

NEWSLETTER

Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists



HANA Has Gone Green!

In the interest of reducing expenses and becoming eco-friendly, the HANA Newsletter has gone digital.

From the HANA President

Thomas Joslyn, CRNA

Aloha fellow CRNA's in the great State of Hawaii.

I took over the gavel as your new Hawaii State President of HANA at our October board meeting. It is a privilege and honor to represent you and I pledge to do my best to keep you informed of State and Federal issues affecting us.

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Report From the State Government Relations Chair

Matt Bishop, CRNA

Aloha to my fellow CRNA's in the beautiful state of Hawaii! Let me start this article by saying that it was my pleasure to serve you for the last two years as your HANA president. I learned a lot and got to meet a lot of local CRNA's during my time in office. I thank all of you for the support and for the safe anesthetics you all provide every day! Keep up the good work!

State HANA Meeting June 11-13, 2010 - [Waikiki Marriott](#)

Your HANA board is working hard on finalizing the agenda for this educational June meeting. We hope that you will attend this meeting and support your organization. We are working hard to hopefully provide 12 CEU's for this weekend meeting. The plan, at this time, is to have 1 or 2 lectures on Friday the 11th. We will start at 5-5:30 with 1 or 2 speakers, followed by a full dinner. This should be fun!! There will be 7 or 8 CEU's offered on Saturday the 12th. Breakfast and lunch will be provided and we should be done about 3:30 pm. (Nothing is planned, at this time, but we can arrange an evening out, as a group, if there seems to be an interest.) Let us know. Sunday the 13th, we'll have 3 CEU's offered and will finish around 11:00am. All the meals and refreshment will be paid by HANA!

We really would like to have a good showing for this meeting. Let's have some fun learning new "stuff" and get to know each other. Another e-mail reminder will be sent to you with the whole itinerary in the next few weeks. Along with the lectures we are attempting to provide an ACLS/ BLS review class on Friday June 11th for 7-8 CEU's, for a total of 20 credits, for those who need recertification. More to come.

Treasurer's Report

Liz Kelly

HANA continues to invest and bank at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC. This past year brought us a new Financial Advisor but no changes in the investment of our monies. As our nation realized an economic crisis our funds continued with slow growth as opposed to a loss due to our Financial Advisor's acumen in stock acquisition. The past year brought us an exciting CEU presentation on the Big Island and the ability to sponsor our board members at national meetings. This year will continue with stimulating CEU presentations sponsored in part by HANA. Come join in the camaraderie and education at the upcoming event.

AANA Region 5 Director's Report

Dan Simonson, CRNA, MHPA
dsimonson@mac.com

This is my first Region Director's Report to all of my dear friends in the Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists. I am stretching my legs here a bit, and as your new Region Director, I hope to do my part to

bring our Region and our National Association forward into the new realms of member communication made possible by the Internet and social networking media.

First of all, every one of you should make sure to put my email address (see above) into your address book. I read every message I get, and promise to respond within 24 hours. Try me! To do my best for you, I need to hear your concerns.

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From the HANA President

Thomas Joslyn, CRNA

Aloha fellow CRNA's in the great State of Hawaii.

I took over the gavel as your new Hawaii State President of HANA at our October board meeting. It is a privilege and honor to represent you and I pledge to do my best to keep you informed of State and Federal issues affecting us.

First off, let me give you a short bio of myself. I have been a practicing CRNA for over 20 years. I was on the HANA board in the 80's and helped on committees for the State of Kansas in the 90's. I went back to school in the 90's and received my Masters in Anesthesia from the University of Kansas. I practiced in a smaller rural setting and a level 2 trauma center and was an adjunct faculty member for the University of Kansas Nurse Anesthesia Program during this time. My family and I moved back to the islands in 2004. I am employed at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) as a staff CRNA and adjunct faculty member for the phase two Army Nurse Anesthesia program. I have a wonderful, supporting wife of 25 years and 2 fantastic daughters. One kid graduates from college this spring (one out of the shoot -Yes) and the other graduates from high school and will start college this spring. I have truly been blessed with a loving family, wonderful friends, and a challenging and rewarding career. It is because of the last area that I decided to accept the position as your President of HANA. I wish to give a little something back to this profession, which has been so good to me. I know that this is sort of a "cliché" but it is true. OK, Matt Bishop, our outgoing President, did have to bend my arm a little, but I am grateful to him and am honored to represent you. I again will strive to keep you informed of State and National business.

