



APGNN

The Association of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Nurses

December 2008

Volume 21 Issue 4

President's Message

Season's Wishes and Happy New Year!

2009 will be off to a great start thanks to all we accomplished in San Diego, this past November. We had a great turnout for our APGNN working meetings. Our members were full of enthusiasm and creativity as we tackled the benefits of membership, our educational program for 2009, the APGNN website, and putting the final touches on our research grant application and review process. We can already taste the fruits of our labor. You recently received our updated benefits package. When I read that list, I wonder, how can anyone interested in pediatric gastroenterology nursing *not* join APGNN? Be sure to let your nursing colleagues know about the benefits of membership in APGNN and invite them to join. You may also want to share our plans for our next educational meeting, November 13-14, 2009 in Maryland with your non-nursing colleagues. The theme of our program will be **Working Together: Collaborative Practice**. We have involved members of other health care disciplines such as social workers, physician assistants, dieticians, feeding specialists and psychologists in the planning and curriculum development. A variety of topics and speakers have been identified already. It promises to be an interesting and stimulating program, something for everyone! The internet development committee identified all the factors that help or hinder the functionality of our website and improvements are in the works. If you have any suggestions regarding the website, please contact Sue Peck. And finally, the CDHNF Research Award for members of APGNN will soon be calling for applications. Stay tuned!

Your president,

Mary-Alice Tully MSN PNP- BC

Executive Board Members

President:

Mary-Alice Tully

maryalice.tully@childrens.harvard.edu

Past President:

Adelina McDuffie

addie.mcduffie@chkd.org

President-Elect:

Robin Shannon

rspnp@comcast.net

Secretary:

Kristin Peterson

kdpeterson@umnc.edu

Treasurer:

Patricia Bierly

bierly@email.chop.edu

Committee Chairs

Internet :

Sue Peck

PECK@email.chop.edu

Membership:

Lisa Philichi

Lisa.philichi@multicare.org

Newsletter:

Diane Kocovsky

kocovskyd@boystown.org

Patient/Family Education:

Karen Sherry

ksherry@chw.org

Lillian Sablan

lsablan@chw.org

Program Chair:

Lindsay Wilson

lwilson@jhmi.edu

Research/Publications:

Clare Ceballos

clare.ceballos@mountsinai.org

Clinical Practice:

LeAnne Vitito, MS, APRN, CGRN

vit4ne@cox.net

Research Opportunity

Have you always wanted to conduct research but felt that you don't have the time? Do you have a research question you want to answer? In this age of evidence based practice we all encounter situations where questions arise – what's the best way to care for this child and family? How can I best prepare them for this procedure? Is it better to use this technique or try something new?

The APGNN has an exciting opportunity for you to investigate answers to your questions. In collaboration with the CDHNF, the APGNN is able to offer a research grant to members to conduct a research project. The grant, up to **\$25,000**, will be awarded to an APGNN member to fund a nursing research project related to our field of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Nutrition or Hepatology.

The research grant, which will honor the memory of Susan Moyer, MD, who helped to secure funding, will be awarded for the first time at the APGNN meeting in Maryland, November 2009. Applications will be accepted from January to June 2009. If you would like to apply for the CDHNF/APGNN Susan Moyer award then start planning now. A full description of the award and an online application will soon be available on the CDHNF website. To help you plan in the meantime here are some highlights of the process:

- ✓ The applicant must be a full member of APGNN
- ✓ The research must focus on nursing care of children and families with gastrointestinal problems
- ✓ The research project must be approved by the IRB in your institution
- ✓ The application must be submitted online prior to June 2009
- ✓ The winner will receive the award at the next APGNN meeting in November 2009 & will be expected to present their research at a future APGNN meeting
- ✓ The grant is for up to \$25,000 and can be used in part for salary support
- ✓ Your institution will need to provide you with a minimum of 10% protected time to plan and conduct your research
- ✓ The grant is for one year and the researcher must plan to complete the project within that time

This is a wonderful opportunity for APGNN members so start planning your project now! If you have any questions please feel free to email me at clare.ceballos@mountsinai.org



Membership Incentive Taskforce Report

Taskforce Members: Lisa Philichi, Patty Bierly, Diane Kocovsky, Teresa Carroll

Below are ideas generated by the Taskforce. The conference scholarships and newsletter award will be first priority for 2009.

