

Newsletter Date
Volume 3, number 2



West Texas Pan Handle Region of the Texas Association of Peri Anesthesia Nurses

President's Message

Ellen Abaquin, RN, BSN, CPAN

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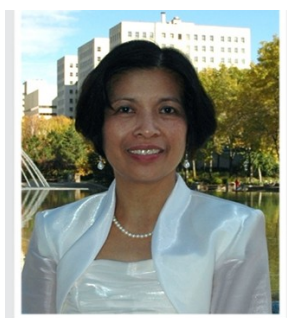
Technological innovations and researches; high and sometimes extreme expectations from diverse and highly informed healthcare consumers; and political and governmental pressures are a few of the factors that have caused spiraling changes in the healthcare arena. Stringent requirements from regulatory agencies such as the Joint Commission (JC) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have caused hospitals to frantically initiate changes to comply with new requirements. Has transitioning to electronic medical record given you grief? Recently, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was upheld constitutional by the Supreme Court. How will this impact our practice?

ASPAN's theme for this year under the leadership of Sue Carter, 2012-2013 president is "Towering Opportunities, Endless Possibilities". Did the multitude of changes and surmounting challenges in the medical arena inspire her to pick the theme? Is the theme a plea for each one of us to join together to become one powerful voice so we can face the challenges head on? We can no longer be just the bystander and hope for the best. It is time to get on the wagon and not just rely on our national and state officers to speak for our specialty and advocate for our patients.

TAPAN on the Road was held in Lubbock on June 23. Thirty four attendees were treated to a half-day of educational presentations by excellent speakers. In addition, 3.25 contact hours were awarded. The venue and bottomless pit of food were added bonuses. Hats off to Cindy Hill and Vern Pharr for coordinating the event. If you did not attend TAPAN on the ROAD, you missed an opportunity to network with our state officers and other members of our region.

.There are numerous opportunities to serve TAPAN at the region and state levels. At the region level, there are openings for liaisons in the Lubbock, Midland, Brownwood, San Angelo, and Amarillo areas. At the state level, the remaining term of first Vice President/President Elect Pru Nietupski who has resigned effective September 15, 2012 needs to be filled. Willingness to serve forms for the region and state level can be downloaded from www.TAPAN-westtexas-panhandle.com.

In an effort to nurture and train future leaders, TAPAN is offering leadership retreat on August 12 at the Hilton Hotel in Grapevine, Tx. TAPAN will sponsor two officers from our region. TAPAN is also offering one scholarship for free registration to Center for Development Institute (CDI) to one member from our region. The conference will be held September 7-9, 2012 in Clayton, Mo. More information on the CDI can be obtained from ASPAN website. If you are interested in either one of the conferences, please call or text me at 325 665 2934 or email me at eabaquin@gmail.com or manang@suddenlink.net.



President's Message continued

TAPAN state conference will soon be here so mark your calendar now. It will be held in Sugarland, Texas on September 14-16. It will be a weekend full of networking, learning, meeting new acquaintances, and renewing friendships. Scholarships are available from our region but you need to act fast. Scholarship forms are to be submitted no later than June 30.

West Texas and Panhandle region has grown from 49 to 61 members since September, 2011. We surpassed our goal of 15 % growth but we still have plenty of work to do. We need to grab every opportunity to encourage our colleagues to join and be active in our organization. It is time to get on the wagon for there is power in numbers. Let us not be the bystander but one who can see that there are towering opportunities and endless possibilities.

Enjoy what is left of summer. Be safe and stay in the shade if you can.

Meeting West Texas Pan Handle Region

August 25, 2012

10:00 am

Abilene Regional Surgery Center

3699 Directors Parkway, Abilene



What's in a Name

The awards committee of West Texas and Panhandle Region chose *Jackie Clinkinbeard's* entry for the slogan contest. Claiming that West Texas and Panhandle cover the northern and top most areas of Texas, she suggested that the region be known as "***The Top Star Region***".

A monogrammed blanket donated by *Vicky Lessing* will be awarded to her during the next region meeting which will be held at Abilene Regional Medical Center – Day Surgery on August 25, 2012. *Jackie Clinkinbeard, RN* works at the Day Surgery Center of ARMC. She is also the immediate past president of wesTpan – The Top Star Region.

