



Summer 2024  
Volume 14 Number 2

# What's TAPANing

The Official Newsletter of the West Texas and Panhandle Region

Hello wesTpan members!

Summer is finally here! I hope everyone has had a wonderful year so far! Peri Anesthesia Nurses Awareness Week (PANAW) was at the beginning of February, and I hope every one of you were able to celebrate with your fellow Peri Anesthesia nurses!

Don't forget to check out our Member Spotlight section. This newsletter includes one of our newly certified nurses! If you, or someone you know, would like to be mentioned in the Spotlight, please send us a picture and a short bio, and we will get it in the next newsletter. If there is more than one entry, we will publish the first one we receive and include the next one in the next newsletter. Everyone deserves time in the spotlight for the great work they do!

We continue to look for additional liaisons from other parts of the region, so if you are interested, please contact us. Liaisons are needed for every area in the wesTpan region, except Lubbock. Our liaison in Lubbock does a fabulous job! We would love to have suggestions and any help from you that you can give.

If you have any ideas for activities or educational opportunities, please send an email to [admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com](mailto:admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com). If you are interested in organizing an event with the other PeriAnesthesia nurses in your area to benefit your community or organization, but are not sure what to do, please let us know. We will help you with ideas or answer any questions you may have.

Please go to the ASPAN website at <http://www.aspan.org>, the TAPAN website at <https://www.tapan.org>, and the wesTpan website at <http://tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com> for information about our organization. You can also get ideas about ways to get more engaged and involved. Any time you can give will be greatly appreciated!

Thank you for all you do every day for your family, friends, coworkers and communities! Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Sincerely,

*Trina Mora, MSN, RN, CAPA, CPAN*

## What's inside this issue

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Join the

[wesTpan Region](#)

group on Facebook!

Pictures, comments,  
events are posted regularly!



**January 1 – December 31, 2024**

**Invite your colleagues to join ASPAN today!** To thank you for your recruitment work, a variety of awards are available for members who participate.

You can obtain promotional materials and membership applications by contacting ASPAN's National Office toll free at 877-737-9696 or emailing: [dhanisch@aspan.org](mailto:dhanisch@aspan.org). Request as many copies as you like and be sure to place your name as the recruiting member on each application you distribute.

Go to <https://www.aspan.org/members/Member-Get-A-Member-Campaign> to get information and claim your rewards!!

## **Campaign Awards**

- Five names (one from each Region) are randomly drawn each quarter. Winners receive an award of their choice from **Tier One.**
- **Recruit 4-9 new ASPAN members in 2024** and receive an award of your choice from **Tier One.**
- **Recruit 10 or more new ASPAN members in 2024**, and receive an award of your choice from **Tier Two.**
- **The Recruiter of the Year, the individual who recruits the most members during 2024** will win one free year of ASPAN membership (*non-transferable*), one free 5-day registration to the 2025 ASPAN National Conference (*non-transferable*), and a commemorative plaque.

Image and text direct from <https://www.aspan.org/members/Member-Get-A-Member-Campaign>

# Nursing Celebrations Midland Memorial Hospital Peri- Anesthesia Nurses Week



From Left: Trina Mora, Dora Leyva, Erica Cudic, Alissa Greenhaw, and Estela Jimenez  
Picture taken by Erica Herren.



From Left: Morgan Powell, Dora Leyva, Dr. Ken Brooks, Chasity Shelton  
Picture taken by Erica Herren.



From Left: Dr. Torres, Sabrina Smith, Cathy, Aletxa Ramirez, and Kim Natividad  
Picture taken by Erica Herren.

# National Nurses Week 2024 Midland Memorial Hospital



From Left: Erica Cudic, Morgan Powell, Jessica Herrera, Estela Jimenez, and Sandra Aguirre  
Picture taken by Liz Garcia.



Grace Ambulatory Surgical Center  
Kicking off Nurses Week  
Grace ASC 2024 Team



Bottom Left: Gina Davis, Emily Everhart, Judy Haughawaut, Alma Aguirre; Middle Left: Britney Bryant, Samantha Reeves, Susan Fortner, Renae Smith, Roni Machado; Top Left: Leo Prieto, Stacy Bost, Cara Bragg, Jeff Knott, Dylan Kitten, Tyler Grothues  
Pictures provided by Gina Davis



From the Left: Leo Prieto, Dylan Kitten, Stacy Bost, Jeff Knott, Susan Fortner, Emily Everhart, Samantha Reeves, Britney Bryant, Gina Davis  
Picture taken by Molly Phalen (Rep).  
Submitted by Gina Davis

# 2024 National Conference in Orlando, FL

April 14th-17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Photos provided by editor unless otherwise noted.