Conference Scholarships – Four scholarships to cover the annual APGNN conference tuition and hotel accommodations (2 double rooms) will be awarded yearly to 3 full members and 1 associate member. Applications will be due 6 months prior to the conference.

Newsletter Award – A \$100 award will be given annually. Each time a member contributes to the newsletter their name will be entered into the drawing. At the annual conference the award recipient's name will be randomly chosen.

Clinical Handbook of Pediatric Gastroenterology – Members will always receive the discount rate when purchasing the handbook.

Mentor Program – Members will be given the opportunity to have a mentor or be a mentor to one of their APGNN peers. The Mentor's expertise in pediatric gastroenterology, as well as their practice experiences, will support professional development of the individual being mentored.

APGNN Brochure – Revisions will be made to the APGNN brochure so that it can be shared at pediatric gastroenterology related conferences and with other professional organizations.

Pediatric GI Certification – A long-term goal is to develop a standardized test so that nurses can become certified in pediatric gastroenterology. As part of the preparation for taking the test, a review course may be offered at future annual conferences.

Board Member Annual Meeting Support – Because annual meeting attendance is mandatory for all board members a travel stipend will be given yearly and will be dependent on the annual budget.

Happy Holidays
Happy Holidays

Website Task Force Report

After reviewing the current functionality of the APGNN website this taskforce proposes a complete revision as follows:

- 1) A name change from Program Committee to Program Committee and Professional Education.
- 2) Launching the new website with the celebration of APGNN's 20th Anniversary.
- 3) A name change from Website Committee to Website Development and Design.

The home page will have:

Quick Links

Application

Online dues payment

Current newsletter

NASPGHAN

Bylaws

Mission

Current news and issues

Fact sheet with link to strategic plan

Member log in and update

Board log in

Join now link

Handbook



The new website will have links across the top of:

Leadership Team

Newsletter (accessible to members only) with subheadings of

- Committee and members
- Picture of committee chair
- Archive

Patient/Family Education with subheadings of

- Committee and members
- Picture of committee chair
- NASPGHAN Public Ed Committee Link
- Material and brochure links
- CCFA
- NASPGHAN
- SGNA
- NIDDK
- Special interests



Website Task Force Report continued

Patient/Family Education with subheadings of (continued)

NAPNAP

- ALF
- Alagille's Alliance
- Nemours Foundation
- Medline Plus

Program/Professional Education with subheadings of

- Committee and members
- Picture of committee chair
- Annual Meeting
- Abstracts
- Zebras
- Syllabus (available to registered members only)
- Conference Links
- Canadian Links
- Mexican Links

Clinical Practice with subheadings of

- Committee and members
- Picture of chair
- Projects
- Archive
- Handbook
- Clinical practice guidelines
- NASPGHAN guidelines

Research with subheadings of

- Committee and members
- Picture of chair
- Grant
- Grant application
- Archives of abstracts and posters

Website Task Force Report continued

Membership with subheadings of

- Committee and members
- Picture of chair
- Membership directory
- Listserve
- Benefits
- NASPGHAN

Website Development and Design with subheadings of

- Committee and members
- Picture of chair
- Responsibilities
- Goals

History with subheadings of

- Start of APGNN
- Logo
- Past Board Members
- Past meeting themes and pictures

Website Development and Design Chair

Sue Peck

Submitted by Kristin Peterson



Newsletter Award

A \$100 award will be given annually. Each time a member contributes to the newsletter their name will be entered into the drawing. At the annual conference the award recipient's name will be randomly chosen. The more articles you submit the more likely you are to win. Remember there are only 2 editions before next year's conference.



APGNN Welcomes New Members

Kris Acree, RN, Oklahoma City, OK

Melissa Bell, RN, Boston, MA

Barbara Carr, RN, Oklahoma City, OK

Maureen Egan, PNP, Wilmington, DE

Jennifer Kim, PNP, Tampa, FL

Tracy Norris, PA, Mesa, AZ

Constance O'Connor, NP, Toronto, Canada

Kristin Phillist, PNP, Valrico, FL

Kurt Righter, RN, Portland, ME

Chandra Smith, PNP, Little Rock, AR

Judy Tuidor, RD, Tacoma, WA

Jennifer Watts, PNP, Tampa, FL

ReGina Wormald, RD, Whittier, CA

Past President's Report to Membership

I. Nominations/Elections

5 Board/Committee Chair positions were up for re-election: Secretary and Committee Chairs for Clinical Practice, Membership, Newsletter and Program. All candidates ran unopposed and were elected. Most will be serving their 2nd term. Congratulations and a huge thanks to Kristin Peterson, RN, BSN – Secretary, LeAnne Vitito, MS, APRN, CGRN- Clinical Practice Chair, Lisa Philichi, RN, PNP- Membership Chair; Diane Kocovsky, APRN- Newsletter Chair and Lindsay Wilson, RN, MSN, CPNP- Program Committee Chair. Your selfless willingness to serve APGNN is greatly appreciated. Robin Shannon, President Elect, will report the results of the Bylaw Ballots.