TAPAN Leadership Conference

August 11, 2012

0745-1245

Comfort Suites DFW North/Grapevine
1805 Enchanted Way
Grapevine, Texas 76051

Purpose: to provide knowledge through the presentation of diverse educational topics from experts **that will enhance the current practice of nurses in the care of Perianesthesia patients.**

Target Audience: All professional nurses and nursing students, with a focus on the nurse practicing in the Perianesthesia setting.

Overall Program Objectives: The annual TAPAN Leadership conference offers information on leadership development. This conference is designed to promote members participation in the organization.

Program

0745-0800 Registration/refreshments

0800-0900 Communication is the Key; Building the TAPAN web site
Susan Norris BScN, RN, CAPA

0900-0910 Break

0910-1010 Membership and Marketing; The Grass roots of TAPAN Chapter formation
Lynda Allyn BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA

1015-1145 Dealing with Different Personalities, Finding Leadership in TAPAN members
Kelly Hutcheson MA, LPC

1145-1155 Evaluation

1155-1245 Lunch and mock TAPAN State Board Meeting

Join us for the opportunity to network, meet your TAPAN leaders and learn how to tap into your leadership potential!

Lunch served, door prizes

Look forward to seeing you there

Ellen Abaquin, Gayle Stegall & Charon Howell at the Leadership Conference



“Embracing Excellence with Endless Possibilities”

36th ANNUAL TAPAN STATE CONFERENCE

Sugar Land Marriott Town Square – 16090 City Park,
Sugar Land, TX 77478

DATES: SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2012

TIME: Friday, September 14 – 8:15 AM – 4:30 PM; Evaluation 4:15 – 4:30 PM

Saturday, September 15 – 8:15 AM – 5:00 PM; Evaluation 4:45 – 5:00 PM

Sunday, September 16 – 8:05 AM – 12:30 PM; Evaluation 12:15 – 12:30 PM

OVERALL PROGRAM OBJECTIVE: This is planned and designed with you in mind, to expand your knowledge and strengthen your expertise for future perianesthesia patient management. It will provide you with the opportunity to (1) discuss current information on hot issues related to pathologies, therapies and techniques which contribute to quality patient management, (2) discuss perianesthesia related research.

TARGET AUDIENCE: All professional nurses and nursing students

REGISTRATION: 7:00 -12:00 PM September 14 & 15, 2012; 7:00 – 8:00 September 16, 2012

ACCREDITATION: This activity has been submitted to American Society of Perianesthesia Nurses (ASPAN) for approval to award contact hours. ASPAN is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation (ANCC-COA). Accreditation does not imply that ASPAN or ANCC-COA approves or endorses any product in this activity.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: All faculties at nursing continuing education activities are required to disclose to the audience (1) any significant financial relationships with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial products, goods or services, and (2) any unlabeled/unapproved uses of drugs or device discussed in their presentations. Such disclosures will be made in writing in the course presentation materials. **Cancellation Policy:** Requests for refunds must be submitted in writing to the TAPAN Treasurer by September 1, 2012. **For additional information, please contact:**

- **Deborah Davis at janmom6812@yahoo.com**
- **Teresita Limsiaco at talimsiaco@yahoo.com**

Greetings all,

Summer is upon us and I find it very hard with the beautiful weather we're having in San Diego to be inside working on computer things. I hope you are all having a wonderful summer and enjoying some time away from work and the responsibilities of life.

I'm writing to share some news with you. ASPAN was invited by the FDA's Office of Special Health Issues to meet in their offices in Silver Springs, MD to talk about an initiative the FDA is championing regarding the use of blunt suture needles in the OR to prevent needle sticks. Two of our members serving as volunteers on the Safety SWT, Seema Hussain and Kerstin Magree, were able to attend and represent ASPAN. Cathy Miller, our contact in the office, shared a number of safety links with us and I thought I would pass them on to all of you. We have included them on our Website under the Safety area.

In addition and on a separate note, Chris Price, ASPAN IPP, was recognized by the FDA in conjunction with the CSPA (Council on Surgical and Perioperative Safety) for their work and involvement in the Preventing Surgical Fires initiative. You may recall we had the opportunity of a webinar recently addressing this topic.

Praise and good news is always fun so share. I hope you are all as excited as I am about these. ASPAN is increasingly being invited to sit at the table with our other colleagues and I find this invigorating!