As a little house keeping measure, I want to introduce to you, the rest of your HANA board; Mr. Matt Bishop, your outgoing President and Government Relations Chair; CPT Michael Neill, Federal Political Director, CPT Savannah Estes, Secretary, Ms. Elizabeth Kelly, Treasurer. The other board members are; Ms. Amanda Heidbreder, Mr. Bill Higgins, Mr. Mike Santantonio, Mr. Brian Becksvoort, Ms. Debra Brittain, Ms. Bridget Wolfe, and Mr. Sam Dixon. If any member of HANA (all island members) have the time and would like to serve on the board, please let any of us know. We could really use your help. It really doesn't take a great deal of your time to serve, but it would certainly help your board and our organization. I would like to thank Ms. Lenore Rick for her 4 years on the board. Thanks for your service to our association, Lenore; you have been a real asset.

I attended in March of 2009, the first "Boot - Camp for President Elects" in Chicago. The AANA has started this program to better prepare in - coming Presidents for their role as President in their individual states. It was an eye opener and wonderful informative weekend meeting. I believe that it has allowed me to be better informed of my role as your President and just as important, has allowed greater "communication and networking" with other state Presidents. The AANA is in the process of making this a permanent meeting for President -elects. This is a really good idea!

In August, I attended the National AANA meeting held in San Diego. This was the first time I have "ever" attended a National AANA meeting, and I was so impressed! I was able to meet a few CRNA's from Hawaii at this meeting. It was great to meet new members of our state association. As you know John Garde, our past Executive Director of the AANA, passed away suddenly last year. John devoted his life to faithfully and tirelessly serve our association. He will be greatly missed. A scholarship has been set up in

his name, which you can contribute to. Many CRNA's and state organizations have already contributed to this scholarship.

In November, CPT Mike Neill and I attended the Fall Assembly of States in Tucson, Arizona. This weekend meeting was again phenomenal for us. It provided a great deal of information on the National Arena and what areas of legislative and regulatory issues affect the whole CRNA organization. I believe that it has helped to keep us and thus you better informed of issues. It has also allowed us to form some great connections with other state organizations. This all will help to better serve you and provide you with valuable information. Mike will have more for you in his report.

Our National Organization is truly an outstanding, member driven, organization. The people at the AANA National Office and our elected national board members are all caring, well organized, intelligent, and hardworking individuals. I know that many CRNA's may feel that the AANA is only there to take their yearly dues (\$), but that is NOT the case at all. The AANA is there for you! It is representing you on education, legislative, regulatory, judicial, and practice issues, to name just a few. There are others out there in our anesthesia world (especially the ASA) that truly wish to do us harm. The AANA, our National Board of Directors, and your National (DC) Lobbyists are all fighting very hard to protect you and look out for your interests. I'm not sure if you were aware but the AANA is rated close to the top for lobbying efforts for national organizations and represent all CRNA's. I guess what I'm trying to say in a round about way is this; PLEASE give some money to the AANA PAC. There are some really serious issues that are affecting us, and a few dollars, to them, will help immensely!

The 2010 National Meeting is being held in Seattle this August 2010. If you are looking for a meeting to attend and have the opportunity, I encourage you to please attend this meeting. You will not be disappointed! In addition, you will see just what our National Organization is all about. It truly is an amazing, fun, informative, and educational meeting. Again, please try to attend. I would like to see a large delegation of Hawaii CRNA's at the Seattle meeting. Help support the AANA.

If you haven't had a chance, please visit your HANA website @ www.hawaiicrna.net . We are making a few changes to this site and will try to keep you more informed of National and State issues. If you have any suggestions to enhance this site, please let us know.

