

The

Advocate

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ELEANOR HOBBS, PH.D., ANP, *Editor*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



They call them the “laid back” days of summer but for many it is an opportunity to get as many activities into the longer days of sunshine as possible. It is also prime time to take vacations. I always enjoyed when my girls were out of school the most. That is why the dinner/meetings

take a hiatus until the

fall. Look for Debra Chalmers notes on the upcoming dates. I hope all of you are enjoying this special season.

The Board has remained very active. We have had many Legislative visits scheduled. Again, thanks to all our members who have stepped up to the plate to attend. We have had much positive feedback: but the Legislators have said we need to be patient since little change will occur this year. Most of our achievements have come through perseverance and patience. This will be no different. This makes me reflect on what Sue Patton Thoele wrote in her book, *The Woman’s Book of Confidence*, 1992, “if out of habit we have been placing negative thinking at the top of our life’s agenda, we need to bump it to the very bottom - with the goal of eliminating it altogether. As we replace negativity with upbeat and optimistic thinking, we create an environment where the seeds of creativity, humor, and love can take root.”

Although this is a “woman’s” book, this thinking is applicable to both men and women of all ages. Let us bump the AMA’s negativity regarding our Collaboration Bill to the bottom, and focus on all the positives its passage does for health care.

Moving on, Anne Klassert and her Awards Committee selected an NP of the Year 2010 Award: Dr. Donna Hallas. We look forward to honoring her at the Awards Dinner in October. Congratulations Donna!



**AWARDS COMMITTEE
SELECTED
NP of the Year 2010 Award
Dr. Donna Hallas**

The Public Relations Committee has been very active. I hope you all had the opportunity to see “The Nurse will see you now” in the June 13, 2010, edition of *Newsday*. It featured our own Peggy O’Donnell and Marion Golden. Peggy was on the cover and the other cover-

age was on page A4 and A5. This was facilitated by The NPA; your Legacy funds at work. Peggy will update you all further in her area as Public Relations Chair.

This is our first “Online Version” of the *Advocate*. Please give us your constructive feedback as to what you think. I look forward to seeing you again in September. Enjoy the remaining days of Summer.

Rose Cassidy, MS, BSN, ANP, PNP

**VISIT US ON THE WEB AT
www.npali.org**

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

I hope you all enjoyed our summer apart as much as I did. Just taking two months off from my daily trips to the PO Box felt like a vacation! I am looking forward to our upcoming Fall events. Please mark your calendar for Friday April 8, 2011, for our annual "Practice Issues Conference."

We are privileged to have two of our own members presenting at the September meeting. President-Elect, Diane Bartscherer, DNP, ANP-BC and Dan Jacobsen, FNP-BC are co-presenting in their field of expertise. The program "Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence" will be presented on Monday evening, September 20, 2010, at the Westbury Manor. This will be a CME event.

There are no scheduled Dinner Meetings in October, as we celebrate our Nurse Practitioner of the Year at our Annual Awards Dinner.

The November meeting will be on Thursday, November 4, 2010, at Panama Hatties in Huntington Station. The topic is "New Horizons in the Treatment of Osteoarthritis When Old Algorithms Fail."

Look for information regarding the December meeting on the NPALI web site, as requests for grant funding are still in the works. You are now able to pay all your program registrations online via [pay pal](#). Your reservation will be confirmed when your payment is deposited into our account. You may still send a check to the PO Box as well.

Just a reminder that all events are posted on the web site as soon as the information becomes available, and we are no longer mailing invitations to the monthly Dinner Meetings. For this reason especially, please be sure to update Amanda at The NPA of any change in your email address or other contact information at ahubbard@thenpa.org

I hope you had the opportunity to attend our June meeting. Member Barbara Sprung, DNP,

NPP presented "The Lived Experience of Breast Cancer: Couple Distress". The presentation was excellent, and extremely well received.

If you are living on the East End of Long Island and have contacts with any Pharmaceutical Representatives willing to sponsor a meeting, please refer them to me so that I can help facilitate a program for you out east.

As always, please feel free to contact me at debrachalmers@nyc.rr.com with any questions or comments.

Debra A. Chalmers, MA, ANP-BC

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hope everyone is having a wonderful, cool summer! The Community Service Committee collected items for the Suffolk County Coalition against Domestic Violence at the Dinner Meeting held June 8, 2010. Our members were once again very generous. The money from the 50/50 raffle was donated to this organization to help those individuals in need of services.

