



A Publication for ARNPs in Florida

Unity: An Imperative for the Future

By Willa Fuller, RN, Executive Director

FLORIDA COALITION FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING

The Florida Coalition of Advanced Practice Nursing was formed in response to a growing need for better comprehensive health care for Floridians, as well as a growing need for unity among the



various groups of Advanced Practice Nurses of Florida. Representatives from key professional organizations include FNA, the Florida Nurse Practitioner Network, the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists, the Council of Certified Nurse Midwives and representatives from the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

The Coalition is committed to creating

and promoting creative solutions using advanced practice nurses to address the health care needs of Floridians. The Coalition hopes to coordinate efforts and activities being planned by its member organizations to provide maximum impact and effectiveness. The Coalition also hopes to develop strategic programs to help promote the health and well-being of Florida citizens, with special attention towards underserved populations.

Brought to you by:



Now that you know how important your FNA membership is and how it affects the future of ARNP practice, please become a member at floridanurse.org.

Inquiries? Email membership@floridanurse.org.

Thank you in advance for your membership!

Advocates for the future of advanced practice in Florida know for certain that *UNITY is much more than just a word*. Since FNA began advocating for nurses in Florida, it has been critical that we are able to move forward with a sense of cooperation & collaboration. In reality, there are times when groups have had differing opinions or when they formed opinions based on misinformation or incomplete information. This is common in organizational dynamics, however, what is more important is that disagreements or dissension within groups remains within the group. It is important that discord & disagreement be treated internally because influential leaders, such as legislators, tend to dismiss groups that are not unified. This is not an assumption or an opinion; It's a fact.

Later in this publication you will see some of the accomplishments of FNA as they relate to advanced practice. The leaders of the advanced practice movement in Florida have made many strides in establishing advanced practice and continue to enhance practice by developing relationships with legislators, educating their fellow practitioners, working on political campaigns, holding legislative forums, as well as many other strategies to position FNA to make a difference for nurse practitioners in this state.

As advance practice gained strength and recognition across the country, our physician colleagues at the Florida Medical Association (FMA) and the American Association began to take notice and more and more began to oppose efforts by nurse practitioners to practice to the full scope of their education and ability. The political climate changed and with the institution of term limits, we lost many "friends" in the legislature.

We have educated legislators, provided resources and information, and remained in the forefront of the battle for advanced practice nurses. There have been two interim studies by the Senate that recommend granting advanced practice nurses the prescriptive privilege. A coalition of advanced practice organizations, along with FNA, has come together to work on this issue. FNA representatives have met with the FMA in the Senate President's office, thanks to the work of our lobbyists. We have visited our legislators on "The Hill" and back home in their offices. Our partners in other organizations have done the same.

Currently, one of the rationale that the FMA uses to oppose our prescribing bills has been the substance abuse problem in our state, which has been exacerbated by "pill mills" in South Florida. Several legislators have stated that if there was a prescription drug database in place then they would be more likely to support the FNA bill. It appears that a database may be in place by early next year, which would remove one more barrier to our mission.

Finally, in order to gain some leverage, we need to strengthen our power base by increasing our "war chest" via the Florida Nurses Political Action Committee (FNPAC). Through FNPAC, FNA donates money to candidates who have told us that they would support our issues. As we gear up for mid-term elections and what promises to be a tumultuous legislative session, with even more pressing issue with our state budget, we need to pool our financial resources to be able to make a significant impact with contributions to candidates and to the political parties.

We have said over and over that as nurses, we may not love the political game, but we have to play it if we want to meet our goals. FNA needs nurses not only to contribute to FNPAC, but to go out to meet legislators/candidates and make themselves known as nurse practitioners. If the restrictions on practice impact your ability to provide the best care, share that with your legislator. The care of patients is too important to be impeded by turf issues.

And one final note, to those ARNP's who feel like you can leave this work up to others, there is no guarantee that laws will not be considered in the future that can directly affect your practice. We need NP's to engage and to look beyond their practice and see the big picture. Protect your practice, protect your future and don't depend on others to do it for you. Engage and unite. Join FNA and help us to continue to improve advanced practice in Florida.



