2014 – A year of transition for PSNA on multiple levels! An association is a dynamic structure; it is always changing and evolving. PSNA is no different. After years of stability with programming and staffing, changes have occurred on both fronts in 2014. Due to retirements, operational redirection and life events, we have six new staff members. Likewise, the Board made a decision to pilot regional continuing education conferences on a hot topic (“Medical Marijuana: Myths & Medicine”) versus the fall’s annual summit.

While transitional periods are challenging, they can also be exhilarating. New ideas and approaches to expand membership services have occurred, especially our social media events. Online continuing education offerings have increased for our members. Educational programs are a response to the needs of our population and regulations for licensure renewal. For instance, the new requirement for two hours of child abuse continuing education for initial and re-licensure begins in 2015.

In the midst of transition, PSNA continues to be a strong advocate and political force for the more than 218,000 nurses in this state. Our relationships with various stakeholders within the state and at the national level are strong and continue to grow. Likewise, we continue to serve in a leadership role with health policy reform. As your president, I have traveled throughout the state and country, attending and participating in numerous board meetings, forums, state agencies’ meetings, national meetings and the ANA Membership Assembly. My travels have provided the opportunity to meet our members and other health care providers who are dedicated to the mission and goals of the association and to the ethical principles of the nursing profession.

Attendance at the second ANA Membership Assembly has forged crucial bonds with ANA leadership and other state associations. ANA continues to monitor regional state association models. Your association also remains vigilant in its monitoring of this reorganization. PSNA desires to be an independent entity under ANA’s new structural format. Two key factors will determine our future status: increasing membership which, in turn, increases revenues to cover future expenditures. To that end, the Board underwent a strategic session based on information in the book, The New Recruit. This book provided data on the future of membership associations as it related to recruiting new members from generations X, Y and Z. We have started to focus on strategies that would be effective in the recruitment and retention of younger members.

Based on these transitional events, my President’s Report will provide a brief overview on the State of the Organization for PSNA, the Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania (NFP) and the PA Action Coalition.

- PSNA is the only professional nursing association that provides a strong voice for all 218,000 nurses in PA, insisting that nurses serve as leaders and panel experts in the ever-changing and challenging health care system. Some of our major highlights for 2014 include: participation at four gubernatorial bill signing sessions; initiation of a
The President’s Report

Member to Member Campaign; development of the Young Nurse Professional (YNP) program; advancement of a strong legislative platform; stabilization of the association’s finances with zero-based budgeting principles; reallocation of human and fiscal resources to membership priorities such as advocacy, professional development and social media platforms; redesign of our marketing campaign with a new tagline of They Can Hear You Now; continuation of The Star Leadership and Mentorship Program; regionalization of continuing education programs; and the transition of our journal, Pennsylvania Nurse, to an online format.

- The Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania (NFP) also has been in a transitional phase of development. With the retirement of the NFP’s executive director, a new strategic plan to solidify the Foundation and growth in operational monetary donations is paramount for its future success and immediate survival. In 2014, the NFP received several major gifts from individuals and organizations for scholarships and for future operational utilization. Procedures have been instituted to provide operational funds on the 2014 donations. The NFP Board remains diligent in seeking other avenues to maintain daily operations of the NFP. Our Standards for Excellence application has been submitted and reviewed by PANO, with the final outcome pending.

- The PA Action Coalition has evolved into a statewide network of volunteer nurses and other professional and consumer groups to advance the IOM Report (2010) under the umbrella of the Nurse Future Campaign supported by RWJF and AARP. PSNA has served as the nurse co-lead organization since its inception in 2011. Under our leadership, the Nursing Diversity Council, Residency Council, Regional Action Coalitions Co-Conveners Council and nine Regional Action Coalitions were established. Likewise, our prior coalition building efforts provided valuable networks for the PA Action Coalition with SNAP, HAP, PMS, education nursing associations, PCANE, the PA State Board of Nursing, governmental agencies, PA Alliance for Advanced Practice Nurses, PA Nursing Congress, LPN Forum and PONL to name a few. Completion of our first RWJF $150,000 State Implementation Grant occurred with a second grant being submitted. Success of these major initiatives for the PA Action Coalition rests on sustaining the high degree of energy and forward momentum of a large volunteer network across the state. With a shift in the State Steering Committee membership and leadership, strategic plan activities and a major focus of large monetary donations from co-lead organizations, the nurse co-lead organization will change from PSNA to the National Nursing Center Consortium (NNCC) as of January 2015. PSNA, as the founding organization, will continue to monitor and participate in the PA Action Coalition’s activities as a key association within the new structure.

The above narrative only highlights a few of our major accomplishments in 2014. Additional staff and committee reports in the Annual Meeting’s Book of Reports provide greater depth and

2014 PSNA Book of Reports/President’s Report
breadth to our successes and truly demonstrate PSNA’s excellence in fulfilling its mission and strategic plan.

On a final note, a special thank you is extended to the PSNA Board of Directors for their enormous commitment to the goals of this association. Through their time, talents and treasure, the Board continues to serve as a role model and a very stable and supportive force for PSNA. Likewise, PSNA is only as great as its members. So a special thank you also is extended to the many volunteers on the Cabinet, Government Relations Committee, Environmental Health Committee, Continuing Education Committee, Bylaws Committee, PA Congress on Practice, Education, & Policy, PA Coalition for the Advancement of Nursing Education, Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania, District Presidents and their leadership team/committees, as well as all of the smaller structural units. These structural entities of PSNA need to be applauded for their efforts to maintain a strong and highly visible association throughout the state. A very special note of appreciation and thank you is extended to our CEO Betsy M. Snook and the PSNA staff for their tireless dedication and endless hours of devotion to this association. These individuals truly are the foundation for all of our successes.

Our period of transition, as a professional association, positions PSNA to be a dynamic and flexible organization in leading efforts to restructure health care in the Commonwealth and to have nurses as the leaders in this change process. If all 218,000 RNs were members of PSNA, the impact on health care systems in this state would be tremendous. It has truly been a humbling experience serving as your president. I thank you for this opportunity. My wish for 2015 is that our successes continue and our activities only strengthen the association.

Always,

Chris Alichnie, PhD, RN
PSNA President
(2011-2015)
Vice President’s Report

It has been my privilege to serve this first year in the role as your vice president. I am humbled and honored to be working with such spectacular individuals as those that we see in our organization working to advance our mission and objectives.

I have worked with the executive committee of the Board to move our organization along in such capacities as: Legislative Day, New to Practice events that were overwhelmingly successful in Harrisburg (and I hope we can extend such positive initiatives to both the East and West side of our good State). I am also a grand supporter of working nurses in PA through such mechanisms as SNAP, PCANE and the PA State Board of Nursing.

I continued to serve on the Investment Committee although we have currently altered our business paradigm. I continue to be vested in our financial processes, procedures and outcomes to ensure sustainability for this fine organization.

Finally, I continue to support our own continuing education department under the leadership of Dr. Aislynn Moyer. I act as a reviewer for Pennsylvania Nurse and some of the many CE initiatives that PSNA sponsors.

A special thank you is extended to all the PSNA members and officers in the organization, most notably the CEO Betsy Snook and our President Chris Alichnie. Of special note are those that facilitated my success with the transition into this new role that have passed on or moved along in their own life journey: PSNA Executive Assistant Karen Reinert and PSNA Deputy CEO/ Director of Membership Wayne Reich. Finally, a special thank you is extended to all the staff members that continue to produce, work tirelessly and support PSNA through all their volunteerism and hard work.

Respectfully submitted

*Julia A. Greenawalt, PhD, RNC*
PSNA Vice President
Secretary’s Report

The PSNA Board of Directors held two face-face meetings. Each meeting and the interaction with our members, organizational affiliates, the PA Action Coalition and the Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania added to the important work of PSNA. Attendance and participation at all meetings was excellent and significant progress on our Strategic Plan and goals was accomplished.

In addition, I participated in Executive Committee Conference Calls and the Board met twice by conference call.

It has been my pleasure to serve as PSNA Secretary. I thank you for your confidence in me. I thank Betsy Snook, Karen Reinert and the entire PSNA staff who carry out the daily work of PSNA on our behalf.

Thank you,

Patrick E. Kenny, EdD, RN, ACRN, APRN-PMH, NE-BC

PSNA Secretary
Treasurer’s Report – FY 2013-2014

This past year brought many challenges to PSNA, including financial challenges. The original budget was prepared with a bottom line that showed a loss. This has been the case for several years; it was hoped that income due the Association, increased membership and interest income would help reduce the deficit. However, as we began the budget period in July 2014, it became evident that several income sources would not meet the goals identified in the budget and that would create even more of a deficit. These included investment income and income from the Foundation. Staff has traditionally done a remarkable job controlling expenses and that was expected to continue.

As a result, a revised 2014-2015 budget was prepared in July that eliminated the budget deficit and created a small surplus. It took much hard work on the part of the staff to accomplish this and they are to be commended. It required changes in staffing and how services/benefits were delivered. The Board of Directors approved the revised budget in July 2014.