We wanted to share with our members how much the donations are appreciated. We receive letters of recognition and thanks from almost all of the organizations we donate to. This year we received a particularly moving e-mail from one of the Soldiers who received our care package. He is a Marine serving in Afghanistan. In the e-mail he states; "The Marines really appreciate your kindness, and we know that sending packages like that must be time consuming, especially with families of your own to worry about."

"Unfortunately, all of the Marines don't come from as fortunate areas like you and I do on beautiful Long Island...Lots of broken homes, uneducated boys, and drug addicted parents are the sad story of some of these brave men who fight be-



SAVE THE DATES

September 20, 2010

CME EVENT

Diane Bartscherer, DNP, ANP-BC

& Dan Jacobsen, FNP-BC

Treating Tobacco Use

& Dependence

Westbury Manor

November 4, 2010

New Horizons in the

Treatment of Osteoarthritis

when Old Algorithms Fail

Panama Hatties

April 8, 2011

Annual Practice Issues

Conference

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES COMMITTEE

side me every day.... So I was more than happy to share your generousities with the men who would give their very lives up until their dying breaths to protect me on the battlefield, as I would for them and our beautiful country.....”

“The fact that you wasted YOUR free time to send us care packages says great things about NPALI, as well as the people and workers who are affiliated with it.”

I need to take a breath here from that moving quotation before transitioning on to business.

We are still finalizing our plans for the Fall. We will most likely do the breast cancer walk in September or October and collect for the Food Pantries in November. Our 50/50 raffles will continue and we hope that everyone will be a winner.

We have had some new members that have joined our Committee and look forward to having more members help us in our future endeavors. Anyone interested in joining us please call Linda at 631-744-0813 or Debbie at 631-205-5161.

Linda Aumock & Deborah Deierlein

MEMBERSHIP

I hope this finds all of you enjoying your summer. As of July, we have 679 members on Long Island. There are still so many Nurse Practitioners on Long Island who are not members. Please spread the word on the great things we do. Stress the great monthly Dinner Meetings which we hold in addition to our Annual Conference in April. Mention our involvement with the community, such as our “Toys for Tots” drive in December, food drive for the Inn on Long Island, and so much more. Our Legislative Committee keeps us posted on current bills in Albany, and what actions need to be taken to help get them passed. Talk to potential members about the importance of networking, opportunity to find preceptors, as well as job openings. It would be nice to see our membership reach the 700 mark by September 2010.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding your membership, please email me at GarfieldRN@aol.com.

Ingrid Bloomfield

The NPA has successfully moved its DNR Bill (A1719/S2947-A) through both houses of the State Legislature. The Bill is expected to be forwarded to the Governor’s office for his signature. The NPA is lobbying hard to get the Bill signed by the Governor. Late entry: unfortunately, the DNR Bill was Vetoed by Governor Paterson on Technical & Philosophical Grounds.

The Collaborative Drug Management Bill (A6848/s3292-A) passed the Assembly but was not passed by the Senate. NP’s had been removed from the Bill so an Action Alert was issued; nearly 1500 NPs and others responded! At this time, no further action is requested by The NPA. They are working with the Governor’s office responding to questions. The NPA is also seeking support from other Health Care organizations.

Even though it is summer and many members are on vacation, members have been very responsive to requests to make lobby visits. I want to again thank those who have responded to the email requests. As Senator Brian Foley once said to me, “Please keep contacting me. If I don’t hear from you, I think you don’t want anything.” We have made three (3) lobby visits since the last Legislative Issues Report. Visits have been made to the following legislators along with the members who made the visit:

1. [Senator Dean Skelos](#)

Peg O’Donnell

Mary Beth Koslap-Petraco

This visit was a real coup arranged by The NPA lobbying firm...your Legacy Fund dollars in action!!! It is very difficult to get a visit with Senator Skelos, and we were invited to a meet and greet breakfast as a direct result of the efforts of The NPA lobbying firm. We had about 5 minutes of face time with the Senator which is the most face time we have ever had with him. The Senator was very noncommittal when we asked for his support for our Removal of Statutory Collaboration and Third Party Reimbursement Bills. Peg explained the problems inherent in mandatory collaboration. Mary Beth reviewed the effectiveness of Nurse Practitioner care and gave

examples. Peg had the opportunity to walk into the venue with the Senator and he was friendly. He was impressed that Peg had been appointed to the Medical Society Board. When pressed regarding our legislation, Senator Skelos advised that "it will eventually happen." The Senator did ask Peg to come to his office to meet with him. That is definitely a positive outcome. In the past it took months to get an appointment with Senator Skelos even for constituent members.

