Onward We Go!

Our meetings with Kentucky state senators have been going well and I would like to thank everyone on their efforts. We need to continue the progress made in the effort to educate those around us about how nurse practitioners and nurse midwives work to improve the access to care for Kentuckians. Please read and keep the special newsletter insert. It will be your on-the-shelf resource during the legislative session. Our continued message is:

**Improve Kentuckians’ Access to Quality Health Care**

- **We** • are NOT seeking to expand our scope of practice.
- want to improve access to care by removing unnecessary and costly barriers.
- want to join in the fight to stop drug abuse in Kentucky.

On another note, the conference planning is in full swing. You’ll have many interesting topics to choose from, hands-on workshops to national speakers. For fun, join in Wednesday evening as we bowl for charity. Funds raised will benefit the Backside Ministry which funds free clinics for racetrack workers. And to continue our efforts to help those in greatest need, come to the virtual “Pajama Party” where we will collect real PJs for kids and adults living in Louisville shelters. By the time you read this all conference information will be posted at www.kcnpnm.org.

Julianne Ewen APRN DNP
KCNPNM President

**BTW, FYI**

**We’ve got your back**

KCNPNM has had representatives at the table on the following issues that as individuals we could never keep up with.

**MCOs** – as Ky Medicaid contracted with three new companies, KCNPNM met with the companies to educate them about APRN practice in Kentucky posting valuable information on the website.

**KNCC** – The Kentucky Nursing Capacity Consortium continues its work with several KCNPNM leaders aboard. IOM/The Future of Nursing – KCNPNM leaders have been attending regional meetings talking about how Kentucky APRNs fit in.

**KASPER Advisory Council** – KCNPNM worked with the Kentucky Board of Nursing to put forth recommendations to the Governor for his appointments to the advisory council. Our president, Julianne Ewen, was the only nurse appointed to this council.

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The Kentucky Board of Nursing is receiving increased numbers of complaints regarding nurses who use social media in violation of federal laws (HIPAA) and the Nursing Laws of Kentucky. Visit kcnpnm.org and search “social media” to read the NCSBN White Paper: A Nurses Guide to the Use of Social Media adopted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing in May 2011. This document is intended to provide guidance to nurses using electronic media.

KCNPNM Member Rebecca Kaminski APRN commented via listserv October 4, 2011 as several members expressed a concern about the lack of clinical focus in some DNP programs.

I am currently a DNP student enrolled in Frontier Nursing University. I did extensive research before enrolling to determine which DNP programs were practice-based vs. an academic/administrative curriculum. The course titles of the various universities were helpful in this regard. I am a practicing primary care/geriatric NP in Cincinnati and was interested in a more clinical practice-based degree.

I have taught NP students in the classroom and also precepted them in the clinical setting and have found great disparity in their clinical skills. All students are not equal in this regard. Clinical skills, knowledge of labs and guidelines are critical and nurses who have been exposed to these as RNs definitely have an advantage. It is necessary to know this fundamental information when we practice as NPs.

However, clinical information is evolving on a daily basis and what is standard treatment today, may no longer be true tomorrow or next month. Evidence-based guidelines are changing all the time as new research continues, and the clinical information I learned in my MSN program 6 years ago is in many cases no longer the standard of care.

The more important aspect of clinical practice is to be able to access, understand and implement the most up-to-date best practice guidelines as well as clinical information in treating our patients. I have not been disappointed thus far in my education at Frontier. There is a strong emphasis and focus on learning to access and evaluate the reliability and validity of evidence based research and understanding the steps to implement these best-practice guidelines into our practices as well as our institutions.
AANP Response to IOM Report

Susan Matthews Ph.D., APRN, FAANP served on the AANP expert panel to develop a response to the IOM’s Future of Nursing report. The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) convened an expert panel to evaluate the IOM’s latest study on health care delivery, The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, developed in conjunction with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The AANP document presents the experts’ findings in the context of policies and programs needed to create an efficient and effective health care delivery system—providing safe, appropriate, and affordable medical services and improving the overall health of the American population.

AANP’s experts—nationally respected educators, researchers, clinicians, association officers, policy experts and industry thought leaders—unanimously endorse The Future of Nursing. The recommendations in the IOM/RWJF report are valid and must ultimately be taken to accomplish changes that advance health.