As discussed at the 2007 Board Meeting, in order to have the customary 2 year term for President and President Elect from 2007-2009, this leaves a vacancy in the Past President term 2008-2009. Due to personal reasons, I am unable to simply extend my term as Past President. Susan Peck, MSN, CRNP a founding APGNN Member, Role Model too many including myself, and two time APGNN President/Past President, has graciously agreed to step in for the coming year and resume her role as Past President. Thank you Sue for your generosity in assuming this role yet again. I am delighted to leave this position in such expert hands.

II. APGNN Leadership Retreat, Nov 14th, San Diego

Thanks to all APGNN Members that participated in our Leadership Working Groups at the San Diego NASPGHAN Conference. It was a great success and accomplished all goals set forth. Group topics and Leaders were: APGNN Website-Sue Peck, CDHNF/APGNN Research Grant-Claire Ceballos, 2009 APGNN Conference-Lindsay Wilson, and Membership Benefits-Lisa Philichi.

III. NASPGHAN Public Education Chair

Although not a standard role for the APGNN Past President, did want to update the APGNN membership on this unique opportunity/experience as the 2008 Co- Chair of the NASPGHAN Public Education Committee. Phil Rogers, MD has been my very supportive NASPGHAN Member Co-Chair. Karen Sherry and Lillian Sablan are active members on the committee and their support has been appreciated as well. Our work has focused on updating many of the patient education materials on the NASPGHAN website and identifying other internet materials. Logistical Issues have slowed down the process but thus far:

Written Guidelines for review/Revision/Creation finalized/approved

CDHNF Scientific panels agreed to be responsible for reviewing/updating their materials (7 pamphlets)

7 pamphlets Revised from 2003 Submitted in Feb 08 to Executive office and most now posted

5 pamphlets Revised from 2003/05 Submitted in Jul 08 to Executive office

5 pamphlets Sent for Expert Review Aug 08

2 Revisions from 2006 completed and to be submitted in 2009

2 pamphlets ready for Expert Review/Committee Review

14 pamphlets OK as is



Past President's Report to Membership continued

In Closing, I wish to express my gratitude to all members of APGNN, especially the leadership teams from 2002-2008. It has been a true privilege and honor working with you all these past 6 years. We have accomplished much together and I look forward to all that is yet to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adelina F. McDuffie

Adelina F. McDuffie, MS, RN, CPNP
APGNN Past President 2006-2008

President Elect's Annual Report

Following our last meeting in October 2007, the Executive Board and Committee Chairs worked together through a series of communications including conference calls and e-mails to propose the following changes to the APGNN By Laws:

1. Add *hepatology* to our mission statement (purpose) and throughout the By Laws where appropriate. This reflects our relationship with NASPGHAN and acknowledges our work in this field
2. Change membership categories by the elimination of the "Inactive" status. This requires that members renew annually in order to remain active, voting members of APGNN
3. Allow electronic voting and balloting
4. Elections to be valid by a ° majority of voting membership

It is our hope that these changes better reflect the backgrounds of our members and allows for streamlined decision making and voting.

The President-Elect has a non-voting appointment on the NASPGHAN Ethics Committee. Their last meeting was at DDW and I was not able to attend. I will be attending the next meeting in San Diego November 2008.

The APGNN Officer/Committee Chair Handbook is due to be updated and I will be seeking input from all in the near future. Addie McDuffie has already updated the History of APGNN for 2008, which will be included in the Handbook.

President Elect's Annual Report continued

Upcoming Goals:

1. Review or revise our Ethics Statement as needed. I will keep the Board updated on Ethics Committee at NASPGHAN which we have used to guide our position
2. Assist with Web Site development through the Internet Committee as needed
3. Assist Program Committee as needed for October 2009 Meeting
4. Survey members at next meeting about interest for forming an Advance Practice Committee. This was brought up at the October 2007 meeting and there appears to be enthusiasm for this.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin Shannon, MS, RN, CPNP

President-Elect

November 2008

Patient and Family Education Committee's Annual Report

It was a quick summer and hope you all had a fun one.