From Left: Katherine Simpson, Mollie Smith, Linda Jones, Jessica Herrera, Geraldine Delos Santos, Elizabeth Martin  
Picture taken by Teresa Dudley



From Left: Felicia Selman, Jessica Herrera  
Picture by Candace Miller



ASPAN National Conference Attendees from Left: Jessica Herrera and Erica Herren  
Picture taken by an unknown ASPAN attendee

### Using Gamification, By Erica Herren

I Remember That! – Using Gamification to Improve Knowledge Retention with PeriOp Staff  
Speakers: Kayla Haugen, MS, BSN, RN, CPN and Karen Johnson, MSN, RN, CNOR

This was a great educational session! With it being a hands-on experience, participation in the audience was highly achieved. The simulation activity that created the hands-on learning experience was the Relay Races for the Airway Train. Staff had to assist the Anesthesiologists with reintubation and securing the airway, which includes the blade, ET tube, stylet and Magill forceps. The Relay consisted of two teams who each had, 10 minutes to build the train and patient scenario cards with supplies provided at the foot of the bed. Once your train was completed with the appropriate supplies needed for the tasks, the conductor blew the whistle. Examples were given for other Relay Race challenges, such as Family Feud, and Malignant Hyperthermia Escape Rooms.

We have previously created a Malignant Hyperthermia Escape room for our perioperative team. Attending these educational sessions, provides opportunity for improvement on our current training plans. With this information, I plan to create a more challenging Malignant Hyperthermia Escape room and will implement more Relay challenges. Such as, the Belmont Relay for Blood set-ups. This creates a better experience for the learner with more opportunity to meeting the desirable learning outcomes.

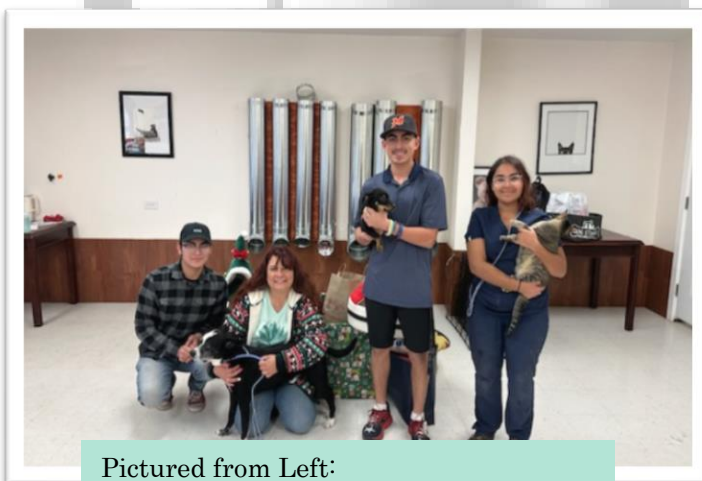
Erica Herren, BSN, RN, CNOR



# Paws of Celebration! December 2023



From Left:  
Jessica Herrera holding Chad  
Lucas Herrera holding Turbo  
Picture taken by Cynthia Spradlin.



Pictured from Left:  
Staff member Rob  
Jessica Herrera holding Chad  
Lucas Herrera holding Turbo  
Staff member Karen holding Meatball  
Picture taken by Cynthia Spradlin

Dear Friends,  
Thank you for your super amazing Christmas pet gifts! You were truly the "Santa Paws" for our pets, and they have been enjoying all the dog + cat toys, pet huts, collars, dog + cat treats, blankets, + towels. Y'all are true heroes to our furry friends, + they send their friendliest wags, purrs, and cuddles. ♡  
Sincerely,  
Rebecca



# Scholarship Opportunities!!

Check *THIS* out!! There are many scholarship opportunities available to you as an ASPAN member! Don't miss out! Start planning now to submit your information for these important member benefits.