SHOW OFF YOUR PRIDE WITH EVERY SWIPE!

Apply today at www.cardlabconnect.com/FNA

- **2%** cash back on purchases at gas and grocery stores
- **1%** cash back on all other purchases
- **Plus up to 10%** at select merchants!

Enjoy other Visa Platinum benefits such as:

- Low introductory purchase rates!
- 24 hour roadside, travel, and emergency assistance
- \$0 Fraud Liability

And a custom card design unique to FNA.

Plus, there's no limit to the cash back you can earn and your cash rewards won't expire.



This card is issued by Capital One pursuant to a license from Visa USA, Inc. Credit approval required. Terms and conditions apply. Offered by Capital One Bank (USA), N.A., member FDIC. © 2010 Capital One.



Legislative Update

Summary of the 2010 Legislative Session

The 2010 Legislative Session was a challenging one for everyone involved, and the nurses were no exception. Tensions were running high in Tallahassee after challenging budget negotiations, the Governor's veto of a couple of leadership priority bills, and Charlie Crist's announcement that he will run for the U.S. Senate as an Independent. Your lobbying team, consisting of Robert M. Levy, his associate Jose Diaz and Anna Small, worked diligently throughout session to advance FNA priorities. We were lucky to have lots of help from members around the state.

Two of FNA's priority issues saw no movement in committee. The Safe Staffing bill, SB 114/ HB 377, by Senator Dave Aronberg and Representative Ron Brisé was never heard and the bill which would permit Controlled Substance Prescribing by ARNPs, SB 188/ HB 677, by Senator Mike Bennett and Representative Juan Carlos Zapata, also received little attention. Senator Bennett did point out on numerous occasions that if ARNPs were permitted to practice to the full extent of their education, training and experience, significant healthcare dollars would be saved.

We successfully lobbied to amend HB 747 regarding the care of diabetic children in schools to eliminate the requirement that school nurses train other school employees on the care and treatment of diabetic children. Naturally, school nurses work with the schools to accommodate the needs of these children and provide a safe environment. However, school nurses cannot be expected to fully train other employees to provide care for these children who have complicated health care issues. The bill now simply prohibits school districts from requiring students to attend specific schools based on their diagnosis. Additionally, children who are independent with their care may carry their own supplies.

HB 1337/ SB 2530 by Representative Denise Grismley, RN, and Senator J.D. Alexander passed and has been signed into law. We successfully lobbied to include the proper definition of nurse accrediting agencies so that only the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLN-AC) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Commission (CCNE) are acceptable accrediting agencies for nursing education programs. If a program is accredited by one of those two agencies, it will essentially be exempt from the Board of Nursing's jurisdiction. We also successfully lobbied to permit nursing education programs to obtain NCLEX scores by student name for self-evaluation purposes. Schools will be prohibited from distributing this private information, but will be able to use it to evaluate their own program success.

We successfully protected state employed health care professionals from proposed pay cuts. Unfortunately our colleagues at the state have not had a raise in five years now, but we did manage to avoid a pay cut this year.

Unfortunately, we were unable to preserve the funding for the Florida Center for Nursing. This was a major disappointment of the session and we will continue to support the Center.

As we emerge from session, please take some time to consider how your involvement can help us make more gains in the future. Take some time to get involved in a political campaign or start planning your next trip to Tallahassee!

By Anna Small, CNM, Esq. and FNA Legal Counsel

A Word From a FNA ARNP Member

By Jan Hess, DNP, ARNP

Why aren't more of the 13,000 Florida Licensed ARNPs members of FNA and involved in political advocacy? Is the answer that today's nurses lack the time, money and/or civic knowledge to be involved in their professional organization and its political activism (Cramer, 2002; Des Jardin, 2001)? Is it because political awareness or action once embraced by nursing's historical leaders such as Nightingale, Wald & Dix, is no longer included in today's nurses' definition of their clinical role? Or is the answer that nurses have simply become disillusioned (as have the general public) with politics as usual?