PSNA is continuing to grow and maintain the mission and strategic plan. The association continues to have a financially viable future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Kelly, RN, BSN
PSNA Treasurer
Awards Committee Report – 2014

The PSNA Awards Committee, as the result of the transition away from the PSNA Annual Summit, is changing their approach to presenting awards. PSNA will continue to offer four award categories starting in the Spring of 2015. The criteria for the awards and the nomination forms are on the PSNA website. The awards are:

- Lifetime Nursing Achievement Award
- Emerging Nurse Leader Award
- Distinguished Nurse Award
- John Heinz Friend of Nursing Award

Since there is no Summit this year, the presentation of awards will be taken to the recipients at their place of employment or other appropriate venues. Nominations will be open throughout the year, so we hope you will continue to consider nominating worthy candidates so that we may all honor them.

Respectively submitted by:

Carol Ann Coles – Chair
Mary Ann Dailey
Chris Marakovits
Chris Rosner

NOTE: We have recently been informed that a long time member of our committee, Chris Rosner, passed away suddenly on 8/11/14. We were very saddened to hear of her death. Chris was a valuable contributor to the Awards Committee. She will be missed.
PSNA District 2

PSNA District 2 held seven general meetings and five educational programs this year. We were able to join with PLN Area 2 and Upsilon Zeta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau to offer joint programs for several of the presentations. The topics for the educational offerings ranged from “Genetics and Genomics,” “Nursing Leadership,” “Immunization Update,” “Women and Heart Disease,” and “The Impact of a Clinical Safety Educational Strategy on Undergraduate BSN Students’ Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes about Patient Safety and Systems Thinking.” For our annual meeting, we were able to award one student award for the Barbara Stratton Memorial Scholarship; this includes a one-year membership in ANA and PSNA. In addition, we gave each nurse who attended the annual program for Nurses Week a potted herb plant with recipes and ways to dry the herbs. Our attendance at our educational offerings has increased since we have begun to offer continuing education credits for our programs. In addition, we co-sponsored with the local chapter of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses a half-day program in the spring. Our district also sponsored a legislative lecture to nursing students at Alvernia University which was led by PSNA Director of Government Affairs Kevin J. Busher.

PSNA District 2 has begun a Facebook page, which two of our newer nurses are managing with our corresponding secretary. We are striving to promote the image and practice of nursing through networking, communication, advocacy, research and education. We continue to support the initiatives, mission and vision of PSNA and continue to develop linkages with other professional organizations to increase our visibility in the local and regional area. We continue to use PSNA’s website to post our district meetings, educational program offerings, officers’ contact information, bylaws and award criteria for members and for student nurses. We look forward to continuing our efforts with our members to support the initiatives and legislative activities of PSNA.

In addition, we give a special thank you to the District Board Officers, Committee Members and District Members. It is only through your dedication, participation and commitment to nursing and to PSNA that we can achieve our goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Vera C. Brancato, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE, President

Danielle Kranis, Vice-President; Adrienne Salanek, Treasurer; Michele Furdyna, Secretary; Barbara Romig, Director; Joy Sweeney, Director; Tracy Scheirer, Director; Diane Sassaman, Director; Cathy Weinheimer, Director; Karen Willard, Director; Eugenia Umberger, Nominations
PSNA District 3

President: Donna Ayers Snelson
Vice President: Cindy Mailloux
Treasurer: Karen Cominsky
Secretary: Vacancy
Legislative Chair: Annette Weiss; Vacancy

Evaluation of 2013-2014 District Goals and Activities:

1. Increase communication within our local district.
   a. Held district meetings via conference call in March 2014 as a means of recruiting increased member input. Only attendees were three Officers and no members.
   b. Distributed two District 3 newsletters and two event announcements via mail and e-mail.
   c. Invited members to Legislative Day in Harrisburg and offered to pay for transportation. Only members who attended were nursing faculty of Misericordia University.
   d. Communication sent to members related to legislative issues and voting choices for the November election.

Recommendations:
Recruit a Membership Chair and send letters to welcome to all new members of the District. Since we have only increased our membership by 10 members in the past eight years, it is questionable if this strategy will impact District membership in a significant way.

In June, the District Secretary and the Legislative Chair moved and a vacancy in the offices occurred. Despite appeals via email and in the newsletter, not one member volunteered to run for the office. The current President, Vice President and Treasurer have been in office for 10 years as we cannot motivate members to run for District office. Both the President and Treasurer are retired from nursing. When District meetings are held either face to face or online, virtually no members attend. It is questionable whether the District serves the needs of the local members in a way different than would be met via PSNA directly and the Collaborative Nursing Network. The future of the District needs to be addressed within the context of the needs of our local area. PSNA and local members need to be an active part of this dialogue. A Conference Call to discuss this issue with membership could be held as needed after discussion with PSNA.

2. Increase collaboration with other professional nursing organizations.

Joined with six local schools of nursing and Sigma Theta Chapters to present an annual Continuing Education Program in April. PSNA and ANA presented Empowering Your Practice Through Legislation on April 22, 2014 at the East Mountain Inn in Wilkes-Barre. Over 130 people were in attendance.
Recommendations:

Continue working on this programming initiative.

3. Increase visibility and relevance to both members and non-members by continuing our programming efforts.

Co-sponsored an annual CE program with the Collaborative Nursing Network of Northeastern PA. This year’s program was held April 22, 2013 at the East Mountain Inn in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The topic was “Empowering Your Practice Through Legislation.” Presenters were Kevin Busher, Director of Government Affairs, PSNA; Janet Haber, Government Relations, ANA; and Mary Ann Daily, Former PA State Representative.

Two District 3 members serve in the following PSNA offices: Chris Alichnie is currently President of PSNA and Donna Ayers Snelson, serves on the Board of Directors.

One member, Lisa Perugino, is an active participant on the State Gerontology Committee.

Recommendations:

Continue working on this programming initiative and supporting membership involvement on the State level.

4. Increase legislative and advocacy activity by local members.

On April 3rd, 2014, Legislative Day in Harrisburg – April 2014, District 3 worked with Misericordia University to send a bus with approximately 60 students and faculty to the event.

Kevin Busher, PSNA Director of Government Relations guest lectured at Misericordia University for a class of RN students in November 2013, April 2014 and November 2014. Approximately 55 students attended.

Recommendations:

Continue working on this programming initiative. Misericordia University incurred the cost of the transportation and required attendance as a class assignment. They have informed me that they cannot continue to do this in 2015.

Continue to have Kevin Busher as guest speaker as his presentation is impacting RN students … none of which are members of PSNA.
Thank you to our District 3 officers and members for all their efforts in supporting our District this past year. It is only because of their continued commitment to nursing and PSNA that District 3 remains viable.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Ayers Snelson, President
PSNA District 3
PSNA District 4

Goals and actions for year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014:
1. Increase participation among district members.
   a. Contacted all members via e-mail and US Postal Service for non-computer members and invited them to all meetings.
   b. Gave direction on how to view next meeting and previous meeting minutes on PSNA website
   c. Periodically sent non-computer members copies of minutes
2. Contacted each new member via US Postal Service, welcoming them to the district and informing them of the next meeting
3. Sent personal Christmas cards via e-mail and US Postal Service for non-computer members
4. Promote awareness of PSNA and thereby increase membership, currently 35
5. Contacted non-members who participated in events and invited them to meetings
6. Had PSNA vendor table at VNA event
7. Arranged media coverage at Nurse Week Proclamation signed by Pike County Commissioners
8. Enhanced state legislator awareness of nursing issues
9. Participated in presenting two continuing education offerings

Meetings: Wayne, Pike, Lackawanna District Nurses Association held five meetings during the reporting period.

Events:
1. Co-sponsored October 15, 2013 five-hour CEU with VNA Hospice “Helping Children Understand the Journey Through Grief”
2. Donated “Harvest” basket for PSNA-PAC Auction
3. Arranged Nurse Week proclamations
4. New Vice President was appointed to fill the term vacated when the former VP filled the vacated President’s position (due to a resignation)
5. June breakfast meeting focused on Young Professionals. A donated $75 gift card was awarded to the first new graduate to register for the meeting.
6. PA Action Coalition reports were conveyed to the district periodically.
7. The district president participated in PSNA Board conference calls.
8. The October 9th Town Hall meeting with one legislator was attended by 30 individuals.
9. PSNA Pres. Christine Alichnie attended several district events.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda O. Harding, RNC CDE, President
Vice President: Mary Beth Mecca, RN; Secretary: Patricia Sweeney, PhD, CRNP; Treasurer: Kathryn Carney, MSN, RN; PSNA Liaison: Christine Alichnie
PSNA District 5

General Member meetings held at Penn Gables, Ebensburg, PA: April 16, 2014; October 29, 2014.

The District focused on developing a student nurse scholarship award that will include a one-year state-level membership to PSNA and a monetary award. A scholarship review committee has been formed and applications for the first award(s) will be distributed to schools of nursing within the District in early 2015.