ASPAN Scholarship/Award Program includes money for BSN, MSN, and PhD tuition, ASPAN National Conference, CPAN or CAPA Certification, Humanitarian Missions, and even the Nurse in Washington Internship. Applications and information will be available at ASPAN.org. Research grants are also available for many types of research projects. This is free money for you to use as a member of ASPAN.

There are also opportunities through the state level. The Texas component membership provides scholarships for advanced degree education and continuing education, grants for Medical Mission trips, and research. Information for these awards can be found at TAPAN.org. Part of the dues you pay every year for membership goes toward providing money to help nurses like you learn and teach from home, at school, and abroad.

The region can help as well. West Texas and Panhandle region offers scholarships as well. The information and application are available at our website. Please email [admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com](mailto:admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com) with any questions about any of the opportunities listed above.

Last, but not least, ABPANC offers scholarships for those of you looking to get certified as CPAN and /or CAPA. Visit their website for requirement and application information. What have you got to lose? There is plenty of financial help out there for you, take advantage of it.

\$\$ wesTpan Financial Report \$\$  
Report as of March 30, 2024

INCOME as of March 30<sup>th</sup> 2024  
(including dues, fundraising, donations, etc)  
\$ 184.96

EXPENSES as of March 30<sup>th</sup> 2024  
(reimbursements, meeting expenses)  
\$ 286.50

BALANCE: \$5,860.14

## wesTpan Region Officers

### President

Trina Mora MSN, RN,  
CAPA, CPAN  
Midland, TX

### Vice President

Jessica Herrera BSN, RN,  
CAPA, CPAN  
Midland, TX

### Interim Treasurer

Jessica Herrera BSN, RN  
CAPA, CPAN  
Midland, TX

### Secretary

Erica Herren BSN, RN,  
CNOR  
Midland, TX

### Webmaster

Jessica Herrera BSN, RN,  
CAPA, CPAN  
Midland, TX

Any officers can be contacted  
at:

[admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com](mailto:admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com)





# ASPAN

American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

*Visit all the websites to gain valuable information about education, scholarships, membership, benefits, and on and on. This is your organization! You belong to a great group of professionals with tons of resources at your fingertips!*



## Member Spotlight

*Hi, my name is Alissa Greenhaw and I have been a registered nurse at Midland Memorial for 3 years. My inspiration to be a healthcare worker stemmed from my mom who is an RN and my grandmother who was a nurse practitioner. Nurses directly impact a patient's outcome and overall hospital experience. I knew I wanted to be an advocate for anyone going through those times! To me, some important aspects of nursing include compassion and being mentally tough. Without mental toughness, it can be easy for nurses to become overwhelmed and lose other wonderful qualities that they can share with patients. I received my Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from California State University Monterey Bay and then went on to get my Bachelor of Science in Nursing from South Dakota State University. I became an ASPAN member in 2024. I passed my CPAN exam in April of 2024 before getting married in early May. I love being a nurse and I hope to continue to serve the people of Midland and the West Texas Region the best I can.*

## 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<sup>th</sup> - Spring newsletter  
May 15<sup>th</sup> - Summer newsletter  
August 15<sup>th</sup> - Fall Newsletter  
November 15<sup>th</sup> – Winter newsletter

Photos are property of the editor unless otherwise noted. Send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions (including individual achievements!) to [admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com](mailto:admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com)

## *Save the date!*

**24/7/365**

### Willingness to Serve

TAPAN and wesTpan websites are *always* ready to take Willingness to Serve forms!

Show how much you care for your patients and your profession by filling out a form found on the websites under the “forms” tab.

August 15<sup>th</sup>

### Fall 2024 Newsletter submission deadline

Submit events, pictures, congratulations, and even jokes to [admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com](mailto:admin@tapan-westtexas-panhandle.com)

The next

### wesTpan Member Meeting

June 9th @ 5PM

July 1 –October 31, 2024

### ABPANC Fall Exam Registration

Check out the website at: [www.cpancapa.org](http://www.cpancapa.org) Be sure to review the new rules for testing and recertification.

September 15-November 15, 2024

### ABPANC Fall Exam Window

Visit [www.cpancapa.org](http://www.cpancapa.org) for updates

September 27-28th, 2024

### TAPAN 48<sup>th</sup> Annual State Conference

Registration information available this summer

April 27<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

### ASPAN 44<sup>th</sup> National Conference

Dallas, Texas. See website for updates

Visit [www.ASPAN.org](http://www.ASPAN.org)