2. [Senator Charles Fuschillo](#)

Susan Marks
Brendan Keys
Sally Richardson
Patti Sirota

Our four (4) members met with Sara, Senator Fuchillo's assistant and requested his continued support. Sara believes our legislation will not come up in 2010, but we may have a chance for 2011. She said it will likely become more prominent as the health care model changes begin to take place, and crises develop, making the need for change more imperative. The Senator finished the meeting he was attending, and our members had the opportunity to greet him and thank him for his continued support. He thanked our members for making the visit.

3. [Assemblyman Charles Lavine](#)

Mary Beth White
Samantha Gray
Ruth Loeber
Waitline Deroux-Smith

The Senator is clearly a supporter of our Removal of Mandatory Collaboration Bill. The Nurse Midwife Bill was mentioned. When this bill was being discussed on the floor of the Assembly, one Legislator mentioned that "it would take away business from the MDs" which the Assemblyman thought was quite embarrassing. Assemblyman Lavine reiterated the sentiments of Senator Fuchillo's assistant, Sara. The likelihood of our bills being passed this year is low due to the political climate in general, but that we should be patient. Our time will come.

I will continue to include all of the bills and their numbers in each Legislative Report because of our very busy legislative agenda. As I am sure you all remember our primary piece of legislation is:

* [A.765 \(Gottfried\)/S.2948 \(Montgomery\)](#)- Patient Access & Advocacy Act - Removal of Statutory Collaboration & Reimbursement

The remainder of our legislative agenda is listed here:

* [A.6651 \(Gottfried\)/S4490 \(Duane\)](#) - Reimbursement Assurance to assure health plans do not deny reimbursement for services rendered by Nurse Practitioners acting within their lawful scope

* [A.7877 \(Gottfried\)/S4491 \(Duane\)](#) - Access Protection to promote practice opportunities for Nurse Practitioners by prohibiting health plans from excluding Nurse Practitioners from their provider networks and to insure that reimbursement rates are reasonable

* [A.3704 \(John\)/S.3908 \(Duane\)](#) - NP Worker's Compensation Access Act authorizing NPs to fully participate within and be reimbursed under the Worker's Compensation Program in NYS as a Legislative Study Bill

* [A.2028-A \(John\)/S.2969 \(Montgomery\)](#) - Death Certificate Bill authorizing NPs to sign death certificates. (PASSED SENATE)

* [A.1719 \(Gottfried\)/S.2947-A \(Hannon\)](#) - Do-Not-Resuscitate (DNR) authorizing NPs to issue orders not to resuscitate

* [A.6654 \(Gottfried\)/S.4070 \(Montgomery\)](#) - Immunization Bill to add NPs to the category of persons legally qualified to certify that an immunization required by section 2164 of the Public Health Law may be detrimental to a child's health

Mary Beth Koslap-Petraco

PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE: NURSE PRACTITIONERS IN THE NEWS

With our Legacy fund money hard at work, The NPA was able to secure a FRONT PAGE Sunday Newsday article committed to NPs and the controversy over our fight for independent prac-

tice. On June 13, 2010, Newsday devoted three (3) full pages to NPs; complete with several NP interviews, full-page pictures, and information about how NPs practice. Additionally, the President of the New York State Medical Society was quoted serving to kindle the controversy. The exposure was terrific! It awakened much interest in our profession. Newsday also published follow-up "Letters to the Editor" written by Marion Golden, Mary Lawrence, and Pat Dolan.

Public Relations have become a major part of our strategic planning as an association. It's imperative that we continue to increase public awareness of the role of NP's, and our importance in the future of health care in America. The National, State, and now our local organization have embraced the power of the media, and hired experts in the area of Public Relations (PR), to help us along.

To this end, the NPALI is proud to announce that we now have our own public relations expert, Damian Becker to assist us in local media exposure. Please do not hesitate to contact him with any announcements: big or small, relating to our profession.

A. Local

1. AANP NYS Nurse of Excellence award (Peg O'Donnell and Bruce Zitkus) was acknowledged by a Citation from the Village of Lynbrook, and the Nassau County Legislature. The press releases from this citation made its way to the Lynbrook-East Rockaway Herald, Lynbrook News, three Penny Savers, and the Newsday Winner's Circle.