Newly elected officers for 2014:
- President: Susan Foster, MS, BSN, RN
- Vice President: Tiffany Patton, MSN, RN
- Treasurer: Dianne Barben (past-President), MSN, RN
- Secretary: Maryanne Neal, BSN, RN

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Foster, MS, BSN, RN-BC
District 5 President
A Town Hall meeting was held this year; it was very informative and was filled with much dialogue and exchange. A special thanks to all who made this night a success for District 6, especially President-elect, Millie Jones. Representative Frankel was in attendance.

A Board meeting was held on July 15, 2014 and September 16, 2014. General membership meetings were held October 7, 2014 and November 18, 2014. The October 7th meeting was titled "Integrated Alcohol and Drug Use Disorder Treatment in Primary Care” and awarded 2.0 contact hours.

District 6 lost a valuable member and we would like to pause in remembrance of Dr. Eileen Zungolo. Dr. Zungolo served as dean and professor of nursing at Duquesne University from 2002-2012.

We held a Call for Nominations for: president-elect, vice president and four (4) board positions.

In honor of Nurses Week, District 6 held an evening at the Lakeview Restaurant. Twenty-seven people attended. An educational program titled “Public Health Nursing Implications of Industrialization” was presented. PSNA leadership and staff attended. Three awards were given: The Friend of Nursing Award (Duquesne University SON), Community Health Nursing Leader Award (Shirley Powe Smith) and Distinguished Nurse of the Year Award (Jeffrey Rompala).

Thank you,

President: Marilyn Zrust, EdD, RN
Past President: Becky Faett, Ph.D., MSN, RN, MBA
President-Elect: Mildred Jones, Ph.D., RN
Vice-President: Jeffrey Rompala, BSN, RN
Secretary: Peggy Holden, MSN, RN
Treasurer: Tamara J. Waner, BSN, RN
Board Members:
Diane Gardasoni, RN Donna Westerbeck, MSN, RN
Linda Frank, Ph.D., RN Gretchen Zewe, Ph.D., RN
Megan Mattos, MSN, RN Carol Coles, MSN, RN
Carol Stevenson, Ph., RN
Newsletter Editor: R. Helen Ference, Ph.D., RN
District 15

District 15 continued our tradition of distributing student leadership awards to a distinguished graduate of each of our district schools. We awarded two leadership awards (HACC Wildwood and HACC Gettysburg) in December 2013 and four leadership awards (HACC Wildwood, HACC Gettysburg, Messiah College and Penn State, Mont Alto) in May 2014. This award includes both a monetary award and a one-year state membership to PSNA. We have had several award winners take advantage of the membership option.

Currently, the District is planning to hold elections for several open positions and continues to seek ways to better engage our membership.

The Board of Directors looks forward to continuing to work with the membership of District 15.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly A. Kuhns, PhD, RN
PSNA District 15 President
PSNA District 16

Goals

1. Support nursing education in Pennsylvania via financial support of the Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania (NFP).
2. Provide opportunities for PSNA members to attend continuing education events and network with other members.
4. Contact primary care practices in District 16 to be sure they are in compliance with the Pennsylvania Nurse Title Protection law

Report of Activities

Board meetings were held in March, May, July, August, September and November 2014.

On January 18th, District 16 co-sponsored Freedom Weekend, an event held in Lancaster for PSNA members and other health care workers and the local community. The purpose was to raise awareness about human trafficking in the world and in the United States.

A membership meeting was held in May 2014. New officers were elected.

As a way to advance the profession of nursing and, in particular, the goals outlined in The Future of Nursing report, PSNA District 16 Board of Directors support nursing education through scholarship assistance. A donation of $1,050 was made in Spring 2014. The funds are earmarked for the operating fund of the Nursing Foundation of PA (NFP).

Over the summer of 2014, District 16 Board of Directors undertook a “Title Protection Project.” The purpose of this project is to dialog with point people in the practices to ensure that all in the district are using the title “nurse” for only registered and licensed practical nurses. This is in accordance with the nurse title protection legislation passed in Pennsylvania in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Simmons
President

Rebecca Modene, Vice President; N. Kay Lenhart, Treasurer; Dee Minchoff, Secretary; Directors: Christie Leviste Magsino, Stephanie Glick and Yvonne Ross

2014 PSNA Book of Reports / District 16
District 23

There has not been any activity scheduled within the District. If there are members that would be interested in helping the District become active, please contact Betsy Walls at betsywalls79@gmail.com and please put “Activate District 23” in the subject line.

President District 23, Betsy Walls
PSNA District 25
Montgomery County Nurses 2013-2014

In August 2013, the Board of Directors had an organizational meeting and welcomed Joan Yuan (treasurer) and Diane Wieland (immediate past president). Donna Shepherd (board member), Pat Dillon (board member) and Marilyn Harris (board member) presided by Rose Elliott, PSNA District 25 Montgomery County Nurses Association president.

In September 2013, the Legislative Dialogue Dinner and Dessert was held at the Café La Fontana in Hatboro, PA. Dr. Diane Breckenridge welcomed legislators Representative Tom Murt & Senator Greenleaf to discuss healthcare issues at the state and county level. Topics also included: transportation repair of Pennsylvania roads; home care nurse access to patients in the community; and safe staffing concerns of RNs in Pennsylvania. PSNA leadership included Betsy Snook, Wayne Reich and Kevin Busher; other attendees included graduate nursing students from Gwynedd Mercy College of Nursing, undergraduate nursing students and faculty from LaSalle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences; the Student Nurses Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP), and nurse administrators from Abington Hospital Home Care.

The District 25 Montgomery County Nurses board members attended the 5 County Dinner. This event was held on September 16, 2013 at the Double Tree Hotel in Plymouth Meeting. The Meet and Greet was followed by a presentation titled “Social networking: Patient photos and other ethical issues”. This was presented by Cynthia Blank-Reid, MSN, RN, CEN, Trauma Clinical Nurse Specialist. PSNA leadership included Wayne Reich and Kevin Busher; others included more than 40 PSNA 5-County members, nursing students and guests. Several student nurses were given financial support to attend the 5 County meeting by their respective universities and educational institutions. Dr. Betty Keech distributed nursing scholarships to nursing students across the 5 County PSNA districts.

Other board meetings occurred in November 2013 at Café LaFontana, a virtual meeting was scheduled on January 13, 2014. The highlight of the year for District 25 was the 110th PSNA Summit in Malvern. The “2013 PSNA Lifetime Achievement Award” was presented to Marilyn D. Harris, MSN. Marilyn’s husband and colleagues from the Visiting Nurses Association and Nursing Museum also attended. It was an honor to put forth the nomination from PSNA District 25 Montgomery County Nurse Association for her more than 60 years working as an RN, maintaining PSNA membership, and advocacy on a county, statewide and national presence with ANA taskforces in RN home care nursing administrator.

On March 31, 2014, District 25 attended the PSNA Legislative Day at the State Capitol and took part in the continuing education programs in the State museum. Members who were unable to attend Legislative Day scheduled meetings with their state representatives in their respective districts. PSNA President Dr. Christine Alichnie read the legislative citation drafted by
Representative Tom Murt to Marilyn D. Harris, MSN, in the presence of PSNA members and nursing students from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Annual Business Dinner Meeting was held on June 3, 2014. Lee Ann Gordon, MSN/PHN, RN, spoke on “Lyme Disease: Trends and Incidence Impacting Health and Wellness.” Attendees included nurses from home health agency, Holy Family, LaSalle & Villanova University nursing faculty, graduate and undergraduate nursing students. Evaluations were excellent and discussed sharing lyme advocacy information with Senator Greenleaf in support of the Lyme Statewide Taskforce language. On Oct. 6, Governor Corbett held a public signing of Senate Bill 177, The Lyme and Related Tick-Borne Disease Surveillance, Education, Prevention Act. SB177 was passed in June after more than 20 years of advocacy. LymeActionPA, chaired by Julia Wagner of Lower Gwynedd, formed a coalition of more than 15 patient groups across the state, working for more than eight years alongside Senator Stewart Greenleaf to address the Lyme epidemic in Pennsylvania. PSNA District 25 nurses volunteered to serve on Lyme Disease Taskforce Fall 2014 Legislative Dinner with Wayne Reich, in attendance.

District 25 continues to reach out to nurses in the district to fill Board vacancies as new PSNA District 25 members join. One challenge has been to recruit members to run for the board. Several PSNA members were contacted by phone and e-mail and were invited to attend Legislative Day, the 5-County Dinner and PSNA’s Summit in order to engage and attract new board members.

Important issues continue to be: Safe staffing, bullying in the work environment, local and global healthy environments, new roles for nurses given healthcare reform efforts and contacting our membership to encourage participation on board of directors PSNA District 25 Montgomery County Nurses Association.