Other panel members were:
Penny Kaye Jensen, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, FAANP (President, AANP); Mona M. Counts, PhD, CRNP, FNAP, FAANP; Joy S. Elwell, DNP FNP-BC; Timothy R. Knettler, MBA; Patricia F. Pearce, MPH, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP; Diana Swanson, MSN, NP-C, FAANP; Sophia L. Thomas, APRN, FNP-BC; Jan Towers, PhD, NP-C, CRNP, FAANP, FAAN; Michael E. Zychowicz, DNP, FAANP; Jeffrey C. Bauer, PhD, Independent Medical Economist

The full report can be accessed at: http://www.kcnpnm.org/?page=FoN or type in Future of Nursing in the site search box at kcnpnm.org.

STATE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

The AANP 26th National Conference was June 22 - June 26, 2011 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Venetian and The Palazzo & Sands Expo and Convention Center.

Michael Wayne Rager DNP, PhD(c), FNP-BC, MSN, APRN, CNE(c) was selected as the recipient of the 2011 AANP Kentucky NP State Award for Excellence. Michael is an Advanced Practice Registered Family Nurse Practitioner with 16 years of experience in the discipline of nursing. He is a Tenured Associate Professor of Nursing/LPN to ADN Coordinator, Online Integrated Program Coordinator, Madisonville Community College. He is a proven leader in his ability to meet and surpass student outcome benchmarks within a variety of academic settings. He is motivated and energetic in the advancement of nursing education and works to promote the profession through community involvement, ongoing scholarly work, and motivating other educators in strategies to achieve these goals as a harmonious team.

Suzanne Prevost, PhD, RN, COI was selected as a joint recipient of the 2011 AANP Kentucky NP Advocate Award for Excellence. Dr. Prevost is Professor and Associate Dean for Practice and Engagement of the College of Nursing at the University of Kentucky. In this position she manages the College’s faculty practice plan and continuing education programs and serves as a liaison between the College, UK HealthCare, and other collaborating clinical facilities. Dr. Prevost is president-elect of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society for Nurses. She will assume the office of president in November 2011. Dr. Prevost is a certified online instructor (COI), as well as a certified trainer with both the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association and the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC). Her current research programs focus on increasing the use of technology in colleges of nursing and improving end-of-life care. She is currently serving as co-investigator on two HRSA grants focused on increasing the use of educational technologies.

Jane M. Kirschling, DNS, RN, FAAN was selected as a joint recipient of the 2011 AANP Kentucky NP Advocate Award for Excellence. Dr. Kirshling is the Dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Kirschling is former dean of the University of Southern Maine College of Nursing and Health Professions. She previously served as associate dean at the University of Rochester School of Nursing and Oregon Health Sciences University School of Nursing, where she provided academic oversight for baccalaureate, master’s, post-masters and doctoral nursing programs; oversight of student affairs and office of evaluation; recruitment of academic and clinical track teaching faculty, and evaluation of assigned faculty. Dr. Kirschling completed the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Program in 2003, and the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education, MLE Management and Leadership in Education in 2001. She is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.
Paducah

The Paducah Region continues to be very active. We’ve continued monthly dinner meetings sponsored by industry. Unfortunately, we’ve hit major roadblocks this year and haven’t been able to apply for pharmacology continuing education. We would love to hear from anyone who has found a solution to this problem. The yearly pharmacology updates are a great alternative but not always as convenient to attend. As a result of these changes we are having more meetings sponsored by device representatives allowing for more educational variety. Topics this quarter have included osteoporosis, shoulder arthroscopy and rotator cuff repair, and diabetes.

Several members attended the Fancy Farm Picnic Political Breakfasts and were able to speak directly to local and state senators and representatives about our concerns and needs.

Jessica Gargus, APRN, ACNP-BC, CHFN
Regional Director, Paducah

Owensboro

The third quarter meeting in Region 2 was very well attended. We enjoyed a nice presentation, dinner, and fellowship. Our meeting included an informative update from Susan Matthews on KCNPNM and The Future of Nursing. In October we were delighted to have Sheila Shuster join us and get us all fired up about the upcoming legislative session. Finally, join me in welcoming Leslie Phelps as co-director for our region.

Judy Carrico APRN

Bowling Green

The Bowling Green group has been active with meetings in July, August, and September. In July we were lucky enough to have a presentation by fellow NP Beverly Mortimer. She discussed the pathology, diagnosis, and treatment of hypertriglyceridemia. Our August meeting was also lead by a NP- Judy Stevens. She is a local expert on Fibromyalgia, which she discussed at the meeting. She has started a local Fibromyalgia patient support group here in Bowling Green. The September meeting was our best turn out of the year with 30 participants in attendance! The talk was lead by Dr. Tapp and he discussed Diabetes along with treatment using insulin and/or Victoza. If you are interested and live close by we would be happy to have anyone at our meetings!