We are having your HANA State Meeting, the weekend of June 11- 13th, 2010. The meeting will start at approximately 5:00 – 5:30pm on Friday, June 11th with an open board meeting (all HANA members are welcome to attend), followed by a dinner immediately following this meeting. We are trying to get a couple of CEU's for Friday. On Saturday, the 12th, the meeting will run from approximately 7:00am (continental breakfast), followed by a lunch (paid for by HANA), and will end at approximately 3:00pm. Dinner is on our own, or we can arrange an outing as a group. Let us know your thoughts on an outing this evening. Sunday, the 13th, we will continue our education agenda and the meeting will adjourn at around 11:00am. We have elected the Waikiki Marriott Beach Hotel as our site for the June HANA meeting. A complete agenda of educational topics covered, CEU's, enrollment form, and of course the cost of the meeting will be posted on the website. We are hoping to have this meeting account for approximately 12 CEU's for the whole weekend. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Let's have a good showing of support for your meeting! It should be fun and educational. Again, more specifics are coming. In the future, concerning your yearly meetings, your board will get his information out earlier, hopefully a year in advance.

If any of you have been paying attention, it looks like we are going to have a new HEALTH CARE SYSTEM!!! If you haven't read the 1000 pages of the [House plan here it is](#).

The United States Senate has endorsed their version and it now goes to committee for collaboration with the United States House version. Here is the senate's plan if you haven't read it. It's only 600 pages. http://help.senate.gov/BAI09A84_xml.pdf

If you're anything like me, it's hard to keep tract of the progress. I believe that there will be a new system in place, but what exactly this will look like and what the congressmen and congresswomen decide is

hard to see and imagine. I'm sure that you have received the updates from the AANA. The AANA has sent out E-Alert to the membership regarding the AANA's position on health care. When you receive these, I encourage you to read them. If asked to write your congressmen; please do so. We need to have our voices heard. If you think that because we are 2500 miles from the mainland, and what happens in Washington DC has no effect on us; you're sorely mistaken. Enough preaching!

In closing, I want to thank Mr. Matt Bishop for his leadership of HANA the last two years and also his continued support of us as a board member of the Hawaii Board of Nursing. I also thank the HANA board for their continued hard work. Please contact any of the board members if you have suggestions or comments. We are all here to work and represent you. If I can help any of you please write me @ joslynt001@hawaii.rr.com and I will do what I can to help. Take care and Aloha! TJ

A Note from the State Government Relations Chair Matt Bishop, CRNA

Aloha to my fellow CRNA's in the beautiful state of Hawaii! Let me start this article by saying that it was my pleasure to serve you for the last two years as your HANA president. I learned a lot and got to meet a lot of local CRNA's during my time in office. I thank all of you for the support and for the safe anesthetics you all provide every day! Keep up the good work!

Now let me introduce myself as your state government relations chair. I was asked by incoming president, Tom Joslyn, to fill this role while I also serve as the immediate past president. It was a pretty easy fit for me to take over in this role since I have served in the past as the Federal Political Director. I also currently serve on the Hawaii State Board of Nursing as the Co-Chair of the Practice Committee.

The legislative season last year was a good one for nurses overall and great for APRN's in the State. The legislation brought forth by Senator Roz Baker (HB1378) was passed and became ACT 169 when governor Lingle signed it into law. This piece of legislation mainly names all APRN's in the state as participating providers and also allows insurance companies the ability to recognize APRN's as primary care providers with global signature authority. Not a whole lot of advancement for CRNA's specifically but still an improvement. The other item that came out of this bill was that the formulary was turned over to the State Board of Nursing as the regulating body for APRN prescriptive authority. CRNA's are welcome to obtain prescriptive authority if they so desire but it is not required to deliver your choice of anesthetic to your patients.

Lastly, let me just put in a plug for all of you to follow along with political changes as they occur at the national level through the AANA. Not only are they in touch with what is happening in Washington D.C., but they are very aware of changes that occur at our state level as well. When you get the e-alert from the AANA, take the few seconds it requires to respond; it means so much more to our state legislators in D.C. when they hear about issues from their own constituents than from the AANA lobbying group. You would be surprised at how aware our local legislators are of CRNA's and what we do. This has come from many years of us educating them about who we are and what issues we face. If any of you have any questions you would like to see answered in this column or otherwise please do not hesitate to e-mail me at matt.bishop5@hawaiiantel.net.

AANA Region 5 Director's Report

Dan Simonson, CRNA, MHPA

dsimonson@mac.com

This is my first Region Director's Report to all of my dear friends in the Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists. I am stretching my legs here a bit, and as your new Region Director, I hope to do my part to bring our Region and our National Association forward into the new realms of member communication made possible by the Internet and social networking media. First of all, every one of you should make sure to put my email address (see above) into your address book. I read every message I get, and

promise to respond within 24 hours. Try me! To do my best for you, I need to hear your concerns.