Respectfully submitted:
Rose Elliott, MSN, MA, M Ed, RN, CSN, PSNA District 25 President, 2013-2014
PSNA DISTRICT 27

This year District 27 elected the following officers and board members:

- Wayne Reich – President
- Betsy Snook – Vice President
- Kathleen Baas – Secretary/Treasurer
- Renee Smith – Board Member
- Diane Daddario – Board Member

District 27 was represented at the following PSNA events:

- January 22nd – PSNA Board Meeting
- February 18th – District Leadership Call
- March 13th – PSNA Board Meeting
- April 3rd – PA Action Coalition State Wide Meeting
- March 31st – Legislative Day
- May 12th – PSNA Board Meeting
- August 19th – PSNA Board Meeting

On October 22nd the District held a membership meeting and CE event on medical marijuana at the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg. The topic was presented by Betsy Snook, PSNA CEO and District 27 vice president. Over 20 members and non-members attended. A District Board meeting will be held in early January to plan meetings for 2015.

Respectively submitted by Wayne Reich
Bylaws Committee

The PSNA Bylaws Committee met face-to-face at PSNA headquarters on May 28, 2014. Members present were: Pat Sweeney, Chair; Jane Oyler; and Lisa Pahl. Absent: Nancy Elliott.

A graph of proposed bylaws changes was reviewed by the Committee. A few edits were suggested. Motions were made to approve the different areas within the edited graph, which listed two changes to the Bylaws: 1) downsize the number of Board of Directors to seven (down from eleven), which will decrease the overall cost of conducting Board of Directors meetings; and 2) increase the number of members on the PSNA Nominating Committee to five members (up from three members) to allow for better geographical representation when selecting a slate of candidates. The motions passed unanimously.

Bylaws for Districts 1, 15, 16 and 23 were reviewed by the Committee and grammatical changes/updates were made. The suggestions/corrections were emailed to the Districts and they were asked to complete the requested changes and email them back to PSNA no later than October 1, 2014. Motions were made to approve each of the District bylaws with edits. The motions passed unanimously. The completed bylaws will go back to the Bylaws Committee for review after they are received by PSNA.

In addition, Districts 5 and 6 submitted updates to their bylaws. These Districts were not scheduled for their five-year review, but rather asked PSNA to approve a few updates/changes made to their bylaws. The Committee reviewed the changes and made a motion to approve each of the District’s bylaws. Motions passed unanimously.

The Bylaws Committee reviewed the PSNA District Model bylaws to ensure that they were in compliance. The Committee made some changes to bring the Model bylaws up-to-date.

Respectfully submitted

Bylaws Committee
Patricia Sweeney, PhD, CRNP, FNP, BC, Chair

Committee members:
Lisa Pahl, MSN, BSN, RN
Jane Oyler, MSN, RN
Nancy Elliott, BSN, RN-BC
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<th>Proposed Bylaws Changes – 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Article VI</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Board of Directors</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Section 3. Membership</strong></td>
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<td>a. The Officers of PSNA shall be the Officers of the Board of Directors.</td>
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| b. Seven (7) Directors shall be elected by ballot by the membership of PSNA. At least five (5) of the Directors must be full members. One of the seven members shall have less than five years’ of nursing experience.  
  1. The term of office shall be two (2) years commencing at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which the director was elected or until a successor is declared elected. No director shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office or more than three (3) consecutive terms on the Board of Directors. A member who has served one-half or more of a term in any office shall be deemed to have served that term. |
| **Article VII**              |
| **Nomination Committee**     |
| **Section 1. Purpose**       |
| The Nominating Committee shall be a standing committee of PSNA, accountable directly to the membership. |
| **Section 2. Membership**    |
| a. Consists of three (3) full members elected annually by the voting members for a one (1) year term. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be chairperson of the Nominating Committee. |

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<th>Current</th>
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<td><strong>Article VI</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Section 3. Membership</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 3. Membership</strong></td>
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| a. The Officers of PSNA shall be the Officers of the Board of Directors. | b. Seven (7) Directors shall be elected by ballot by the membership of PSNA. At least five (5) of the Directors must be full members. One (1) of the seven members shall have less than five years’ of nursing experience.  
  1. The term of office shall be two (2) years commencing at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which the director was elected or until a successor is declared elected. No director shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office or more than three (3) consecutive terms on the Board of Directors. A member who has served one-half or more of a term in any office shall be deemed to have served that term. | **Section 1. Purpose** | **Section 2. Membership** |
| **Article VII** | **Nomination Committee** | **Article VII** | **Nomination Committee** |
| **Section 1. Purpose** | The Nominating Committee shall be a standing committee of PSNA, accountable directly to the membership. | **Section 1. Purpose** | The Nominating Committee shall be a standing committee of PSNA, accountable directly to the membership. |
| **Section 2. Membership** | Consists of three (3) full members elected annually by the voting members for a one (1) year term. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be chairperson of the Nominating Committee. | **Section 2. Membership** | Consists of five (5) full members elected annually by the voting members for a one (1) year term. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be chairperson of the Nominating Committee. |

Based on a suggestion made by the PSNA Board of Directors (BOD) during the May 12, 2014, meeting to downsize the BOD members, which will decrease the overall cost of conducting BOD meetings.

Based on a suggestion made by the Nominating Committee in 2012 & 2013. They suggested that the Nominating Committee include two additional members to allow for better geographical representation when selecting a slate of candidates.
SECTION 4. ELECTIONS

a. PSNA Officers, Directors and Cabinet/Committee members shall be elected in the following sequence:
   1. The President/ANA Representative and Vice President/Alternate ANA Representative as listed specifically on the ballot. The ballot will clearly state that the President is simultaneously elected President/ANA Representative and Vice President/Alternate ANA Representative. The President and Vice President shall be elected in odd years. In-state only members may not vote for President and Vice President (as these are also Representative/Alternate Representative to the ANA Membership Assembly). Three (3) Directors and two (2) members each of the Nursing Practice and the Professional Development Cabinets and three (3) members of the Nominating Committee shall be elected in the odd years. The Secretary, Treasurer, four (4) Directors, three (3) members each of the Nursing Practice and Professional Development Cabinets, three (3) members of the Nominating Committee shall be elected in the even years.

SECTION 4. ELECTIONS

b. PSNA Officers, Directors and Cabinet/Committee members shall be elected in the following sequence:
   2. The President/ANA Representative and Vice President/Alternate ANA Representative as listed specifically on the ballot. The ballot will clearly state that the President is simultaneously elected President/ANA Representative and Vice President/Alternate ANA Representative. The President and Vice President shall be elected in odd years. In-state only members may not vote for President and Vice President (as these are also Representative/Alternate Representative to the ANA Membership Assembly). Three (3) Directors One Director (1) and two (2) members each of the Nursing Practice and the Professional Development Cabinets and five (5) members of the Nominating Committee shall be elected in the odd years. The Secretary, Treasurer, four (4) Directors, three (3) members each of the Nursing Practice and Professional Development Cabinets, three (3) five (5) members of the Nominating Committee shall be elected in the even years.

Based on a suggestion made by the PSNA Board of Directors (BOD) during the May 12, 2014, meeting to downsize the BOD members, which will decrease the overall cost of conducting BOD meetings.
Cabinet on Nursing Practice and Professional Development

I am pleased to serve as Cabinet chair. The purpose of the Cabinet is to develop and implement a program of activity to promote quality nursing care by promoting the ANA standards and the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses and to promote the professional development of nurses.

In 2014, the Cabinet provided information to the Board concerning “Safe Staffing” recommendations for Magnet-designated organizations. In addition, the Cabinet has reached out to our school nurse colleagues to provide insights into the issues affecting their practice. Revisions to the “School Nurse Position” are under development.

The Cabinet also works collaboratively with the PA Nursing Congress on Practice, Education and Policy. Two meetings each year are held in conjunction with the Congress meeting. Additionally, the Cabinet chair serves as the Congress vice chair.

Looking forward, the Cabinet is in the early phases of developing a model to provide direction on how research and other evidence inform the Cabinet’s work in position statements and policy development.

Thank you,

Mary Lou Kanaskie, PhD, RN-BC, AOCN

Chair
Continuing Education Committee

1. Applications in 2014: Individual Activities thru 10/14 (174); Providers thru 10/14 (16)

2. After a gap in staffing, PSNA Director of Professional Development, Dr. A. Moyer, convened the committee in March 2014 to re-invigorate our work for the year.

3. Two newsletters were prepared and distributed to continuing education providers, in July and October 2014.

4. The PSNA procedure was revised to be in compliance with ANCC policies regarding the eligibility of reviewers.

5. Nine new reviewers were approved this year. An orientation plan was devised and implemented including two videos, completion of a practice review, and assignment to a mentor on the Continuing Education Committee.

6. A quality improvement process entailing committee review of at least 4% of applications per year during meetings is being implemented starting in October 2014.

7. A program of recognition for all volunteers participating in the Continuing Education Committee’s activities was implemented in Fall 2014, to include identification of volunteers in the PSNA newsletter, and distribution of coffee mugs.

