

ASBN UPDATE

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Executive Director...Faith A. Fields, MSN, RN

Editor...Georgia C. Manning, MN, RN

JANUARY BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At the January 10th meeting, the Board took the following actions:

- Granted initial approval to the University of Monticello LPN/LPTN-to-RN Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing.
- Granted continued full approval to the South Arkansas Community College Practical Nurse Program. The status of deviations must be addressed in a progress report every six months until corrected.
- Granted continued full approval to the Ouachita Technical College Practical Nurse Program. All deviations must be reported every three months until corrected.
- Granted continued full approval to the North Arkansas College Associate Degree in Nursing Program. The status of deviations must be addressed annually until corrected.
- Granted continued full approval to the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Bachelor of Science Nursing Program.
- Granted continued full approval to the Har-Ber School of Nursing. One deviation must be corrected immediately and the other deviation must be addressed annually.
- Restored continued full approval to the Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute Practical Nurse Program. The next survey will be scheduled in two years.
- Granted approval to Westark College to allow high school seniors to be admitted into the PN program for two classes as an experiment. The ASBN Director of Nursing Education Programs and the college nursing administration will establish an evaluation schedule to study outcomes to be considered for continuation of the experimental program.

DOUGLAS LUCKETT APPOINTED TO BOARD

Douglas Luckett is the newest member appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee to the Board. Mr. Luckett is the Vice-President for Human Resources at the Crittenden Memorial Hospital in West Memphis and serves as adjunct faculty at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. He and his wife, Susan, have one daughter, Kelsey.

ASBN WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBER

The Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Sonya Arnold as Nursing Secretary/Receptionist-Cashier. Ms. Arnold attended the University of Central Arkansas, where she majored in business administration.

Ms. Arnold comes highly recommended by her former employers and colleagues. Please join us in welcoming her to the staff.

NEW APN COMMITTEE

An Advanced Practice Ad Hoc Committee has been appointed by Board President Shirlene Harris to address advanced practice issues. Board Member Hope Hartz, APN, is the chair. Other members are Board Member Karen Buchanan, RNP; Dr. Becky Lancaster, CNS; Kay May, ANP; Joni Yarnell, CNM, ANP, with Georgia Manning as board staff. The committee will meet quarterly as needed.

RENEW FAST ONLINE

If you hold an RN, LPN or LPTN license and you do not live in a compact state (DE, IA, MD, ME, NC, NE, SD, TX, UT or WI) visit www.state.ar.us/nurse for details about renewing online. RNs, LPNs and LPTNs renewing online do not have to mail in the renewal application. Advanced practice nurses and registered nurse practitioners must currently complete and mail in the renewal application.

LATE FEE NOW \$100

Your renewal must be received (by mail or online) in our office on or before the last day of the month in order to avoid the late fee. A late fee of \$100 will be imposed if your renewal is not received by the last day of the month, regardless of the postmarked date.

WANTED!!!! EMAIL ADDRESSES

The *ASBN UPDATE* will soon be sent by email to those individuals and institutions with email addresses on the newsletter listserve. Please send your current email address to tami.hill@mail.state.ar.us. All email address changes should also be communicated to this email address.

Please contact Tami Hill or Georgia Manning if you have any questions.

Office Location

University Tower Building, Suite 800
1123 S. University
Little Rock, AR 72204

Phone: 501/686-2700

FAX: 501/686-2714

Verifications: 501/682-2200

Website: www.state.ar.us/nurse

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday:
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Staff**Faith A. Fields, MSN, RN**

Executive Director

Phyllis DeClerk, RN

Director of Nursing Practice

Karen Hawkins

Director of Accounting & Information Services

Deborah Jones, RN, MNSc

Assistant Director of Nursing Practice

Fred Knight, JD

General Counsel

Georgia Manning, MN, RN

Director of Advanced Nursing Practice

Jackie Murphree, EdD, MNSc, RN

Director of Nursing Education Programs

Sonya Arnold, Receptionist/Cashier

Margie Brauer, Licensure Certification

Naomi Bryant, Examinations/Endorsements Coordinator

Chad Calhoun, Information Systems Administrator

Sarah Gibson, Disciplinary Coordinator

Tami Hill, Editorial Assistant/Advanced Practice Secretary

Mary Stinson, Education Secretary

Melinda Thornton, Executive Assistant

Nancy Walker, Licensure Renewal

The mission of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing is to protect the public and act as their advocate by effectively regulating the practice of nursing.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATES - 2000

February 14 Wednesday Disciplinary

February 15 Thursday Disciplinary

The public is invited to attend ASBN

Meetings. Groups of more than five should contact Melinda Thornton at 501/686-2704 for scheduling.