2. Sirius radio: "Doctor Radio" hosted a two-hour interview with NYU Nurse Practitioners which led to a regular spot for NPs on that broadcast

3. Podcast: nursestation.wordpress.com: interview with Peg O'Donnell

4. RNdegreesonline: interview with Peg O'Donnell

5. "Health radio" Interview with our own Joyce Murray, podcast is posted on our website

6. Published articles about our NPALI scholarship recipients, Roberta Schieda and Nicole Capogna in the Massapequa Patch and the Syosset Patch local newspapers.

7. In honor of national immunization month,

Mainstreet.com interviewed our Mary Beth Kolslap-Petraco. Search: "Immunizations prevent life threatening diseases," and the first click is the interview "Update Immunizations to Prevent Serious Illness"

8. Interview with Linda Barron with Everydayhealth.com about managing menopausal symptoms.

B. State

1. Seth Gordon and Assemblyman Dick Gottfried appeared live on The Capital Pressroom WAMC-FM

2. NPA Member Ann Dys, FNP and Seth Gordon, President & CEO appear on YNN "Health Matters" news segment

3. Sue Apold's interview with Fox & Friends along with the President of the Massachusetts Medical Society, Dr. Mario Motta

4. Recent interview with Seth Gordon on NPR radio

C. National

1. Dee Swanson, Past President of the AANP had a nationally broadcasted Fox 5 interview this past spring.

There have been a multitude of media opportunities locally, and around the country, which has allowed for positive promotion of the NP role.

MY VISION IS TO INCREASE EXPOSURE
AND RECOGNITION FOR ALL
NURSE PRACTITIONERS
THE GOAL OF THIS ARTICLE IS TO SHOW
YOU THAT "THIS COULD BE YOU"!

CONTACT PEG OR DAMIAN, AND
WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN!

E Mail us with your thoughts, ideas and news!
Damian Becker at djb92465@msn.com,
Peg O'Donnell at Pegsfullmoon@aol.com
No news is too big or too small to report
The Public and our Legislators needs to be
educated!!!

Peg O'Donnell, Public Relations Chair, NPALI

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I hope you are all enjoying this summer season and have found some time to enjoy yourselves and your families at some point. This year has proven to be a very exciting year for our organization as our media exposure has increased dramatically. With the President's focus on healthcare reform, the role of nurse practitioners have been put front and center and have undergone great scrutiny and even some criticism by those who don't fully understand our role or are threatened by it, namely, organized medicine. I am happy to report that in spite of this, we have stood strong and have represented ourselves extremely well. I hope that all of you were able to see former NPALI President (2007) Peg O'Donnell on the cover of Newsday back in June accompanied by the article that also focused on NPA Chair Elect Marion Golden and her family practice. It was a tremendous feat to crack the LI media, much less Newsday and a front cover to boot. Because of your continued member support of the NPALI, our chapter has remained successful, allowing the NPALI to generously donate to The NPA Legacy Fund. This in turn, funds the PR firm that has helped us achieve media exposure here on Long Island.

The article was a great jumping off point and conversation starter for all of us to discuss what we do on a day to day basis. Based on the numerous conversations that I had after the article was published, I could tell that people had no idea of the breadth and scope of what we already do and that the current mandate of statutory collaboration is really an artificial barrier that only impedes access to healthcare. I felt really empowered to be able to have that conversation with so many different people and educate them. That is the crux of what our mission is.

The NPA Governmental Affairs Committee has been very busy this summer. As you all know, the State Legislature has been consumed by budget issues, or more appropriately, a lack of a passed budget in the state of New York. The Governor has already convened several special sessions, recalling the legislators back to Albany to work on the state budget. As you can imagine, this has made getting any type of legislation passed almost impossible. For example, I'm sure many of you were following the status of our DNR bill (A1719-A/S2947-A). The good news was that this bill passed both the Senate and the Assembly and went onto the Governor's office for review and potential signing. The bad news is that the Governor vetoed the bill as he currently feels that "decisions regarding life and death should be made by physicians, not nurse practitioners" For more details concerning this matter, I refer you to The NPA's website (www.thenpa.org) and search for the "CEO Letters" and read CEO Letter Vol. 9 No. 5.