8. It has been our pleasure and honor to serve PSNA in this way throughout the past year.

Sincerely,

Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, Chair
Carol Patton
Shirley Powe Smith
Kathleen Spodaro
Michele Upvall
Editorial Board, *Pennsylvania Nurse*

Throughout 2014 *Pennsylvania Nurse* continued to develop as a peer-reviewed journal written by and for nurses. The journal was published quarterly. The journal, which had expanded to include an on-line as well as print edition, transitioned into a peer reviewed journal published only on-line at this time. Advantages include reduction in cost, the ability to include more material, and increased flexibility related to publication deadlines.

The Editorial Board again communicated through personal contacts, conference calls and e-mail. PSNA Director of Communications Jennifer Neidig worked closely with the Editor, Editorial Board, Reviewers, authors and PSNA staff to produce a journal that reflects the needs of Pennsylvania’s nurses.

Editor-in-Chief Carol Toussie Weingarten became a member of the International Academy of Nursing Editors (INANE) and attended at her own expense the 2014 INANE conference in Portland, Maine (August, 2014). *Pennsylvania Nurse* was thus able to be represented at a conference that draws editors and others related to the publication of respected nursing journals. In addition to networking among editors, the conference provided excellent educational programs related to publication in nursing.

Through the pages of *Pennsylvania Nurse* (which has a Pennsylvania focus), diverse authors, leaders of PSNA, advertisements and announcements continue to be brought together in ways that educate and involve readers in and beyond the Commonwealth. *Pennsylvania Nurse* includes: a “Message from the President,” scholarly nursing research; CE offerings; special topical features; first-person reflection articles; information about upcoming events; news related to PSNA, nursing in PA and health care; relevant ads; and such essential information as the continuing education requirements for re-licensure and guidelines for potential authors and reviewers.

The feature, “Highlighting a Pennsylvania Nurse,” continues to be popular. The column evolved from narrative to question-answer interview format, which brings the nurse to life. The nurses featured highlight the diversity among Pennsylvania nurses.

No longer focused on themes, each issue of the journal successfully presented articles on a variety of topics. This has helped the journal to connect with diverse interests of readers. Excellent articles can be accepted on merit rather than on relationship to a theme and can be published without waiting for a future themed issue.

*Pennsylvania Nurse* continues to invite authors and welcomes unsolicited manuscripts and ideas for articles. All articles received are reviewed. As with other peer reviewed journals, not every article submitted to *Pennsylvania Nurse* is appropriate for the journal, and not every article is accepted for publication. Reviewers’ comments have been valued by authors and have enhanced both the articles and the journal. The whole review process has been very positive.
Future goals continue to focus on maintaining and building excellence in the journal and the relationship between the journal and its readers. The Editorial Board especially thanks Director of Communications, Jennifer Neidig, for all that she does to make the journal and communications at PSNA successful.

Submitted by,

Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF, Editor-in-Chief, *Pennsylvania Nurse*

*Members of the Editorial Board:*
Cheryl Hettman, Kim Hitchings, Kelly A. Kuhns, Shelly Watters, Zane Robinson Wolf

*Reviewers:*
Patricia Becker, MS, CRNP; Karen Blake, RNC, BSN, MSN, CRNP; Susan Callahan, RN, BSN, CCRN; Ana Maria Catanzaro, RN, PhD; Joan Clites, BSN, MSN, EdD; Elayne DeSimone, PhD, RN, CRNP; Linda Fowler, MLS, RN; Sharon Gordon, MSN, RN, CNOR(E); Julia Greenawalt, PhD, RNC; Cheryl Hettman, PhD, RN; Cheryl Mee, MSN, MBA, RN, BC, CMSRN; Adele Mueller, PhD(c), MSN, RN; Kate O’Neill, MSN, RN; Elizabeth Palmer, PhD, RN, CNE; Carol Patton, RN, CRNP; Susan G. Poorman, PhD, APRN, BC; Melody Stark, RN; L’Tanya M. Taylor, MSN, RN; Holly Tavianini, MSN, RN, MSHSA, CNRN
The Congress for Nursing and Professional Development

The Congress met twice this past year. There was one in-person meeting on September 10, 2014. There has been a decline in organizational membership in the past year so we also had a meeting via conference call on October 7, 2014. We discussed the purpose of the Cabinet moving forward. The decision was made to send a letter to organizational affiliates to assess interest in membership. Please see the attached letter (Attachment A) and list of interested members (Attachment B).

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as Congress Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Christie DiMichele, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Congress Chair
Dear (Name of Organization):

Thank you for your commitment to the nursing profession and the importance of giving a voice to the nurses you represent throughout the country. The Pennsylvania State Nurses Association (PSNA), an affiliate of the American Nurses Association, is committed to the advocacy, collaboration, and education of all nurses throughout the state of Pennsylvania. Our Pennsylvania Nursing Congress on Practice, Education and Policy is committed to providing an opportunity for nurse leaders to share their expertise on the most pressing nursing issues and develop and recommend policy alternatives and interdisciplinary solution-oriented initiatives to the Pennsylvania legislature, regulatory bodies and other vested or support organizations. The nurse leaders we seek out are those representing organizational affiliates within the state of Pennsylvania.

Over the past year we have noticed a decline in the number of organizational affiliates who have been active in sharing ideas and participating in the Spring and Fall Congress meetings. While we recognize there are many reasons for this, we want to be sure we are providing the best possible service for nursing organizations in Pennsylvania. That said, we are reaching out to you as the national organization to help us find the appropriate Pennsylvania leaders within your organization. We recognize that not all state or regional arms of your organization are as active as the next. We are searching for a Pennsylvania representative that can accurately share information from your national organization with PSNA and likewise share concerns from nurses in Pennsylvania back to the national level. Our request is for you to identify a regional or state-wide representative of your organization in the state of Pennsylvania.

Please complete the information below for your organization:

Name of Organization:
Representative’s Name:
Representative’s Address:
Representative’s Phone:
Representative’s E-mail Address:

If you have further questions or concerns about PSNA, the Nursing Congress, or the request of this letter, feel free to contact me.

Aislynn Moyer, DNP, RN
PSNA Director of Professional Development
3605 Vartan Way Suite 204 / Harrisburg, PA 17110
amoyer@psna.org
Congress Letter, Attachment B

Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners
Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Association of Forensic Nurses
PA Capital Region ONS Chapter/ONS
Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundations
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
Association of Occupational Health Professionals
PADONA
PONL
Environmental Health Committee Report

- The Committee reviewed the summative results from the Summit/Environmental Health conference in October 2013
  - Evaluations were highly positive and additional comments were plentiful and positive
  - Members discussed reasons for lower attendance, which included the fact that two PSNA conferences were held six months apart and that cost (higher than normal for students) may have been a deterrent for students
  - The positive aspect of the attendance demographics at this combined conference is the acknowledgement that we had attendees that may not have normally attended an environmental conference
- Member Kate Lawler has attended all PSNA Governance Committee meetings and has kept environmental issues in the forefront of discussions within the group.
- In early 2014, the Committee made it a priority to educate nurses about climate change. Nina Kaktins and Ruth McDermott-Levy developed an article for *Pennsylvania Nurse* and Ruth developed a newsletter article concerning air quality.
- Committee structure changed in mid-summer related to the sudden resignation of two officers; officers now include a *Chair* (Peggy Slota), *Vice-Chair* (Erin Johnson); and *Secretary* (Kate Lawler).
- The last EH newsletter was at the beginning of 2013; the Committee agreed to incorporate the environmental health column in the PSNA monthly newsletter as a specific page insert; goal is to resume monthly columns by January 2015.
- EH committee developed a survey for PSNA general membership; results are in and goals will be established in relation to the survey outcomes

Thank you,

*Peggy Slota*
PSNA Investment Committee Report – FY 2013-2014

The Investment Committee met quarterly by teleconference. All investments and decisions were in line with PSNA Investment Statement Policies.

Our financial advisor reviewed current trends at each meeting and the status of our investment and operating accounts. It was recommended by our advisor in June 2014 that since monies have been needed routinely from the operating account, and the investment account has been depleted over the years, that the remainder of the investment account be liquidated to protect the funds and to maintain only an operating account at this time. The Committee approved this recommendation and it was reported to the Board of Directors.

The Investment Committee will continue to meet on an annual basis to review any changes in PSNA funds and to determine if there is money available to be invested at that time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Kelly, RN, BSN
PSNA Treasurer, Chair of Investment Committee

Investment Committee Members:
Sue Kelly, Julia Greenawalt, Paul Tarves, Andrea Hollingsworth and Kelly Kuhns

Advisor: Jonathan Freemen

Staff: Betsy Snook, Wayne Reich and Karen Reinert
New to Practice Task Force Report

Meetings:
2013: October 2 / November 13 / December 15

2014: January 20 / February 20 / March 20

2014: numerous online and conference all meetings – May, June, July 3, August 4, August 29, September 24, 2014 (Conference call with Director of Harrisburg Young Professionals group), October 5 (online), October 10 (online)

A. YNP Initiative Group:
The Committee continues to move forward with the Young Nurse Professionals (YNP) initiative. In May 2014, the PSNA Board of Directors positively voted to support the YNP initiative. A framework for the YNPs was developed and presented to PSNA Board for approval. YNP members of PSNA will receive a SPECIAL membership rate of $100 for all PSNA and ANA services for a period of two years.