LOST OR STOLEN LICENSES

Reissued licenses will have **duplicate** stamped on them. Employers are urged to inspect the original license from a job applicant and verify identity with a photo ID.

Baker, Randy Lawrence	R55219	Long, Tamara Lynn	L19044
Anderson, Jaime L.	L39160	McCorkle, Carla Nell	L36475
Artripe, Jo Anne	L06052	Mereness, Rigmor	R36860
Beatenhead, Caroline Sue	R37009	Meyer, James Shores	L28009
Betts, Kelly Jean	R32538	Michael, Cassie Janelle	R29068
Birtcher, Nancy Carolyn	L15677	Mitchell, Marjorie	R04215
Bocan, Patricia Diann	C00154	Moore, Irene Elizabeth	L18958
Boles, Theresa Mae	L20636	Mullally, Vickey Elizabeth	R23968
Carnation, Kimberly Ann	R25728	Mulroy, Janet Flynn	R64810
Carpenter, Jami Rebecca	R54396	Myrick, Marie Patricia	L31375
Chism, Richard Allen	T01579	Parker, Deborah Katherine	R35384
Collins, Carolyn Liavonne	R14940	Parker, Kerry Lane	R51929
Cresswell, Peggy Lee	R41963	Pruitt, Scotty J.	L38509
Drosopoulos, Effie E.	R64083	Queen, Susan Elizabeth	R41206
Frijlink, Audley Ann	R21797	Reese, Joyce Marie	R13227
Green, Lashawn Michelle	L34116	Rose, Kim Marie	L27973
Hall, Kelly Sarah	R52104	Skinner, Cynthia B.	R40604
Hampton, Sherry Kay	R20091	Sprague, Mary Elizabeth	R64341
Harris, Tina Aline	R41013	Talbert, Debra Lynn	R38076
Harwell, Kim Annette	R55285	Taylor, Robert Lee	L38355
Herman, Dionndrea Lashon	L39531	Toney, Larry L.	R49153
Horton, Dana A.	L32720	Totty, Charlotte Lynn	R43202
Hutmacher, Cynthia Rose	R56418	Tucker, Gail Ann	R37007
James, Sherocko R.	R63483	Tyndall, Peggy Lorraine	R51396
Jeans, Charlotte Karen	R27800	Wagner, Dayna Sue	R35440
Johnson, Claire Bryan	R44288	Washburn, Suzanne E.	R56358
Kinder, Randy Lee	R30437	Webb, Margaret Sue	R33201
Kukla, Carol Sharon	R62630	West Jr, Barry Russell	R39866
Lafferty, Teresa	R43055	Whittington, Dolores A.	L17893
Laflora, Kimberly O.	R50246	Williams, Nancy Mae	L36147
Lambert, Cathy Annette	L21614		

GOVERNMENT ONLINE

For information about current bills in the legislature and the background and committee assignments of legislators, go to www.arkleg.state.ar.us. The Arkansas 83rd General Assembly Home Page also links to the committee agendas, meeting information and a listing of bills filed the previous or current day.

UAP ISSUE STUDIED

Currently the Office of Long Term Care regulates Certified Nursing Assistants in facilities of long term care. The ASBN Nursing Practice Committee is exploring the national trend to regulate the practice of unlicensed assistive personnel in all employment settings. If you have an interest in assisting the committee, please contact Deborah Jones at the ASBN office.

HOT CHECK NOTICE

The following nurses appear on the records of the ASBN for returned checks due to insufficient funds. If practicing in Arkansas, they may be in violation of the *Nurse Practice Act* and could be subject to disciplinary action by the Board. Please contact Karen Hawkins if any are employed in your facility.

Anderson, Patricia G.	L34938	Heffner, Krista Layne	R49019
Applegate, Jennifer	R65059	Hughes, Kelley	L34380
Bowman, Sarah C.	R49288	Long, Debra A.	L25461
Bradley, Rosa Marie	L16658	Lucas, Casandra	R48826
Carman, Jeanette M	R35966	Matthews, Brenda J.	L08194
Davis, Andrea Diane	L28378	Padgett, Jessica	L38715
Echols, Sara	R63268	Williams, Sally F.	L26287
Grainger, Julia Marie	L20674	Williams, Sommer D	L36335

A MESSAGE FOR ALL...