It is impossible for FNA to always find a political position that every ARNP agrees with. At times, ARNPs have become frustrated and angry over the political process. Over my 40 years of practice and political advocacy, there have been times when I have become extremely frustrated with the process and called FNA with my concerns; but I always stayed a member so that I would have a voice. In the 100 years of FNA political advocacy that I researched for my DNP, it is evident that without FNA standing guard and persevering, harmful bills would have been passed and good legislation supporting ARNP practice would have been lost.

Regardless of what the answer may be as to why more nurses are not involved in their professional organization and its political advocacy efforts, the ultimate answer lies within you. YOU decide to get involved or not.



EMPOWER

ENLIGHTEN

ENABLE

Invest in FNA and your future. **DONATE TODAY!**

FNA 2011 legislative priorities are safe staffing and prescriptive privileges for ARNPs.

Your donation will help move these initiatives forward.

Join the FNA E-Roll By Donating Today!

\$20 to EMPOWER. Think of all of the things that you purchase each day for \$20. Now just think if you and every other FNA member were to contribute \$20 to the FNA Political Action Committee (FNPAC). The dollars raised could truly make a difference in the future of nursing! You have the **POWER** to make a difference!

\$100 to ENLIGHTEN. When you contribute to FNPAC, you are making an effort to educate your legislators and others about FNA legislative priorities and how these efforts not only help nursing but help make the lives of their constituents and themselves better. Your contribution will **ENLIGHTEN** others with valuable information to make informed decisions!

\$250 to ENABLE. FNPAC is not just about endorsements and education, it is the political arm of FNA that helps to make things happen. When you contribute to FNPAC, you are **ENABLING** nurses, legislators and **YOURSELF** to create a brighter future for nursing!

YES! I want to support the nursing profession in Florida. Here is my contribution of
 \$20 \$100 \$250 \$ _____ to help support FNPAC activities.

PAYMENT METHOD: Check (Payable to FNPAC) VISA MC AMEX DISCOVER

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Security Code: _____

Name Print: _____ Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Return to FNA Headquarters at P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853, fax to 407.896.9042 or email to govt@floridanurse.org.

SCOPE



A Word From a FNA ARNP Member Cont'd.

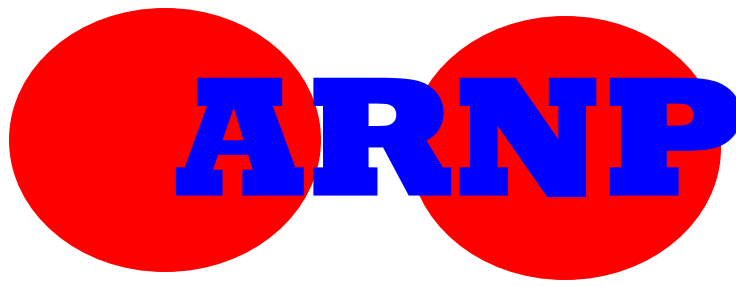
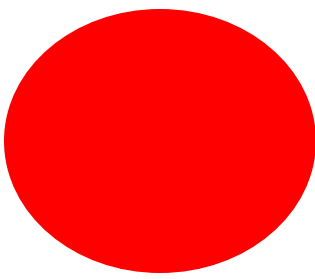
If you are a member of FNA, please become more involved with the FNA Political Action Committee (FNPAC) and FNA legislative activities. If you are not a FNA member, please join your professional organization to support the political action efforts. If Florida nurses do not speak and/or represent nurses' interests, then they abdicate that right to other special interests and lobbying lacking nursing values or interests.

Buresh & Gorden (2006) said, "Envision how things would be if the voice and visibility of nursing was commensurate with the size and importance of nursing." I say to you, "Envision how things would be if the approximate 13,000 ARNPs were members of FNA and engaged in the organization's political presence and efforts."



Jan Hess graduated from the University of Florida with her DNP in May 2010.

References available upon request.