Noelle Stack and Olivia Prebus planned to co-chair the first YNP event to be held in the Fall of 2014 in Philadelphia. Utilizing the framework for the YNP initiative, a working schedule to guide the completion of the event was constructed on June 13, 2014.

In May 13, 2014, and in cooperation with Jennifer Neidig, PSNA Director of Communications, a recruitment flyer was constructed for PSNA members and young nurse professionals in the Philadelphia area. This flyer was sent twice to nursing programs in the Philadelphia area and to PSNA members in general. From this effort, communication with the residency program at Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia and recommendations from Kelly Kuhns yielded five committee members willing to work with the YNP initiative as of July 20, 2014. An online meeting with the YNPs was scheduled for July 29- August 1. However, few of the members responded. Despite the efforts of the co-chairs, an interested group of YNPs to plan the event could not be formulated. Olivia Prebus unexpectedly moved to another state and efforts to implement an event for YNPs in Philadelphia has to be delayed until an interested group could be formed to share the tasks. The committee suggested that PSNA consider running the first YNP in the Harrisburg area as it was geographically close to PSNA headquarters and staff.

PSNA staff was asked to compile data on the percentage and number of YNP in each District of PSNA. The intent of the committee is to plan YNP events in areas with increased numbers of YNP members. It is hoped the YNPs in these groups can be earmarked to help coordinate a local event which will meet the local needs.

A new logo was developed by the PSNA executive committee for the YNP initiative.
On October 17, 2014 the first YNP event was held at the Winery in Hershey. Thirty nurses and staff attended the event; it was reported that all had a wonderful evening.

**Recommendations:**

1. Continue with the YNP events across the State. Since this initiative is of paramount importance to the viability of PSNA, it is strongly recommended that the planning and coordination of YNP events be supported by PSNA staff. The NTP and YNP Task Force will participate to generate ideas to be implemented by the PSNA staff.
2. Increase effective communication between PSNA leadership and the NTP/YNP Task Force in order that all members understand their role and the work of the task force.

**B. New To Practice Website Development Subgroup:**

NTP Subgroup members: Latasha Kast, Co-Chair; Donna Ayers Snelson, Co-Chair; Carol Coles, PSNA Board of Directors; Pat Sweeney, Former PSNA Board of Director; Wayne Reich, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Director of Membership for PSNA); Jennifer Neidig, PSNA Director of Communications, and Windy Alfonso.

May 2014 - For more than 15 months, the NTP Task Force subgroup has been working with www.NurseFuture.com to develop a website. As of May 2014, this is still pending.

The website is an integral segment of the NTP Task Force and the YNP initiative. Therefore, after discussion with PSNA’s executive team, the website development subgroup of the NTP Task Force met with representatives from Churchill Strategies (PSNA’s website developers) to discuss implementation of the website. The group had many questions related to website development as well as cost for the development of the website.

July 3, 2014 - The group met a second time on July 3, 2014 with Jeff Coleman from Churchill Strategies to review a detailed proposal for the site development. After much discussion and consultation with computer expert non-members, the subgroup accepted Churchill as the new website developer.

Highlights of the agreement which Wayne Reich and Jennifer Neidig shared with Betsy Snook and the executive team are:

1. The NTP Task Force will have an independent website as opposed to a page on the present PSNA site.
2. Wayne Reich and Jennifer Neidig will oversee the website development and updates. Since Churchill is the current PSNA website manager, PSNA feels comfortable with this task.
3. The cost of the NTP website will be $6500 ($250 a month). Wayne Reich will work with the PSNA executive team related to payment. All committee members will work to garner support for the website development.
4. The YNP initiative will be included on this website.
5. The website will be interactive.
6. The NTP logo will be prominent on the website.
7. The graphics for the site will be consistent with the present PSNA website.
8. The subgroup will review the website during development; however, the site will be consistent in style to the www.NJRA.org site.

August 2014 - Jennifer Neidig and Wayne Reich reported that they met with Churchill Strategies in July. Plans are in place for a September roll out. Jeff Coleman will present a working prototype website prior to the roll out. The NTP Task Force will review and edit the site at this time. The subgroup is presently working to develop content areas for the website.

The website developers asked the group to answer key questions related to site content. Two online meetings occurred. Information is needed to forward to Wayne Reich by October 10, 2014. Key questions to be answered by PSNA members were sent to the NTP Task Force members and PSNA Board of Directors. At this time, there have been no responses by the NTP Task Force members or the PSNA Board of Directors.

At this time, the website is still not developed. PSNA has ended their contract with Churchill Strategies and a new site developer will be charged with the NTP site.

**Recommendations:**
Discuss support of the website initiative with the PSNA Board of Directors. If the NTP/YNP Initiative is to move forward, support of the website initiative must occur and is essential.

**C. SNAP: Increase communication with SNAP**
Co-chairs of the NTP Task Force planned the following:

1. To meet with SNAP officers to discuss the website and request link(s) to NTP site on the SNAP home page. This was planned in conjunction with the PSNA executive committee schedule. A target date of Summer 2014 was planned. To date, the meeting has not materialized.
2. Present the NTP Task Force at the SNAP Convention. Since the NTP website is not completed, this has not been completed yet. PSNA staff printed NTP flyers and distributed. Response was positive.
3. Increase involvement of new nurses with the NTP Task Force and as members of PSNA. As of this date, any new nurses who have expressed an interest in the NTP/YNP initiative have been offered membership on the NTP Task Force. Motivating new members to become active continues to remain an issue.

**Recommendations:**
1. The Executive Committee of PSNA and Co-chairs of NTP Task Force will meet with SNAP officers no later than February 2015.
2. Website will be completed and links to PSNA and SNAP, if feasible, will be incorporated into the design.
3. Recruit recently graduated members of SNAP as members of the NTP Task Force.
Submitted by:
Latasha Kast and Donna Ayers Snelson, Co-Chairs of the New To Practice Task Force

Members of the Task Force are: Latasha Kast, Co-Chair; Donna Ayers Snelson, Co-Chair; Carol Coles, PSNA Board of Directors; Pat Sweeney, Former PSNA Board of Directors; Wayne Reich, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Director of Membership for PSNA); Jennifer Neidig, PSNA Director of Communication and Olivia Prebus; Catherine Friel; Noelle Stack; Justina Malinak and Windy Alfonso.
The NFP’s mission continues to be about community – every organization, nurse leader and individual who benefits from the care and expertise of RNs. As one of a very few nursing scholarship organizations in Pennsylvania, NFP promotes the connecting dreams of nursing students as they focus on completing their education as well as nurses conducting research so as to be prepared to meet the on-going needs of patients and communities.

The Foundation is grateful to those who chose to support it – you, the members, friends, other organizations, Betsy Snook and the PSNA staff. Without this support and dedication, this Foundation would cease to exist.

You, the supporters, have helped sustain our existence and with leadership and commitment there are now two new scholarships that have become part of the Foundation. One scholarship comes from the generosity of the Albert Einstein School of Nursing Alumnae Association, and in which they retain involvement. The second is the Mrs. Fasick scholarship.

The Foundation, its trustees, Betsy Snook and the PSNA staff thank you for the trust you have placed in us as we continue to promote the NFP’s mission to ensure nurses for tomorrow.

Generous donors, dedicated organizations, students and scholars benefiting from focused and useful valuable scholarships add up to measurable positive impacts for Pennsylvania.

We profoundly appreciate your trust, your confidence, and above all, your partnership with the Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth (Betsy) A. Walls, MBA, MSN, RN
President, NFP Board of Trustees
Pennsylvania Action Coalition

1. **Nursing Diversity Council:**
   
a. Contract with Josh Birt, LLC for production of videos of diverse nurses (gender, race, and ethnic diversity) as marketing tool to recruit minorities into the profession; UPMC Health Center (Holly Lorenz) donated the total cost for this effort ($7,700).  
   (PLAN: to implement this project in 2015 post-transition to NNCC as nursing co-lead)
   
b. A Cultural Competency Conference Task Force of the Nursing Diversity Council planned a one-day conference on Cultural Competence to be held on October 1, 2015 at Robert Morris University (CE contact hours to be applied for via PSNA).
   
c. Established a relationship with the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association (PSCA). The goal of this relationship is to collaborate with school counselors for the dissemination of information on nursing as a career choice (emphasis on marketing to diverse students [i.e., gender, race, and ethnic diversity]). The PA-AC exhibited at the PSCA Conference in December, 2014; distribution of flyers on high school curriculum required for admission to nursing programs.  
   (PLAN: to evaluate this relationship in 2015 post-transition to NNCC as nursing co-lead)
   
d. Nursing Diversity Council serves as the external advisory committee in support of Dr. Rita Adeniran’s cultural competence awareness and education survey (this survey is supported by the RWJF Executive Fellows Program)