Editorial Note: The following article by Marie B. McCarthy, Chairperson of the Massachusetts Board of Registered Nurses, appeared in their Summer 2000 newsletter, Nursing Board News, and also in the Boston Globe. Much controversy surrounded this board's ruling on nurses involved in a deadly medication incident that fueled a nationwide study of medication errors. Ms. McCarthy's message regarding the nurse's responsibility to the patient and the board's responsibility to the public is a message all nurses need to hear. To conserve space, a few sentences have been deleted, but almost the entire article is directly quoted from Citizen Advocacy Center News & Views, Third Quarter 2000, that says that this "...board's actions underscore the impossibility of eliminating individual practitioner accountability...."

The (Massachusetts) Board of Registration in Nursing's decision to pursue complaints against eighteen nurses involved in the chemotherapy overdoses of two patients at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has generated much debate. These patients, who were participants in a research protocol for the treatment of breast cancer, repeatedly received excessive doses of medications. One patient died shortly after the overdoses. The other suffered

"Nurses are patients' last line of defense in a system that is supposed to protect patients from potentially harmful or lethal human errors."

serious heart damage. Now that these complaints have been closed, I would like to clarify several issues.

Licensed nurses are individually responsible and accountable for their practice. This is firmly established in state Nurse Practice Laws, the American Nurses' Association's Code for Nurses, and basic nursing texts. Massachusetts law says "Each individual licensed to practice nursing in the commonwealth shall be directly accountable for (the) safety of nursing care she delivers.

Nurse advocate Suzanne Gordon in her book *Life Support* writes "Both legally and ethically, nurses are responsible for the medications and treatments they administer. Nurses are patients' last line of defense in a system that is supposed to protect patients from potentially harmful or lethal human errors." Even to those who are not nurses, professional practice is an individual responsibility.

In the Dana-Farber cases, the prescribing physician and the dispensing pharmacists were held accountable for their errors and received discipline from their respective boards of registration. Dana-Farber has rightly assumed accountability for its role in these tragic overdoses. In reviewing the nurses' actions, the Board of Nursing is fulfilling its essential public protection

Just as it is wrong to ignore the systems and address only individual accountability for a preventable error, it is wrong to overlook the role of individuals...

role: to evaluate the actions of the licensed clinicians who are within its regulatory responsibility.

The Board recognizes that taking care of patients is a multi-faceted, complex process requiring not only the safest possible systems, but also competent individuals following safe standards within those systems. When preventable errors harm patients, both the system and individuals may be at fault. Just as it is wrong to ignore the systems and address only individual accountability for a preventable error, it is wrong to overlook the role of individuals in such an event.

The Dana-Farber has no legal authority to absolve nurses of their individual accountability. The Board is the single entity within Massachusetts that, on behalf of consumers, independently reviews the actions of nurses regardless of setting or employer policies.

The chemotherapy doses received by these patients were four times the

...a nurse must know why a patient is receiving a medication as well as the proper dosage, the anticipated effects and how and when the medication is to be administered.

amount called for in the research protocol. The standard of care requires the nurse to know that the dose of medication given is the correct dose, regardless of the actions of other professionals, including physicians. In all instances, a nurse must know why a patient is receiving a medication as well as the proper dosage, the anticipated effects, and how and when the medication is to be administered.

Observing the basic standards is critical in any research protocol where the medication dosages often vary significantly from established and familiar dosages.

The Board's goal in evaluating any complaint is not to punish nurses but rather to protect patients. If evidence shows that a nurse committed a serious breach of a safe practice standard, the Board seeks to determine why and how, and to structure a remedy to prevent future harm. In this matter, sixteen nurses and the Board agreed to license sanctions with conditions for continuing education or specialty certification.

Free from economic, political and prestige seeking pressures that may taint the perspectives of any organization in evaluating its own employees or systems, unbiased regulatory agencies such as the Board are best situated to examine events, systems and individual conduct based on accepted professional standards.

Licensing boards were specifically created to safeguard consumers' interest, and constitutional protections ensure they do so fairly. The Board understands and shares the public's well founded respect for and trust in nurses. The Board's action in these cases affirms the role of the nurse as an independent member of the healthcare team. Nurses' professional colleagues and their employees must recognize and support this role. Holding a nursing license imposes individual accountability. The law requires it and the public should expect no less.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FAITH FIELDS

We've seen a very real example of how each vote counts in the recent presidential election. As well, the voice of each nursing voter is extremely important during the upcoming legislative session. Most legislators do not realize that there are over 46,000 nurses licensed in the state. The Arkansas State Board of Nursing is pursuing four legislative initiatives in 2001. Each initiative is listed below with a short description of each.