Enjoy the remainder of your weekend and have a terrific summer!

Warm regards,
Sue

Susan Carter, BSN RN CPAN CAPA

Community Cares

Abilene Baptist Association Social Ministries is in need of kitchen supplies. They need pots and pans, dishes, and eating utensils. They will gladly take new or used ones. They are located at 1073 Sycamore. They are open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.



WestTpan will continue to support needs in our community through Meals on Wheels, and Thanksgiving Abilene.

Editor's Note: *What's TAPANing* is the official Newsletter of West Texas—Panhandle Region.

Contributions to *What's TAPANing* are encouraged. All articles and comments relevant to Perianesthesia care must be double spaced and typed. The author is responsible for providing appropriate references for accuracy and reliability of information.

Submission Deadlines:

Feb 15—Spring newsletter

May 15—Summer newsletter

August 15—Fall newsletter

November 15—Winter newsletter

Send comments, suggestions and/or submissions to: Charon Howell, 602 Cardinal Ln., Abilene, Texas 79602

WesTpan Welcomes New Members!!

Karen Pyle, Slaton

Katherine Brewer, Abilene

Donna Olson, Buffalo gap

Judith Hardin, Lubbock

Janice Tinney, Odessa

Catalina Herttenberger, Abilene

Christine Hill, Midland

Elena Dobson, Midland

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charsmare@clearwire.net

News to Share

CPAN and CAPA Nurses,

Our summer edition of *News to Share* includes time-sensitive information about the Fall Certification Exam, details about recertification, award winners, opportunities to earn free contact hours, and new study guide resources. Please review this for the latest information on CPAN and CAPA certification.

Click the link below to view our current newsletter:

http://cpancapa.org/pdfs/ABPANC_News_to_Share_Summer2012.pdf

Best regards,

Jeff Kenyon
ABPANC

www.cpancapa.org



WestTpan—Top Star Region

Executive Members:

President	Elena Abaquin Abilene, Tx 79602	manang@suddenlink.net
Vice-President	Charon Howell Abilene, TX 79602	charsmare@clearwire.net
Secretary/Historian	Edna Pabruada Abilene, TX 79606	mariaepabr@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Lorna Taylor Abilene, TX 79606	lltayl@hotmail.com
Abilene Regional Medical Center	Vicky Lessing	325-428-1550
Abilene Regional Surgery Center	Jackie Clinkinbeard	325-794-5450
Hendrick Medical Center	Edna Pabruada	325-670-2274
Lubbock	Deborah Donald-Key	806-791-3210
Brownwood	Suzanne Reyes	325-646-8491



From the Editors Desk

“When was the last time you had anything to eat or drink?” I asked as I peered around the WOW at my admission. One of the luxuries of working in an ambulatory surgical center is that your patients are healthy for the most part. Good thing too, since the most important part of an admission these days is getting the documentation right.

I had a little personal trip to a minor emergency center today for a ...minor emergency. I filled out 11 pieces of paper before anyone ever touched me. Of those 11 pages, only one form was actually related to the state of my health.

How did we get here? Nurses are frustrated beyond measure with this “new” attitude of paperwork priority. Heaven help the facility that does not receive the blessing of Joint Commission because a box wasn’t checked. Enormous fines for rule “infractions”, endless pages of paperwork in our age of “computer charting”, if there is a solution to a problem, it involves designing a new form. Nurse managers continue to put on a brave face and emphasize the patient comes first. and nurses fight daily to make that statement true, but the reality is quite different. And the looming question remains. Has *any* of this improved patient care?

Now I readily admit to being an old coot. You know I can wax nostalgic about the good ol’ days of nursing. I was not raised in the computer generation, but drug kicking and screaming into acclimation of the brave new world. But I have watched the pendulum swing so far away from the focal patient to the focal computer/medical record, that nurses are experiencing mass motion sickness. A friend recently hospitalized lamented to me that her care was excellent, but provided entirely by CNA’s. The nurses on her busy floor spent all their time “typing on their computers”. Although that may not have been the whole truth, it seemed that way to the patient.

A few years ago, my prediction for the future of medicine revolved around the hope that the “powers that be” would see this was not effective in providing state of the art health care, and that health care practices would move to a more hemostatic level. Is it too late to restore common sense to medicine?