Judy Carrico APRN

Danville

Happy fall to everyone! The month of September was busy in the area. Some Coalition members met with our Senator, Tom Buford for the purpose of discussing the role of APRNs and the upcoming legislative session. On September 10th the region met and hosted a pharmacology update in conjunction with Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center. Dr. Trish Rippitoe Freeman spoke to the audience about new medications. Dr. Julie Marfell APRN also presented on the Institute of Medicine report related to Advance Practice Nursing.

Like others, our rural area is challenged in finding convenient meeting times to come together. As a means of addressing this issue a new strategy has been undertaken to convene APRNs. In partnership with the physician liaison, nurse practitioners in Liberty and I met for lunch to discuss current issues in the area, talk about the upcoming legislative session, as well as common issues and concerns. We followed this up with a similar event in Lancaster earlier this month. These events went well and we hope to do our next visit with APRNs in Garrard in the near future. The goal is to improve communication and have the opportunity to network with other practitioners.

Eva Stone APRN
Ashland

We had our last meeting on September 29th at Rocco’s. Topics of discussion consist of home health bill and that room reservations were now open for the April conference. Our next meeting will probably be set for January, to allow for the holidays. We had decided to hold our meetings on Tuesdays or Thursdays per our group suggestions, but attendance could still improve. If anyone has suggestions for this, please contact me. Hope everyone has a great holiday!

Hazard/Prestonsburg

Meeting held August 13, 2011 at Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center with Dr. John Pappas, Internist, at Kentucky Medical Research Center. Dr. Pappas discussed Vimovo, a product containing naproxen and esomeprazole for use in treatment of arthritis, and he described his involvement in ongoing research into treatment of many other diseases/disorders.

Julie Marfell joined a small group on November 5th to discuss the Future of Nursing report and legislative issues.

London/Corbin

The London-Corbin Region had a meeting in August that followed a “Journal Club” format with several members presenting and discussing recent articles that they felt would be beneficial to practice. A big thanks to Melissa Owens for opening her home to members and to those who brought food for the potluck. Jenny Hungerbuhler gave an update on the recent board activities, KCNPNM’s legislative agenda and how nurse leaders are implementing IOM report recommendations.

Lisa Collins

A special thanks to Lisa Collins for planning the past few meetings in the London area. Unfortunately, due to other demands on her time she is stepping down as regional director. We are looking for a replacement.

SUCCESS IN PADUCAH

On October 20th a group of APRNs in Western Kentucky hosted local legislators at a reception in Paducah. In short, it was a rousing success with over 50 in attendance. Nurse practitioners and nurse midwives alike spoke about their vital role in caring for the constituents of the six legislators in attendance. Taking time from their busy schedules to attend were: Sen. Bob Leeper, Sen. Ken Winters, Sen. Joey Pendleton, Rep. Mike Cherry, Rep. Fred Nesler, and Rep. Brent Housman. Individuals contacted their legislators to personally invite them to attend. These efforts were an outstanding expression of concern by a dedicated group of APRNs.

Senator Winters shared that he's very happy with the care he receives from his nurse practitioner.

NPs and Nurse Midwives were represented from many different areas of practice, including private practice, and were able to explain the barriers to care that patients and providers must try to overcome. There was also a strong representation from Murray State University faculty, graduate NP students, and undergraduate nursing students. Dr. Marcia Hobbs, DSN ,RN, Dean of the School of Nursing gave an excellent presentation, including an overview of the educational preparation of NPs and Murray State University’s upcoming BSN to DNP program. One of the more solemn stories told was the mental health NP who may have to stop seeing patients due to lack of a collaborator. The legislators heard loud and clear about the effect that would have on thousands of patients.

It was very inspiring and motivating for all in attendance. When seeing such a group of NPs working together, it is undeniable that Nurse Practitioners are key to Kentucky’s Healthcare future. It was also undeniable that the legislators present got the intended message. Progress was made, and there is no question: 3,000 NPs strong can’t be wrong for Kentucky!!!

K. Amy Fennel, APRN
Kathy Wheeler, Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing, was one of 27 nurse leaders from around the world to participate in the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Global Nursing Leadership Institute (GNLI). The nurses spent an intense, weeklong program of work followed by a special graduation ceremony. Established in 2009, the GNLI offers an advanced leadership program for nurses in senior and executive level positions in developed and developing countries.
You know what they say; the third time’s a charm. This next legislative session will be the third time Kentucky NPs and CNMs have attempted to remove the practice barrier of the prescriptive collaborative agreement. As you all are well aware, this has nothing to do with what we do as NPs and CNMs, only the prescription writing piece. And despite the fact that there is over 40 years of research showing NPs and CNMs are safe, effective and quality providers, the collaborative prescribing agreement continues to exist. Wait! Don’t stop reading….