A few new members have joined our committee. We welcome you.

Thank you for all who responded to our E-mail re: the brochures that needed to be reviewed and revised. We submitted four updated brochures this year to the NASPGHAN Public Education committee.

We will continue to seek our members input for future upcoming educational materials. We presently need help with reviewing the APGNN website link. If you can suggest reliable resource weblinks or any other GI related educational ideas please notify us via E-mail.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Lillian Sablan (Isablan@chw.org)

Karen Sherry (ksherry@chw.org)

Patient and Family Education Committee Co-chairs.



Membership Committee Annual Report

Key Committee Responsibilities:

- Receives and reviews applications for new members to evaluate eligibility for membership
- Works closely with the NASPGHAN Membership Coordinator
- Solicits nominations for the APGNN Excellence in Mentoring Award

1. The committee has four members: Linda Anderson, Janet Goodell, Diane Kocovsky and Jessica Lessing.
2. As of 10/31/08 36 new members have joined APGNN this year for a total of 298 members (140 Advanced Practice RNs and of these 128 are NPs, 140 RNs, 8 PAs, 3 RDs, 4 LPNs/LVNs, 1 SW and 2 not designated).
3. The 2008 Membership Directory was mailed to all members.
4. A change in billing cycle (January), an increase in dues (\$75 full/\$50 associate), and elimination of inactive status were voted and approved by APGNN members.
5. Because APGNN communication is primarily electronic, ongoing attempt to update members' email addresses continues.
6. Nominations for the APGNN Excellence in Mentoring Award were not solicited because APGNN did not have a meeting this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Philichi,

Membership Committee Chairperson

Program Committee Annual Report

Thanks to everyone who was able to participate in planning the 2009 program! Due to a productive discussion we were able to create the "bones" of the agenda for next year's meeting in Washington, D.C. that will be held on November 13th & 14th. Our theme is *Working Together: Collaborative Practice*; we hope to include input from the different disciplines that we interact with everyday. If any members have suggestions for speakers or topics that they would like included, please feel free to email me.

Lindsay Wilson

lwilson@jhmi.edu

Newsletter Committee Annual Report

Key Committee Responsibilities:

1. Publishing online newsletters quarterly and post to the APGNN website.
2. Work closely with the APGNN Board to obtain reports from active committees. These reports are our main form of communication to the membership.
3. Work with the membership to identify potential authors and topics of interest to include in the newsletters.

Challenges/Goals/Accomplishments

1. Committee chairs have been consistently submitting reports to be included in the newsletter.
2. The two new columns Disease Information and Medication Updates have not appeared in the newsletter consistently. Authors have been difficult to identify. When authors have been identified, we have left it up to them to present a topic that they have expertise in.
3. I would like to start to include an Ask the Expert column that is in question answer format. We would identify nurse experts and provide them a questionnaire related to their topic. Several questionnaires could be distributed and used in future publications.
4. I would like to recruit new members to the Newsletter committee. More members would facilitate identifying potential authors making us rely less on the Board for submissions (outside of their committee reports) and contacts.
5. Continue to use the Newsletter to advertise upcoming education events, meetings and NASPGHAN updates that affect our membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Kocovsky

Newsletter Committee Chairperson

Editor's Note

Wow! There was a lot to cover after such a productive Board Meeting and Work Group meetings while in San Diego. This was the first Board Meeting that I have attended. What an experience! I had the amazing opportunity to work with leaders in our profession. I came home so energized. Working with the board on projects is a rewarding opportunity. I would encourage all of our membership to become an active member of one of our committees and participate in upcoming conferences and work groups. We truly are our own best resource.

I am thrilled to offer the Newsletter Award that will be presented at the 2009 Annual meeting. I hope this encourages article submissions in abundance during 2009. Remember there are only 2 editions before November. Please overflow my inbox; kocovskyd@boystown.org. We will also be celebrating our 20th Anniversary this year. Watch the newsletter series and learn more about our organizations history and the founding members.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. I look forward to working with all of you in 2009.

Diane Kocovsky
Newsletter Committee Chairperson
kocovskyd@boystown.org