Listservs

Secondly, do you enjoy reading or participating in discussions of clinical issues, practice concerns, the business of anesthesia, AANA politics, and Healthcare reform? You should then take a few minutes and sign up for one of the e-mail Listservs devoted to CRNAs and AANA members. There are several available, each with a different focus, whether it be general discussion, clinical issues, or pain management. A Listserv is simply an electronic forwarding service that takes messages to the group address and then sends them to each member. So if I write to ask a question about a clinical scenario, my message immediately goes out to all the CRNA members signed up, and their answers are immediately returned to me. As examples, one recent discussion on the Listservs involved regional anesthesia in patients with spina bifida occulta, while another discussed doing SABs in the pre-op area.

For those of you who are wary of too much email in your Inbox, there are methods of having the Listserv limit that. You can choose to either have the "digest" version sent to you once a day, which includes all of the messages in one, or choose the "web only" version which allows you to review and reply to messages online without having to use your email client.

To review the Listservs available, go to the AANA.com website, login as a member, and click on *Resources* on the left-hand side of the page. On the drop-down menu that appears, click on *Links*, then "*CRNA Discussion Lists*". This will take you to a page containing instructions about how to sign up for various Listservs and other online resources. If you have any trouble finding them or signing up, just email me and I will be happy to help you out. Full Disclosure: I have run one of the Listservs, *CRNANews*, for the past 10 years.

Health Care Reform

Our AANA website contains a wealth of information for CRNAs interested in the progress of Health Care Reform in our Nation's Capitol. I will give my brief comments here, but for in-depth analysis, you need look no further than the Member Home page of AANA.com.

As I write this, the battle over health care reform has moved from the Senate to the Combined Committee of the House and Senate. For those of you with a keen interest in these issues, in addition to our own AANA.com website I recommend the [Kaiser Family Foundation website](#).

They have many pages of articles and resources for following what is happening with health care reform. One of my favorites is the ability to generate a side-by-side comparison of the many proposals out there. For example, I created a comparison between the House and the Senate version of the bills, that showed me the difference in approaches for financing, mandatory coverage, cost containment, role of the states, and so on.

Medicare Teaching Rules

The Final Rule that came out was a mixed blessing for CRNAs in teaching roles. The good news is, teaching CRNAs will now be able to be paid 100% for each of two anesthetics provided by SRNAs working under their supervision. The bad news is, anesthesiologists will only be paid 50% each for the same situation. The problem is that while anesthesiologists will be paid only 50% each for the two SRNA cases, they will get 100% each for teaching two residents. Thus there will be a disincentive for an anesthesiologist to teach SRNAs vs. resident physicians. We are working with CMS to address this disparity, but we may have to return to Congress to get it dealt with fairly.

Our New Executive Director

Wanda Wilson, CRNA, PhD was chosen by the AANA Board to be the new AANA ED. Dr. Wilson made a

tremendous sacrifice to become our ED- she has given up a marvelous career as Program Director of one of the most prestigious CRNA schools in the country, at the University of Cincinnati.

I hope that all of us will support Dr. Wilson as she takes the helm of our home office. Please refer to President Walker's excellent introduction on the AANA website for details.

AANA Meetings

Recommendations of the Meetings Task force are out and available on the website Ð after login to the Members side of AANA.com, click on "Meetings" and then scroll down the page to "Meetings Task Force Survey Final Report". It should be noted that although these are the recommendations of the Task Force, the AANA Board of Directors has not voted to approve them as yet. The main points of the report are:

1. Move the Annual Meeting Date to September
2. Restructure the Annual Meeting Format
3. Eliminate the Fall Assembly of States
4. Continue to Offer State Leadership Opportunities
5. The Assembly of School Faculty and Mid-year Assembly should remain unchanged
6. Proposed meeting schedule:
 - a. October - Joint Committee Conference
 - b. February - Assembly of School Faculty
 - c. April - Mid-Year Assembly
 - d. June - June Board Meeting
 - e. July - State Leadership Academy (weekend)
 - f. September - Annual Meeting

Again, please take note of my email address and contact me with any ideas, concerns, or questions. dsimonson@mac.com

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