

President's Message

I would like to begin by saying THANK YOU. It is a great honor to be able to serve as your 2008-2009 President.

Thank you to the Board of Directors who have supported and believed in me. I am extremely grateful for their thoughtful interest and mentorship.

Thank you to you-the members, current past and future...You are our reason for being here!

Beyond the walls of the traditional "PACU" many of you are engaged in various areas; pre-procedure assessment, pre-op areas, physician's and dentist's offices or functioning in multiple roles in surgery centers. Although you may sometimes feel "out of the lime light", I want to specially thank you for the excellent, highly skilled and compassionate care all of you provide our patients. We are all perianesthesia nurses!

Speaking of great care- Who will follow after us? There's a saying "We are all pre-op; some of us just haven't been posted on the schedule yet!" In reviewing our membership roles and looking around any work area it comes as no surprise- we are all getting older. It's up to us to keep each other going and encourage others to join our profession.

It is incredibly important that

all of us acknowledge the importance of our specialty through our personal accounts. I encourage you to share your stories. Tell your families, friends and neighbors the memorable moments of your career. What makes you get up and come back to work each day? What are you most proud of? Thank you for your continued efforts to bring others into the field of nursing.

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to attend ASPAN's Component Development Institute in Salt Lake City. Topics included; financial management, strategic planning, newsletter development, and membership recruitment and retention. Throughout the next year you will be hearing more about ASPAN's initiatives regarding "going green". Something's you'll notice are an increase in on-line surveys, teleconferencing, a decrease in paper mailings, and more referencing to the web-site links. In concert with the "Going Green" efforts, VSPAN will be decreasing use of paper and holding more board meeting via teleconference.

VSPAN remains committed to providing you, our members the knowledge and skills to enhance your practice; we will continue to do so via our newsletter Vital Times, Educational seminars with ASPAN, State Conference,



Deirdre Cronin, President

local seminars and management company communications. Your involvement is essential!!!

First and foremost we need your feedback. We are constantly striving to improve our support to our members. Your opinion counts, so

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2008 Annual State Conference Report

VSPAN's 2008 Annual Conference kicked off Saturday September 27th in Williamsburg, at the Williamsburg Hospitality House, a lovely hotel with a colonial theme in the Historic District.

There was a pre-conference ASPAN educational seminar on Friday September 26th, presented by ASPAN representative Linda Wilson: *Complexities and Challenges of Perianesthesia Nursing Across the Ambulatory and Perianesthesia Continuum*. This proved to be a very informative seminar with lots of questions and audience interaction.

Saturday's conference had topics on Evidence Based Practice and Research in Perianesthesia Practice, Advances in Laparoscopic Procedures, ASPAN updates, Bariatric surgery, and ABPANC- certification information. Again there were a lot of questions and audience interaction.

VSPAN conducted their business meeting right before lunch and closed the meeting with installation of the 2009 officers: President: Deirdre Cronin, Vice President: Karen Schaeffer, Immediate Past President/Nomination Chair: Donna Goyer, Secretary: Barbara Meyer, Treasurer: Julie Jackson.

The conference closed on Sunday September 28th after the morning session of topics: The Automated Process –



From Left: Julie Jackson, Karen Schaeffer, Barbara Meyer, and Deirdre Cronin at the Induction of Officers Ceremony.



Donna Goyer, Immediate Past President gives her outgoing speech.



Tanya Spiering from CBSPAN and Chris Price from ASPAN at the Board Meeting held Friday night.

Building Smarter from the Beginning, Multiple Drug Resistant Organisms - Implications for Our Practice.

The final presentation was by our new President Deirdre Cronin and Sally Schemer on: *A Humanitarian Experience: Perianesthesia Nursing Delegation Visit to China*. The presentation showed an interesting look into nursing in China. The similarities and differences in perianesthesia nursing between China and the United States and how the delegation was received were also enlightening.

Conference 2008 was a great success: wonderful educational offerings, being able to meet members from various areas and discuss different processes and practices, the chance to win many beautiful baskets, the delicious food, and the chance to take in the many attractions in Williamsburg including the Historic District. Several of the attendees did the ghost tours of Williamsburg; others took advantage of shopping the outlets!!

A special thanks go out to: all the facilities, departments and individuals who provided baskets to be raffled. Also, thank you to Hortense Washington and Julie Severence who sold raffle tickets and assisted with the baskets.

We would also like to express our appreciation to Becky Battle from Lewis-Gale Hospital. Becky won the 50/50 raffle which

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VSPAN: GOING GREEN

In today's world there is increasing emphasis on going green. By doing so, we will preserve our natural resources and create a cleaner environment.

In 2009 VSPAN will be going green. Our first change will be that the Vital Times newsletter will be published on the VSPAN website www.virginiaspan.org.