This restriction may not affect you and your practice. I get that. However, there are many of our fellow NPs and CNMs, especially in the rural areas of our state, who are affected. And that means there are patients who are not getting the access they need to health care.

Much has been learned in the previous attempts to remove this barrier. Currently, meetings between state Senators and one or more NPs are occurring across the Commonwealth and are going well. The Senators are getting to know us, their constituents. But there is one more thing we must do to work the political machine.

As NPs and CNMs in the Commonwealth, we need to donate time and/or money to our state legislators. This could mean answering a phone for an hour, stuffing envelopes for an hour or sending a note with a check inside. No amount of time or money is too small. Let me repeat that, no amount of time or money is too small.

I realize this is new for us (could be a bit scary). I hear ya. However, we cannot afford to play on the outside of this game. We are in the game. Let’s play to win. Please make a phone call or send a check today. I think you’ll be glad you did.

Sincerely,
Julie Ossege
KCNPNM member since the mid-nineties

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Over the past year the leadership of Region 4 of AANP have been developing a Multi-State Reimbursement Alliance (MSRA) for the region similar to the Great Lakes Multi-State Reimbursement Alliance, the first such group to organize several years ago. This first meeting of the Region 4 MSRA was held the evening prior to the Region 4 AANP meeting September 24 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Organizers included Kathy Wheeler, Region 4 Director; Susan Matthews, Kentucky State Rep; Irma Jordan, Tennessee State Rep; Debra Gibbs, South Carolina State Rep; and Deborah Varnam, North Carolina State Rep. Others in attendance from Kentucky included Whitney Nash from Louisville. Over the next few months the group, representing Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina, will be gathering information on insurance and ARNP credentialing, contracting and reimbursement. If anyone is interested in participating please contact Kathy Wheeler at kjwheeler@roadrunner.com.

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The Ellen Bailey Share the Light Award is presented each year to an outstanding advanced practice nurse in memory of Ellen Bailey. Ellen was a true leader in advanced practice in Kentucky and one of the founding members of the KCNPNM. She demonstrated a lifelong dedication to clinical practice, service and teaching. The recipient of this award should emulate Ellen’s style of quiet leadership, clinical excellence, service to the profession, and quality patient care. Submit your nominee by following the link at kcnpnm.org or http://www.kcnpnm.org/?page=Ellen_Bailey_FORM

In addition to recognition at KCNPNM’s annual awards banquet, the winner selects a charity to receive a $500 donation. Funds are raised throughout the year, with reminders given at time of membership renewal. Contribute to this worthy cause. http://www.kcnpnm.org/donations/
We took your feedback and created a great line-up of content and speakers for the upcoming year. You’ll get everything you need to be up-to-date with the latest information, knowledge and skills. Don’t miss out on your opportunity to participate in this great educational conference made for you - just as you requested.

**2012 Highlights**
- Updated Guidelines (JNC VIII, ATP-IV, and more)
- Pharmacology Updates
- The Meaning in “Meaningful Use”
- Pediatric & Women’s Health Sessions
- National speakers (Amelie Hollier and Leslie Davis)

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**ANNUAL BANQUET**
Thursday, April 19, 2012, 7:00pm—10:00pm, Ballroom A, Hyatt Regency

**‘BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED’**
Bobbie’s background prior to speaking was in nursing. Bobbie holds both a Bachelor of Nursing and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. From her experiences, Bobbie has met many people in pain, both physically and emotionally. Pain based on loss of change, loss of security, trouble with relationships, parenting, health and work.

Bobbie believes that laughter is cut little “Pills of Pain.” So sit, back, relax, and enjoy Bobbie’s humorous presentation style.

**FUTURE LEADERS SOUGHT**

**OPEN SEATS for 2012 ELECTION**
- President-elect (one year followed by two year term as President)
- Vice President (two year term)
- Two At-large Board members (three year term)
- Student Representative to Board of Directors (one year term) - must have one year remaining in school
- Two Nominating Committee Members (two year term)

All officers and board members are expected to attend board meetings, traditionally held on Saturdays from 11am to 3pm in February, August and November. They are also expected to be in attendance at the board meeting, annual general membership meeting, and Conference held each April. Much of the day-to-day business is conducted online at www.kcnpm.org and by email. All board members should have ready access to the internet and have the ability to download Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, and PDF documents.

For more information follow FUTURE LEADERS SOUGHT at www.kcnpm.org

**SAVE THE DATES**
April 18-21, 2012

Pharmacology Hours  Networking  Contact Hours  Friday night downtown  Updates  Bowling for Charity

Click Conference at www.kcnpm.org for hotel and all conference information. Brochures will be mailed January 3rd.