested candidates contact: Julie Carrick, phone: 509.326.6292 x139 or fax: 509.326.4367. AA/EOE.

Pediatric/Family NP

Washington, Auburn - Pediatric and Family ARNPs needed by growing clinic, should have ability to work alone at times and possess good diagnostic skills. Clinic is friendly, casual with competitive benefits. Flexible work hours. Full-time or part-time, permanent long term position. Clinic is open 9 am to 7 pm. Contact: Auburn Children's Clinic, 25 Second St NW, Auburn, WA 98001, phone: 206.939.6541 and ask for Cheryl McGill or Dr Thompson.

NP Faculty

University of Washington School of Nursing seeks individual for NP faculty position, part- or full-time, in Biobehavioral Nursing and Health Systems Dept. Position involves teaching primarily clinical courses for adult acute care NP students. Program prepares ANPs to care for patients with serious acute/chronic conditions (cancer, HIV-AIDS, cardio-pulmonary, etc.) across range of care settings. Position starts 9/16. Required: ARNP; Masters degree; practice expertise with seriously ill patients; full appt requires Doctorate. Recommended: ANP or FNP certification. The University of Washington is building a culturally diverse faculty, strongly encourages applicants from underrepresented groups and is an EOE, Affirmative Action Employer. Position open until filled. Salary negotiable per qualifications. Contact: Liz Miller, Secretary, Biobehavioral Nursing, Box 357266, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195-7266, phone: 206.616.1406, E-mail: captliz@u.washington.edu.

ARNP

Position available for an experienced Nurse Practitioner, full- or part-time. Joining independent, pro-life, three physician group. Excellent pay and benefits. Attractive suburban community and friendly staff. Mail CV to PO Box 98371, Tacoma, WA 98498 or fax to 253.581.3787.

Certified Nurse Midwife

Small independent birth center and women's clinic seeking part time CNM. Hours are part-time but we anticipate full time soon. Located in Arlington, WA and will soon be opening an additional clinic in Everett, WA. Duties will include OB/GYN Clinic and labor call. Wages will be both hourly and contract. Contact Greg at the Arlington Birth Center, 902 E Maple, Arlington, WA 98223, fax: 360.435.7467, phone: 360.435.5323.

Continuing Education

Pain Management Issues in Hospital & Office Practice

September 19, 1997. Seattle, WA.. This educational program is designed to address a broad variety of contemporary issues and new treatment options related to pain management. Discussions will include the multiple factors which must be considered in prescribing appropriate medications for patients with chronic pain. Presenters include: Russell Portenoy, MD; Stuart Du Pen, MD; Daniel Brookhoff, MD; Mark Stillman, MD; Wendy Stein, MD and more! For more information please call 206.386.2755 Swedish CME Registration Information Line.

Reproductive Health '97

November 13-16, 1997. Hyatt Regency Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ. This meeting will be held in conjunction with Planned Parenthood Federa-

tion of America and cosponsored by the National Assoc of Nurse Practitioners in Reproductive Health. Lecture style sessions focus on recent advances in cancer prevention & detection, changes in diagnosis of STDs, issues surrounding primary care, new developments in medical abortion & contraception & other issues related to reproductive health. For more information, contact Amy McCormick at 202.466.3825.

Adolescent Reproductive Health '97

November 21-23, 1997. Location: Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, McLean, VA. Lecture style sessions focus on the health care needs of teens, adolescent health care challenges, adolescent sexuality, long-acting contraceptives, teens and HIV/AIDS, behavioral and psychological issues and other critical health care issues affecting teens. The Great Debate will feature heated discussions on abstinence-only programs versus comprehensive sexuality education in schools. For more information, contact Amy McCormick at 202.466.3825.

Ad Information

Copy deadline is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Ads may be accepted later than this on a space available basis. Position Available Ads & Continuing Education Announcements of less than 66 words are \$45, of 66 to 130 words are \$75 and greater than 130 words are \$105. Position Available Ads are priced per insertion. Continuing Education Announcements are per offering for up to three (3) consecutive insertions. New Product Announcements per product for one insertion of 130 words or less are \$75. Ad Inserts are \$540 for one issue. All ads are subject to space limitations and editing. Call for detailed rate information. Mail copy to *ARNP Care*, 212 Railroad Ave N, Kent, WA 98032. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.480.0002. E-mail care@nurse.net