For those who want a paper copy of Vital Times please request this in writing to VSPAN at: Post Office Box 334, Daleville, Virginia 24083.

In our move towards going green there will no longer be any printed hand-outs at our conferences. Speaker outlines which we receive will be available on the VSPAN website as well.

These are small changes, but as more organizations, companies, and individuals make changes, we all can make a difference!

*Laura Boitnott,
Public Relations Chair*

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benefited the American Cancer Society. She donated her winnings from the raffle to the American Cancer Society as well.

To all of those who attended conference this year and to those who were unable to attend, we hope to see you all at the 2009 conference in Staunton!

Laura Boitnott, RN

Pictures from the
State Conference



See www.virginiaspan.org for more pictures.

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please, **please** provide feedback directly to me, by filling out conference surveys here, or to our Vital Times Editor.

Secondly, I would like to ask you to consider service with the VSPAN board. Our organization provides voice for perianesthesia nurses directly to ASPAN. We need your assistance with regional educational and ASPAN cosponsored seminars. We are working on better ways to communicate those opportunities. Your help would be much appreciated.

The VSPAN board met the evening before state conference and we usually meet either by teleconference or as a group 6 times per year. All board meetings are open to members. Please ask any board member if you are interested in learning more.

I take pride in the fact that our educational opportunities are consistently well attended. This reflects that we are meeting our primary goal; providing you continued education as you provide the safest, most efficient care to all our perianesthesia patients.

As your new president, I look forward to serving you and working together to keep our specialty strong.

Be safe, work smart, never stop learning and have fun!

*Deirdre Cronin, BSN, RN, CPAN
VSPAN President*

Save the date!

2009 State Conference



September 26-27, 2009

The 2009 VSPAN State Conference will be held on September 26-27, 2009 at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center in Staunton, Virginia. Located at the cross roads of I-64 and I-81. Room rates for single and double occupancy are \$115.00. Hotel reservations must be made by August 24, 2009 for the guaranteed rate. Garage parking is available at the rate of \$4.00 per day. Check-in is at 4:00 pm; check-out is at 12:00 noon. Please contact the Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center directly to make room reservations at: 540-885-4848 or toll free at 866-880-0024.

Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center
24 S. Market Street
Staunton, Virginia 24401

*Welcome New
VSPAN Members*

Peggy A Clifton, MS

Roberta Sutherland, MSN, RN, CAPA
Virginia Hospital Center

LaTanya Waniese Rose, BSN, RN

Rebecca Jean Serra, RN
Inova Alexandria Hospital

Carol A Jensen, BSN, RN
UVA Health System

Dulce A Dela Rosa, RN

Roy D. Boone, RN
UVA Medical Center

Maureen Ireland Coyne, BSN, RN
Inova

Margaret Farr Young

Kristine M. Perry, BSN

Margaret B Ferguson, BSN, CCRN-R
Bon Secours St. Francis

Hannah Bellenbaum, BS, RN- USN

Paula Cutruzzula, RN
UVA Outpatient Surgery

Danea C. Garcia, RN, CPAN
Sentara Virginia Beach General

Nancy Roberts, RN, CAPA
VA Beach Ambulatory Surgery Ctr.

Princess Canda, RN

Debra Lynn Hunt, RN, ADN
Martha Jefferson Hospital

Reta S Buchanan, ADN

Christina Laberta, RN
Lewis-Gal Medical Center

Claudia D. Raymundo, RN

Krista Leigh Mann, RN

Loretta Moore, RN

Martha Mary Jacobs, BS
Inova Alexandria Hospital

Bonnie Williams Vineyard, RN
University of Virginia

Crystal L. King, CCRN, RN, ADN
Carilion Clinic

Kathleen Fleser, BS, RN, MBA
Riverside Regional Medical Ctr.

Elizabeth J Moran, BSN, RN
Georgetown University Hospital

Denese Copley-Rakestraw, BSN,
RN -*Prince William Surgery Center*

Denise Davis Adkins, ADN
Carilion Clinic

Linda Priest Wallis, BSN, RN
VCU Health System

Jacqueline C Amerson, RN, CPAN
Chesapeake General Hospital

*2008—2009
VSPAN Executive Committee*

President

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Newsletter Articles

Newsletter Articles Due by February 15, 2009

Please e-mail all articles for the next issue of Vital Times to VirginiaSPAN@aol.com.

Submission Guidelines:

- Articles must be typed.
- The author's name, title, institution, and work phone or e-mail address must be included for verification.

- References should be listed in the order they appear.
- Topics can range from patient assessment, nursing care, pharmacology reviews, case studies, research, management topics or a review of an educational offering.

Virginia Society of Perianesthesia Nurses
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The Society exists to promote quality care for patients and their families, by encouraging professional education, development of standards, research, certification, and specialization in all phases of perianesthesia nursing, and by providing a forum for exchange of ideas between health care providers involved in perianesthesia care.