Throughout the years, FNA has worked diligently to push ARNP legislative priorities forward such as:

- Change to the Nurse Practice Act that included the definition of ARNP and scope of practice with the Board of Nursing retaining regulatory authority (1979);
- Joint Committee approval for ARNP prescriptive privileges for medications other than controlled substances under protocol agreement (1987);
- ARNP practice still regulated under Board of Nursing, in spite of numerous attempts by Board of Medicine to move ARNP practice under its regulation;
- Clinical privileges and scope of practice bills that expanded practice, including being recognized and reimbursed providers who can complete Florida State physicals;
- Bill requiring labeling of medications with ARNP name, not supervising physicians;
- Inclusion as healthcare provider who can complete disabled parking permits for patients;
- Protection of ARNPs practicing in mental health, the Nurse Psychotherapist bill passed to include ARNPs as providers protected under confidentiality privileges;

- Bill passed that added ARNPs to list of providers granted civil immunity when obtaining informed consents; and
- Clinical laboratories bill mandating that labs must accept and complete laboratory requests on the order of ARNPs (2009).

Data provided by Jan Hess, DNP, ARNP



Lewis & Clark LTC RRG, Inc. provides malpractice insurance to Florida nurses, offering Occurrence Policies that cover incidents that are not reported until after the policy expires.

Visit floridanurse.org/services for more info!

PRSRRT STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
ORLANDO FL
PERMIT# 1478

P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853
www.floridanurse.org

**FLORIDA NURSES
ASSOCIATION**



FLORIDA NURSES ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please check the appropriate dues category:

ADP Option (Available to Full Pay members, State Only Members and FNSA First Time Renewal Members). Authorization is given to withdraw \$24.25 per month for full pay members, \$16.83 for State only members, \$12.63 for FNSA First Time Renewals over one year or \$6.83 for FNSA First Time Renewals over two years (includes \$1.00 service charge) on or before the 20th of each month. Enclosed is the first month's payment for processing of further deductions. FNA is authorized to charge the amount by giving the undersigned thirty days written notice. The undersigned may cancel this authorization by written notification of termination to FNA within 30 days prior to deduction date.

Name of Bank: _____ Routing # _____ Authorizing Signature _____

Account # _____ Check here to donate \$ _____ to FNPAC monthly (optional).

FULL MEMBERSHIP DUES
\$279

- Employed full time or part-time under 62 years of age

REDUCED MEMBERSHIP DUES
\$139.50

- Not currently employed
- Full time student (Student ID required)
- New graduate, basic nursing education program (1st year)
- FNSA First time Renewal
- 65 years of age or older and not employed

FNA STATE ONLY MEMBERSHIP DUES
\$190.00

- *Registered nurse seeking membership in the Florida Nurses Association only. (No ANA direct benefits)

SPECIAL RETIREMENT DUES
\$69.75

- 60 years of age or older and retired

FREE MEMBERSHIP DUES Free for the first year •New Graduate FNSA members, FREE (Basic nursing education program- first year only)

Choose the payment plan you desire: (check one)

- Full membership dues \$279.00
- Reduced membership dues \$139.50
- Retired \$ 69.75
- State Only Membership Dues \$190.00
- Free Membership Dues Free for the first Year

Installment Plan:

- Semi-annual (Full and reduced payment categories only)
 - Full Semi- Annual \$140.75 *
 - Reduced Semi- Annual \$71.00 *

*This amount includes the \$1.25 service charge

Credit Card Information (check one)

- Discover
- American Express
- Mastercard
- Visa

Security Code _____ Expiration Date _____

Credit Card Number _____

Referred by: _____ Graduate Nurse/NSNA ID _____ District Number: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

Email address: _____ Circle one: RN ARNP

Major area(s) or practice: _____

Employer Phone: (____) _____

Employer Address _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of graduation (student): _____ License number: _____

Date of Birth: _____



FNF
Florida Nurses Foundation

Donations

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Florida Nurses Foundation of:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50
_____ \$100 \$ _____ other

Please charge my Credit Card.
My donation check is Enclosed made to the Florida Nurses Foundation

FNA Districts

Use these numbers to complete your application and choose your affiliation.

