



# NHANA Granite Gram

## NHANA Committees

### Executive Committee

**President - Lisa Sullivan CRNA, ARNP**

**Vice President - Robert Logano CRNA, ARNP**

**Secretary / Treasurer - Kelly DeFeo CRNA, PHD, ARNP**

**Director - Allison Dubois CRNA**

**Director - Anna Goodkin CRNA**

**Political Director- Gordon Kempe CRNA, MS, ARNP**

**Past President - John Hanlon CRNA, MSNA, ARNP**

*Promoting the best interests of our members; cooperate with the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists; facilitate cooperation between the nurse anesthetists and the medical professions, hospitals and other agencies interested in anesthesia; and in general to advance the science and art of anesthesia.*



## Presidents Report

Lisa Sullivan

I hope this New Year finds you all healthy and happy. I am proud and honored to be representing you as the new President of our NH association for this next 2 year term. As you might know, I graduated in 2001 from anesthesia training and became a Board member immediately. I have been actively involved ever since. So this is, to me, the culmination of 9 years of hard work and learning for me, and I will continue to work very hard on your behalf to protect and preserve the practice rights of NH nurse anesthetists.

I want to commend the previous 2 past presidents, John Hanlon and Kelly Defeo, whom I am indebted for their tireless efforts on our behalf. Their sacrifices, encouragement and leadership have been instrumental to the success of NHANA. They have been, and continue to be, my mentors and friends and for that, I am extremely grateful.

2009 Was a relatively quiet year for NH CRNA's. The Board was diligent. We had our regular meetings, including our annual dinner meeting in October, which was relatively well attended, though we would love to see 100% participation! We visited with old and new friends, had a nice meal and discussed our business. Anyone who did not attend can ask Kelly for a copy of the minutes. Mark your calendar for next October and gather your friends for a great night out on NHANA!

We are looking forward to the new 2010 legislative session. Our eyes are peeled for any potential restrictive practice bills. We continue to work closely with the NH Nurse Practitioner's Association and of course our own lobbyist, Jim Bouley. We are meeting with Jim on January 12th to do some strategic planning.

When Kelly was President, she encouraged us as a group, to try and become more involved in nursing and advanced practice nursing issues throughout the state. We made conscious efforts and have made, what I consider, great strides in this arena. We, as an organization, are now specifically invited to many events all over NH. Some are fundraisers and political events, some are targeted committees, and sometimes we are just called for our opinion on some issue. This is a truly unique situation to have a Nurse Anesthetist Association collaborating with other nursing organizations and with the Board of Nursing. We are envied by other state associations, and we have Kelly's insight to thank for it. The advantages to advanced practice nursing organizations being united are HUGE!

Last summer, John and I were invited to participate in meetings with the NH Nurses Association to collaborate on common issues. We discuss and brain-storm many important nursing issues and try to find solutions to problems. We meet quarterly, and it has given us a new perspective on nursing issues in the state by being part of this process. It also gives us name recognition in the nursing world of NH! *continued page 2 ...*

**Presidents Report \* Region 1 Update \* Current Events  
Public Relations \* CRNA Education**

# Presidents Report ... from Page 1

I have been active on the Board of Nursing Liaison Committee for about 3 years now. I was recently elected Committee Chair. This committee deals with licensure issues primarily, but extends as needed to assist the Board. I really enjoy the camaraderie of working with other Nurse Practitioners who are passionate about our profession. I would encourage anyone to volunteer on a nursing committee; it can be very fun and fulfilling.

I want to thank all of the NHANA members for your commitment to the care and safety of NH patients. I also want to thank the NHANA Board members for their constant support and encouragement, and their active commitment to our association. I could not do this without all of your help.

Please keep up to date with NHANA activities by visiting our website at [NHANA.org](http://NHANA.org) and if you do not receive our e-mail alerts, please update your e-mail address with our Webmaster Dave Robinson at [biz@atlanticis.com](mailto:biz@atlanticis.com)

Finally, I would love to hear from you, our members, to discuss any concerns or issues you might have or if you are searching for resources or support. Remember, we are here to serve you!

## Spotlight on Members

Congratulations to Barbara Callahan, CRNA who has been appointed President of the Medical Staff at Alice Peck Day Hospital! You go girl!

Dennis Heibine, CRNA continues as Chief of Anesthesia at Claremont Hospital.

**by: Lisa Sullivan**

## NHANA Political Action Committee

Please consider supporting NHANA-PAC. Our profession maintains its strength in many ways, one important way is through representation in Concord. We support candidates who will support and represent us in a positive way. We can only do this with your donations. We set our PAC contribution goal at \$10,000.00 for 2010. This means that each member would donate about \$65.00. This is less than one hour pay for most of us. We don't think it is too much to ask, and we definitely think it is an achievable goal. So PLEASE send your PAC donation (one hour's pay!!) to:

**NHANA-PAC c/o Gordon Kempe**  
PO BOX 356  
Hill, NH 03243

## Thinking about returning to college?

There are a few programs available that will help you achieve your Master's degree and many universities are now starting Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) degrees. These degrees can be taken on campus or on-line. Northeastern University in Boston is one that has a hybrid DNP program. If you have a Master's degree, you can receive your DNP after taking about 9 courses. You can do these full time three courses a semester in one year or part-time two courses a semester in about two years.

The way the hybrid program works is class meets in Boston a Friday and Saturday three times a semester. They meet at the beginning in the middle and at the end of each semester. Six days in Boston and the rest of the course work is on-line. This way you meet face to face with the professors and other students you collaborate with on-line.