2. **Nursing Workforce Database**
   
a. First biennial Demographic Profile report published in November, 2013; SBON, DOH, and DOLI agreed in September 2014 to provide the PA-AC with data from the 2012/2013 RN re-licensure surveys to enable the publication of the second (2015) Demographic Profile of RNs in Pennsylvania. The DOLI to provide the Coalition the 2012/2013 RN re-licensure data when a “Sharing Agreement” is fully executed at the cost of $1,400.
   
b. Request sent to the PA State Board of Nursing to make reporting of diversity data mandatory in the annual Nursing Education Program reports (request sent in late September, 2014); currently this data is optional.
   
c. Goal: to develop strategies to increase the diversity of the nursing workforce, including both generalist and advanced practice nurses  
   (PLAN: to evaluate this biennial project in 2015 post-transition to NNCC as nursing co-lead)

3. **Nurse Residency Council**
   
a. Plans for two-year Strategic Plan (2015 and 2016) and for Nurse Residency Council Guiding Principles are under construction.
   
b. Goal: to provide information to those institutions who plan to initiate Nurse Residency Programs (serve as a clearinghouse)  
   (PLAN: to implement the functions of this Council in 2015 post-transition to NNCC as nursing co-lead)
4. **Pennsylvania Coalition for the Advancement of Nursing Education (PCANE)**
   
a. “Best Practices” surveys distributed to all PN and RN programs this fall 2014 to determine academic progression mechanisms in place; findings on Best Practices included in formal report prepared as draft in early December, 2014. Information on Best Practices to be disseminated through Regional Action Coalitions
   
b. PCANE serves as the educational arm of the Pennsylvania Action Coalition

5. **Annual Diversity Surveys of Nursing Students**
   
a. Advisory Council established in June 2014 to construct annual diversity surveys of nursing students (function of both PA-AC and PCANE)
   
b. Surveys of gender, race, and ethnicity of nursing students admitted to, and graduated from, all nursing programs (PN, Diploma, ADN, BSN, Master’s, DNP [APRN/non-APRN], and PhD)
   
c. Annual reports and longitudinal data for trend analysis to evaluate change in the diversity of the State’s student population
   
d. Plan: to contract with the Center for Survey Research at Penn State Harrisburg for distribution of surveys
      (PLAN: to evaluate this project in 2015 post-transition to NNCC as nursing co-lead)

6. **RWJF State Implementation Program (SIP)**
   
a. SIP-1 grant period to end January, 2015
   
b. SIP-2 proposal submitted in October 2014 for a SIP-2 award (February 2015 to January 2017); amendments to SIP-2 submitted to RWJF on 11-24-14 by Sarah Hexem
   
c. Goal for SIP-2: to continue work on academic progression initiatives, diversity efforts, and nursing workforce database

7. **Regional Action Coalitions (nine regions)**
   
a. Variously engaged in regional projects; however, some challenges present in terms of increasing clinical staff nurses to engage (e.g., work schedules, home schedules, etc.)
   
b. Co-Conveners of the nine RACs have established an Operational Council in October, 2014 to centralize priority programs and projects.

8. **Planned Change in Nursing Co-Lead for the PA-AC**
   
a. The nursing co-lead organization of the PA-AC will change from the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association (PSNA) to the National Nursing Centers Consortium (NNCC) effective January 1, 2015.
   
b. The PA-AC will change its administrative structure in January, 2015, consistent with the change in the nursing co-lead organization. Sarah Hexem, JD, Esquire, Policy Manager for NNCC, will assume the role of statewide Director. The positions of Executive Director and Administrative Coordinator have been eliminated with the reorganization; thus, both Frances Ward and Kathleen Cannon will conclude their roles in the PA-AC effective December 31, 2014.
Political Action Committee (PSNA-PAC) and Government Relations Committee (GRC)

During 2013-2014, PSNA-PAC/GRC met on the following dates: 19 December 2013, 6 March 2014 and 9 Sept 2014. A final conference call meeting for the year is currently being scheduled.

On August 2, 2013, Nurse Safe Staffing Legislation (House Bill 1631) was introduced by Representative Mauree Gingrich (R-101) and referred by the Speaker to the Health Committee, of which Rep. Gingrich is also a member. Throughout the Session, Representative Gingrich continues worked effectively with Kevin Busher, PSNA Director of Government Affairs, to move this legislation. By September 10, 2013, the bill had garnered 74 co-sponsors, and by September 2014 the number of co-sponsors increased by nine sponsors for a final total of 82 co-sponsors. Despite the combined efforts of Rep. Gingrich and Kevin Busher throughout the legislative session, Representative Matthew Baker, Chair of the Health Committee, did not bring the bill before the Committee for a vote. Negotiations with the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania experienced a significant breakdown, which stalled and ultimately prevented a Committee vote on the bill. Before the session ends, there are no scheduled meetings of the Health Committee, so the bill will die without further action for the 2013-2014 Session.

PSNA-PAC will seek re-introduction of the Nurse Safe Staffing bill in the 2014 – 2015 legislative session. Since our standard bearer Rep. Gingrich was re-elected, PSNA will seek her support as the primary sponsor of Nurse Safe Staffing in the upcoming session.

During the most recent general election, PSNA-PAC endorsed 88 candidates from the combined PA House and PA Senate races. Of those endorsements, 13 of the 15 Senate candidates were elected and 71 of the 73 House candidates were elected. Of the four RNs who ran campaigns for House seats, Representative-Elect Judy Ward was the first RN elected to the General Assembly in over 10-years. These successful endorsements and the election of a registered nurse, the only one who will be serving in the House, demonstrate the effectiveness of the PSNA-PAC and the guidance of our director of government affairs.

Legislative Day, Monday, April 15th, was a huge success with 125 attending the event. Guest speakers for the event included Ted Mowatt, lobbyist CAE and Rep. Mauree Gingrich. During the late morning, members spent time visiting their respective legislators in both the House and Senate to encourage support for the Safe Staffing Bill. Then, in the afternoon, attendees participated in a continuing education program.

As a sign of support for nurses and nursing issues, PSNA awarded “Standing with Nurses” white lab coats to Representatives Senate President Pro Tempore Senator Joe Scarnati and Rep. Steve Barrar during the press conference held on Legislative Day 2014 in the Capitol Rotunda.
Among PSNA’s successes for the 2013-2014 Legislative Session are the following:

**Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Act 191 of 2014 (SB 1180)**
*Signed into law October 27, 2014*: Provides for prescription drug monitoring; establishes a program to be administered by the Prescription Drug Monitoring Board in the Department of Health. The act is intended to increase the quality of patient care by giving prescribers and dispensers access to a patient’s prescriptive history through an electronic data system; patients will have a thorough record of prescriptions for purposes of making educated and thoughtful health care decisions; and aid regulatory and law enforcement agencies in the detection and prevention of fraud, drug abuse and the criminal diversion of controlled substances.

**Hospital Observation Status Act 169 of 2014 (HB 1907)**
*Signed into law October 22, 2014*: The Hospital Observation Status Consumer Notification Act requires a hospital to provide notice to a patient of the patient’s outpatient status and information that provides a general description of outpatient observation status if the patient receives onsite services from the hospital for more than 23 consecutive hours, the onsite services received by the patient include a hospital bed and meals that have been provided in an area of the hospital other than the hospital emergency room, and the patient has not been formally admitted as an inpatient at the hospital. The bill provides for the contents and form of the notice and for expiration of the act upon change in applicable federal law.

**Whistleblower Act: Act 88 of 2014, (HB 185).**
*Signed into law July 2, 2014*: This bill amends the Whistleblower Law to include the General Assembly in the definition of “public body” and increases the maximum civil fine from $500 to $10,000. It recognizes the Inspector General as an appropriate authority, and stipulates an appropriate authority may not disclose the identity of a whistleblower without the whistleblower’s consent unless disclosure is unavoidable in the investigation of the alleged violation. Effective in 60 days.

**Whistleblower Act: Act 87 of 2014, (HB 118).**
*Signed into law July 2, 2014*: This bill amends the Whistleblower Law to add a the following to the definition of “employer”: public body or individual; partnership; association; for profit or non-profit corporation. Whistleblower protection is extended to an employee who makes a good faith report or is about to report waste stemming from a public body or other employer. The penalty for violation is increased to $10,000 and a maximum seven years suspension from public service. This recognizes the Inspector General as an appropriate authority, and stipulates an appropriate authority may not disclose the identity of a whistleblower without the whistleblower’s consent unless disclosure is unavoidable in the investigation of the alleged violation. Effective in 60 days.

**Lyme Disease Act: Act 83 of 2014 (SB 177).**
*Signed into law June 29, 2014*: The Lyme and Related Tick-Borne Disease Surveillance, Education, Prevention and Treatment Act requires the Department of Health to establish a task force on Lyme Disease and related tick-borne diseases. The task force will investigate issues
related to Lyme Disease and make recommendations to the DOH. The bill provides for composition and meetings of the task force and duties of the department. This is effective immediately.

**Indoor Tanning Prohibition Act: Act 41 of 2014 (HB 1259)**
*Signed into law May 9, 2014:* This legislation was signed into law on May 5, 2014. This requires tanning facilities to be registered with the Department of Health. Any person age 16 or younger is prohibited from using a tanning facility; written authorization from a parent or guardian is required for 17 year olds.