I'd like to take a moment to send out a huge thank you to all of you who have stepped up to our call for volunteers to make lobby visits to our local legislators. It is amazing how many of you have expressed interest in going and have taken time out of your busy schedules to make a visit in their home offices. It is truly inspiring! I understand that for some legislators, we had too many volunteers! That sounds like an oxymoron but I know that when a visit is made, we generally keep it to a group of four or five. If you weren't able to go this time, please keep your enthusiasm stoked as we will definitely call on you in the very near future to visit. Visiting our legislators is something we must continue to do on a regular basis in order for our legislative agenda to be heard and have any kind of traction. Our visits have definitely paid big dividends and you should all be extremely proud of yourselves.

I am truly grateful to be part of such a wonderful chapter and work among such passionate and professional nurse practitioners. Nobody does it better! I hope that you will all consider joining me at The NPA's Annual Fall Conference which will be held at the Sagamore in Lake George, NY on October 21st through October 24th. It is shaping up to be a wonderful convention and I look forward to sharing that time with you.

Jeanne Martin, ANP, Regional Director/Region #7, NPA NYS

NURSE PRACTITIONER ASSOCIATION



OF LONG ISLAND, INC.

2010 NURSE PRACTITIONER OF THE YEAR

Donna Hallas, PhD, PNP-BC, CPNP

*Dr. Hallas is a Clinical Associate Professor
at New York University College of Nursing.
She is a well respected scholar, clinician and educator.
NPALI is proud to have her as a member.*

The Annual Awards Dinner to honor Dr. Hallas
will be held on Thursday October 28, 2010
from 6:30 to 10:00pm at the Westbury Manor.
Invitations with further details will be mailed to all members.

Please join the NPALI Awards Committee
in congratulating Dr. Hallas on receiving this year's award.

PRESS RELEASE AUGUST 4, 2010

Contact: Lisa Di Santo Grossman (631) 654-2514

NURSE PRACTITIONERS MEET WITH NYS SENATOR FUSCHILLO

Members of the Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island met recently with New York State Senator Charles Fuschillo Jr. to discuss The Patient Access and Advocacy Act. Similar legislation has passed in 13 other states and is streamlining healthcare access by removing barriers that can save lives and make services more affordable. This legislation would assist in providing early intervention and preventative healthcare to underserved populations.

The Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island (NPALI) was founded in 1980 and is the largest chapter of The Nurse Practitioner Association of New York State with nearly 700 members. The mission of our association is to educate the public, government officials, and other healthcare professionals about the varying roles of Nurse Practitioners. In addition, the association strives

to provide continuing education opportunities for Nurse Practitioners that encourage high standards of practice within the profession, to provide community service, and to advocate for affordable, accessible, quality healthcare delivery. For more information about NPALI, go to www.npali.org.



Pictured above seated from left: Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island (NPALI) members Brendan Keys, NP; and Sally Richardson, LTC USAR (Ret.), ANP. Standing from left: NPALI member Patricia Sirota, MSN, ANP-BC; New York State Senator Charles Fuschillo Jr.; and NPALI member Susan Marks, MS, RN, ANP-C.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Here's a chance to make a difference, get involved, and share ideas with colleagues. Please feel free to nominate yourself or a fellow member of NPALI. We'd love to hear from you and have you contribute your talents and energy to our organization. Self nomination is encouraged.

Please print out this page and mail it back as indicated below.

Requirements:

- Active Membership with the Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island, Inc. & New York State Nurse Practitioner Association
- Brief statement from nominee supporting their nomination
- Resume/CV

Available positions for 2011 are:

President – Elect (3 year total commitment: President –Elect, President, and Past President)

Name: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Work Phone # _____

Secretary (2 year term)

Name: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Work Phone # _____

Deadline for Submission: October 01, 2010

Please send in your nominations to:

Nominations Committee
c/o Susan Aiello
9 Brookfield Lane
South Setauket, N Y 11720

Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island
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PAYPAL ON THE NPALI WEBSITE

You are now able to pay for our monthly dinner meetings using a credit or debit card. You simply go to our website www.npali.org, click on the event that you want to attend, enter the registration information and then click submit. You will then be directed to the PayPal website which is a secure site where you enter your payment information. If you do not get a confirmation from PayPal then you have not entered the appropriate information and you are not confirmed as paid or attending. A reminder: if you are using a credit card with a different name on it, or paying for another member, you must let us know so we know who is attending.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Carolfnp@gmail.com.

Carol D'Abbraccio