It is a fun way to learn and meet new people, and further your education. There are some students that commute to Boston for class from Texas and Hawaii! I am in this program and if you are interested you can e-mail or give me a call. The Northeastern Website is:

<http://www.northeastern.edu/bouve/programs/dnp.html>.

**John Hanlon CRNA, MSNA, APRN**

# Region 1 Directors Report

by: Cheryl Nimmo

Greetings to all of you in New Hampshire! This winter has certainly been frigid and snowy. Great for the ski areas and those who love winter. But spring will be here before we know it. Despite the cold weather and the recent holiday season, I have been very busy working for you and all the members in Region 1.

Health reform issues continue to be at the top of the priority list. The AANA Board is in constant contact with our Washington, DC staff to stay up to the minute on every development in this historic legislative process. We have tough decisions to make to put CRNAs in the best position both professionally and financially during this time of reform. The AANA Board is making alliances with other health care provider groups to have a bigger voice in Washington. Our alliance with the ANA has proved fruitful—the White House knows who we are and even more importantly, they are asking us what we think.

Recently we partnered with AARP to comment on Medicare Part D to close the “doughnut hole” of drug costs and drug coverage for Medicare recipients.

At this point in my update, let me take the space to remind you how very important your dollars are to the federal CRNA-PAC. I encourage each of you to make a donation of ANY amount to the federal PAC. The PAC Committee is holding a contest for each state, counting total donations, and % of goal. The donation level is tied to the number of members in each state so even a small state has a chance to win. During the period of 11/5/08 to 9/30/09, New Hampshire members gave \$4,305 or 112% of its goal. The goal for the period October 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009 was \$522. Did you help your state reach this goal? You can go to [aana.com](http://aana.com) and click on the CRNA-PAC. There is an interactive map that gives each state's updated amount. More importantly, you can easily sign up to make your donation. I encourage each of you to make a donation today.

Because the issues of health care reform are changing daily, I urge you to access [aana.com](http://aana.com) frequently for continuous updates on the process and work the AANA Board and staff are accomplishing on a daily basis.

Recently the AMA prepared a Scope of Practice Data Series for ten professions including nurse practitioners, audiologists, optometrists, pharmacists, podiatrists, psychologists, physical therapists, oral/maxillofacial surgeons, and yes, CRNAs. The AMA's development of these scope of practice “modules” is an outgrowth of the establishment of the Scope of Practice Partnership (SOPP), of which the ASA is a member. The AMA has stated that it intends the modules to be resources for state and national medical associations to educate the policy makers regarding the qualifications of these ten “non-physician” professions that the AMA has identified as seeking expansion of scope of practice. These publications, which are meant for distribution to legislators, department of health officials, government officials, and others, purport to accurately describe and delineate the educational processes, requirements, state rules and regulations, laws, and scope of practice for each of these professions. The AANA is developing a thorough analysis of the nurse anesthetist module to prepare state nurse anesthetist associations for its anticipated use by medical societies in the legislative arena. To read President James Walker's letter to the AMA and for more information on the SOPP, go to the [aana](http://aana.com) website.

In February, I will attend the Assembly of School Faculty meeting in San Antonio, Texas. It would be wonderful to see some attendees from New Hampshire. The president-elect boot camp is March 19, 20, & 21 in Chicago. I will be speaking at this boot camp and look forward to meeting all the new president-elects. Last year's boot camp was well received by those in attendance, and I expect the same this year. For those of you who would like to work on New Hampshire's state association but feel you have no experience, this leadership conference grooms the president-elect to be an effective state president. *continued...*

Lastly, don't forget Midyear Assembly in Washington, DC April 24-28. Now more than ever, your elected federal officials need to see your face and hear your opinions. Make plans to join us in Washington.

I will be giving the AANA update at the NEANA Spring Meeting in Burlington, MA in April. I'm looking forward to visiting with all the Region 1 members at this meeting.

Now is the time to submit nominations for the AANA Annual Awards. For a complete list of awards, nomination forms, and due dates, check the AANA web site. I know we have many award worthy CRNAs in New Hampshire and Region 1. Last year, the AANA honored New Hampshire's Jack Neary posthumously for the Agatha Hodgins award. It would be wonderful to have one or more award winners from Region 1.

Thank you for your continued support and most of all for your input during the past six months. I am eager to hear from you about any issue or concern.

Please don't hesitate to contact me via email at [nokout8965@aol.com](mailto:nokout8965@aol.com).

Until the next time we meet, have a wonderful winter. Stay healthy, and keep warm.

**Cheryl L. Nimmo, CRNA, MSHSA**  
**AANA Region 1 Director**

### **NHANA Public Relations** *by John Hanlon*

As your NHANA Public Relations Chairperson, I like to wish everyone a fun CRNA week! National CRNA this year is January 24-30. If you have not received any free posters, pens, or buttons from the AANA to hand out, it may be too late. Supplies usually go very fast but you can still contact the AANA bookstore and see what may be left.

If you plan any fun activities at your facility, we love pictures for our web site and news letter. Please feel free to submit any for publication. Who knows, they may just end up in the AANA Journal sometime.

Our big NHANA PR activity will be the meet and greet legislator's night at the Barley House Lisa spoke about. It was a fun night and tremendous success last year. We had CRNAs and SRNAs talking to their legislators and educating them on exactly what a CRNA is and what we do.

We will be inviting all the legislators that are in session that day. We may also be contacting certain CRNA members to place a personal phone call to their legislator to also personally invite them. Hopefully this will ensure their attendance if one of their constituents will be present. Remember our board is here for you and we only plan a few things each you so we hope you'll be able to make it. **John Hanlon CRNA, MSNA, APRN**