**Community-Based Health Care Act: Act 10 of 2013 (SB 5)**
*Signed into law May 21, 2013:* Provides for the establishment of the Community-Based Health Care Program within the Department of Health to provide grants to community-based health care. Includes the categories of Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Midwives and Clinical Nurse Specialist as able to receive grant funding to open, run and maintain community based health clinics.

**Carbon Monoxide Alarms: Act 121 of 2103 (HB 968, SB 607)**
*Signed into law on December 18, 2013:* Supported as a part of the Environmental Health Committee legislative initiative.

**Healthcare Facilities Reaccreditation-Deemed Status: Act 30 of 2013 (HB 1190)**
*Supports:* Language that excluded APRNs from Medical Staff has been removed

**Resolutions:**

**Safe Staffing Resolution (HR 920).**
*PSNA Supported: Passed 173-29 and Enacted:* This resolution directs the Joint State Government Commission to study the issue of professional bedside nurse staffing. The Commission will report to the House of Representatives with its findings and recommendations to implement changes in State laws, practices, policies and procedures related to safe nurse staffing.

**Opioid Prescription Drugs (HR 659).**
*PSNA Supported: Passed 200-0 and Enacted:* This resolution establishes a task force on opioid prescription drug proliferation, creates an advisory committee and studies its impact on heroin use in the Commonwealth. It requires the Joint State Government Commission to be directed to recommend guidelines for prescribers within 60 days of the formation of the advisory committee. It also requires the task force and advisory committee to report to the General Assembly with suggested legislative and regulatory changes within one year of the adoption of the resolution. PSNA is part of this task force.

PSNA supported other bills that were introduced in the 2013-2014 Legislative Session but were not enacted. These included the following:

*2014 PSNA Book of Reports / PSNA-PAC, GRC*
• House Bill 1457 – Clinical Nurse Specialist Bill.
• Senate Bill 1063 – Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner Bill.
• Senate Bill 959 – Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Bill.
• Senate Bill 1182 – Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Bill.
• House Bill 1655 – The Patient-Centered Medical Home Advisory Council Bill

Over the course of 2013 – 2014, the PAC collected close to $9,000 and disbursed close to $6,500 in contributions made by members in support of legislative activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Dailey, PhD, RN, CSN
Chair, PSNA PAC
Member, Board of Directors
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4)

The PHC4 Council is an independent state agency formed under Pennsylvania statute (Act 89 of 1986, as amended by Act 3 of 2009) in order to address rapidly growing health care costs. The Council’s strategy to contain costs is to stimulate competition in the health care market by:

A) giving comparative information about the most efficient and effective health care providers to individual consumers and group purchasers of health services; and

B) giving information to health care providers that they can use to identify opportunities to contain costs and improve the quality of care they deliver.

Act 89 of 1986, as amended by Act 3 of 2009, specifically assigns the Council three primary responsibilities:

1) to collect, analyze and make available to the public data about the cost and quality of health care in Pennsylvania;

2) to study, upon request, the issue of access to care for those Pennsylvanians who are uninsured;

3) to review and make recommendations about proposed or existing mandated health insurance benefits upon request of the legislative or executive branches of the Commonwealth.

To date since July 2014 the following has occurred:

1. A substantive amendment to Senator Vance’s reauthorization legislation was filed in the State House of Representatives (amendment number A10029). This addresses the current state of the Council related to PHC4 reauthorization that was not completed by the July 30, 2014 deadline.

2. A State Innovation Model grant project was submitted to CMS the end of July 2014. $18,000,000 would be slated for PHC4. The work of the grant is closely aligned with the mission.

3. Council agreed to relook at bylaws. That process is underway.

4. The Council has subcommittees in place that include the Data Systems committee, Education Committee, and Mandated Benefits Review Committee.

Respectively Submitted by Susan Hallick
Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF)

Nomination / Term: Chris Wargo, MSN, RN will be ending her term 12/2014. Chris will be graduating with her nurse practitioner degree and will be utilizing it within Geisinger Health System. Elizabeth Seislove, MSN, RN continues as PSNA representative through 2014. Elections for a new representative to give to PSNA will occur in the near future. An additional trauma nurse board member remains for another term and is Michelle Fontana, RN, MSN.

PTSF Committees: Active involvement in PTSF board committees includes: Bylaws, Conflict of Interest, Nominating, Research, and Policy and Procedure. Non-PTSF board ad hoc committee involvement includes: POPIMS Standardization, Outcomes, and Rural Trauma Committee. The “Resources for the Optimal Care for the Injured Patient” was made public in October 2014 from the American College of Surgeons. This is the resource PTSF uses to develop their standards of accreditation. Several work groups have been formed to update or validate PA standards.

Technology: The Electronic Application for Survey (e-AFS) has been updated to reflect changes identified through surveys of the trauma hospitals. The site continues to develop and become user friendly. The Pennsylvania Outcome Performance Improvement Measurement System (POPIMS) is working toward risk adjusted benchmarks to assist with reports that can be used by all trauma centers. Registry dashboards are being utilized identifying the submission guideline that has been established by the PTSF. Dashboard information is available on PTSF’s site. PTSF has also held many ICD-10 Coding webinars in anticipation of the ICD-10 change in Fall 2015.

Trauma System Development: The PTSF Board of Directors met in September specifically working on their strategic plan for the next several years. The areas of discussion were: Trauma center/system development, Trauma Center Value, Technology and Use of trauma data for outcome/PI and research. The state continues to support the development of Level IV trauma centers. The 2nd Level IV trauma center was accredited as of November 2014.

Accreditation Reviews: PTSF continues to enhance their board accreditation process. This year the board was given information prior to the meeting in an encrypted file on the PTSF website so the board members can come to the accreditation process better prepared for discussion. We had approximately 15 reviews this year. A survey was posted after these deliberations to continue the enhancement of this process.

Conference: The 18th Annual PTSF / PaCOT Conference and Meeting was held October 22–24, 2014. The first day was filled with preconference opportunities for registry and program managers. Please see the PTSF website for specifics (www.ptsf.org).

PTSF Staffing: Linda Henry retired after many years. She was an asset as she worked behind the scenes and performing daily operations. The PTSF has posted a position for a performance improvement (PI) director who will support trauma centers in PA to enhance their trauma PI.

Respectively Submitted, *Elizabeth B. Seislove, MSN, RN / Christina A. Wargo, MSN, RN*
The State Board of Nursing (Board) continues to implement an alternative to discipline program specifically designed for practice deficiencies. This program is known as the Practice Education Remediation Collaboration (PERC) program. Additional information is available in the August 2009 newsletter available on the Board website at www.dos.state.pa.us/nurse. The Board continues to review disciplinary matters and imposes sanctions, PERC and PHMP VRP alternatives and dismissals as warranted.

The Department of State continues to collaborate with the Department of Health to collect workforce data through a survey completed upon renewal. Workforce reports are available on the Department of Health website.

The Board office has released Version 8.0 of eppiccNURSE (a secure database for exchange of information between the Board office and PA nursing education programs). The CRNP Program Annual Report is part of eppiccNURSE. In addition, pre-licensure nursing education programs have the ability to submit the graduate’s verification of program completion through eppiccNURSE. A FAQ document about eppiccNURSE is available on the Board website.

The Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA), in conjunction with the Department of Human Services (formerly the Department of Public Welfare -DPW), continues to provide notice to all health-related licensees and funeral directors that are considered “mandatory reporters” under Section 6311 of the Child Protective Services Law that EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015, all persons applying for issuance of an initial license shall be required to complete 3 hours of DPW-approved training in child abuse recognition and reporting requirements as a condition of licensure.

Additionally, EFFECTIVE WITH THE FIRST LICENSE RENEWAL AFTER JANUARY 1, 2015, all health-related licensees and funeral directors applying for the renewal of a license issued by the Board shall be required to complete at least 2 hours of Board-approved continuing education in child abuse recognition and reporting requirements as a condition of renewal. Information regarding this requirement is posted on the BPOA website.

Act 31 may be reviewed at the following link:

http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=2014&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=31.

NCSBN Participation -Board member Ann L. O’ Sullivan, PhD, CRNP, continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). Ann Coughlin MBA, MSN, RN, Board Chair serves on the NCSBN Leadership Succession Committee. Sue Petula PhD, MSN, RN, Board Staff serves on the Institute of Regulatory Excellence Committee.
Regulations
The Board is the process of reviewing and updating some sections of the regulations. These are discussed during Committee Meetings held in conjunction with the Board meetings. The Board’s General Revisions regulation was published in proposed form on November 1, 2014. The Continuing Education; Notification of Crimes and Disciplinary Action regulation was delivered to the Governor’s Offices of Budget, Policy and General Counsel in final form. The Board is discussing comments received as pre-draft input from stakeholders on the nursing education regulations. Child Abuse and Volunteer health license regulations are undergoing departmental review.

Thank you,

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www.psna.org