- 1 Escambia, Santa Rosa
- 2 Baker, Nassau, Duval, Clay, Bradford
- 3 Marion
- 4 Hillsborough
- 5 Dade
- 6 Volusia
- 7 Lee, Charlotte, Desoto
- 8 Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake N. Palm Beach
- 9 Alachua, Gilchrist, Levy, Putnam, Dixie
- 11 Flagler, St. Johns
- 12 Polk
- 15 Walton, Holmes, Jackson, Washington
- 16 Columbia, Union
- 17 Indian River
- 20 Sarasota, Manatee, Hardee
- 21 Broward
- 22 Gulf, Bay
- 23 Leon, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla
- 24 Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry
- 25 Monroe
- 27 Highlands
- 29 Collier
- 30 Hamilton, Suwanee, LaFayette
- 32 S. Brevard, N. Brevard
- 35 Gadsden, Liberty, Calhoun, Franklin
- 35 Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter, Lake
- 38 Okaloosa
- 40 S. Palm Beach
- 46 Pinellas



In 2009, FNA Celebrated 100 Years...



SEPTEMBER 24 & 25

HILTON ORLANDO | Register at floridanurse.org

Attend the FNA Membership Assembly and meet about Association business, network with nurses from around the state and earn continuing education credit hours!

... What Will The Next 100 Years Bring?

FRIDAY, 9/24—TRADITIONAL STUDENT DAY

- 7:30 am—4 pm:** Registration
- 8—9 am:** Orientation to Membership
Assembly Review/Discussion of
Proposed Bylaw Changes and
Proposals
- 10 am—Noon:** Opening Session/Business Meeting
Keynote: Pegge Bell (1 CH)
- 12:15—1:30 pm:** FNPAC Lunch (1 CH) (optional)
- 1:45—4:45 pm:** Business Meeting Resumes
BREAK
- 2—3 pm:** Breakouts
____ Mentoring in Nursing or ____ Vaccine Update
(1 CH each)
- 5—6 pm:** Open Forum Transition Discussion
- 7—9 pm:** Awards Dinner Celebration

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th

SCOPE

- 8—9:15 am:** Advocacy Breakfast
(1 CH) (optional)
- 9:30—10:30 am:** Breakouts
____ Generational Diversity (1 CH) or
____ Nurse Empowerment (1 CH)
- 10:30—11:45 am:** Transition Round Tables
- Noon—1:30 pm:** Foundation Lunch
(1 CH) (optional)
- 1:30—2:30 pm:** Breakouts
____ Florida Center for Nursing Update (1 CH) or
____ Nurse Satisfaction (1 CH)
- 2:30—3:30 pm:** Endnote Address (1 CH)
TBA

Name: _____ Credentials _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Email _____

	PACKAGE	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FNA Member	\$300 _____	\$150 _____	\$175 _____
Non-Member	\$400 _____	\$250 _____	\$275 _____
Student (Generic)	\$275 _____	\$125 _____	\$125 _____
Retired Member	\$275 _____	\$125 _____	\$125 _____

*Membership Assembly Package Registration: Package contains all CE offerings, convention materials and Awards Dinner.
Daily Registration: Daily registration contains CE offering, convention materials, forums and meetings.*

Optional Events Registration	Cost	# of Ticket (s)	Day
FNPAC Luncheon	\$55	_____	Friday
Guest Registration, Awards Dinner	\$75	_____	Friday
Advocacy Breakfast	\$40	_____	Saturday
Foundation Luncheon	\$55	_____	Saturday

Please indicate any needs, physical, dietary, etc. _____

Please circle method of payment: Check MasterCard Visa AmEx Discover

Card#: _____ Exp. _____ SecurityCode _____

Signature: _____

**Complete and Return to: Florida Nurses Association, P.O. Box 536985, Orlando, FL 32853-6985
E: conferences@floridanurse.org | F: 407-896-9042 | P: 407-896-3261 | W: floridanurse.org**

No telephone registration will be taken. No refunds will be given after August 31, 2010. This conference is sponsored by the Florida Nurses Association and is approved for contact hours by FNA provider FBN - 50-3103. I give FNA authorization to use my likeness in photo or video.