Board Composition: The Board would like to decrease the number of licensed psychiatric technician nurses (LPTNs) represented on the board from three to one and increase the number of licensed practical nurses (LPNs) from three to four. Of the 46,000 nurses licensed by the Board, 508 are LPTNs and 15,000 are LPNs. Currently there are three LPTN and three LPN positions on the Board. To more equally represent the nursing population, the Board proposes that the composition be changed to decrease the LPTN and increase the LPN representation. Representative Denny Altes of Ft. Smith and Senator John Riggs from Little Rock are the primary sponsors.

Imposters: The Board approved pursuing legislation for authority to take action against individuals holding themselves out to the public as nurses when they are not. The Board has received reports regarding individuals who forge or steal a license from a nurse and seek employment on that license. Some have worked for years without a valid license to practice. The only option the Board has at this point is to report them to the prosecuting attorney, who rarely takes action unless a patient death is involved. Representative Sandra Rodgers from Hope has agreed to sponsor this legislation and we would like Senator Dave Bisbee from Rogers to carry it in the Senate.

Continued Competence: Fueled by recommendations from legislators during the last legislative session, the Board developed a task force to study other states' requirements for continued competence in nursing practice. The task force, comprised of nurses from numerous facilities, associations and organizations statewide, studied the issue for the last year. It was found that 32 states require some measure of continuing education for license renewal. Also, all other Arkansas licensed health care professionals have continuing education requirements for relicensure. The Board convened a statewide summit to get input from employers, nurses and the public about what the requirements should be. As a result, the task force developed a model for continued competence to be required of all nurses. The current proposal requires nurses to get: 15 contact hours of practice-focused continuing education, *or* specialty certification or recertification, *or* be enrolled in a nursing related college course. The legislation, which will be sponsored by Representative Gary Biggs of Paragould and Senator Jack Critcher of Grubbs, will give the Board the authority to establish regulations to implement these continuing education requirements.

FBI Criminal Background Check: Act 1208 of 1999 was enacted to require a state criminal background check as a prerequisite to nursing licensure. The Board proposes that the legislation be amended in the 2001 session to add a FBI fingerprint criminal background check as a requirement prerequisite to nursing licensure. Representative Jay Bradford and Senator Brenda Gullett will sponsor this legislation.

Other: There are two initiatives to be on the look out for in 2001 that may be offered by other groups. One would allow medication aides to administer medications in nursing homes and the other would allow paramedics to practice in a nursing role. I hope all of nursing will go forward together in this legislative session to stand up for public protection in patient care issues. Nurses need to get involved. Let your legislator know how you feel about the issues that he or she will be voting on. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of these initiatives further, contact Faith Fields at the Board office 501/686-2700 or via email at faith.fields@mail.state.ar.us.

POSITION STATEMENTS

The following is a list of the current ASBN position statements and practice updates available at www.state.ar.us/nurse or by purchase (see below).

- IV Conscious Sedation 94-1
- Scopes of Practice (rev. 5/98) 95-1
- Transmission and Acceptance of Verbal Orders 95-2
- The Performance of Stapling and Suturing for Superficial Wound Closure by RNs in the OR 97-1
- Assistance with Self Medication for Unlicensed Persons 97-2
- Insertion & Removal of Specialized Intravenous Catheters 97-3
- Administration of Analgesia by Specialized Catheter (Epidural, Intrathecal, Intrapleural) 98-1
- Insertion of Intrauterine Pressure Catheter 98-2
- Out of State Orders 98-5
- Decision Making Model (rev. 1/99) 98-6
- Extravascular Collagen Plugs 99-1
- Delegated Medical Acts 99-2
- APNs Prescribing for Self & Family 99-3
- Administration of Medications and/or Treatments 00-1
- Telenursing 00-2

Practice Updates:

- Sharp Wound Debridement 9/97
- School Nurse Practice Guidelines 5/00

ASBN ORDER FORM

Item Description	Cost
<i>Nurse Practice Act & Rules and Regulations</i>	7.00
ASBN UPDATE	
Newsletter (1yr. July-June)	15.00
<i>ASBN Annual Report</i>	20.00
8 1/2 X 11 Wall Certificate	18.00
License Type _____	
License # _____	
Position Statements (set of 15) <small>(Includes Practice Updates)</small>	5.00
Total \$ _____	

Please complete the following & mail to:
Arkansas State Board of Nursing
1123 S. University, Suite 800
Little Rock, AR 72204: (Please Print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

The format for reporting disciplinary actions includes the statutory citation of the violation.

Grounds for Disciplinary Action {Arkansas State Board of Nursing Nurse Practice Act, Rules and Regulations, ACA § 17-87-309(1995 Repl, 1997 Supp. and 1999 Supp)}:

(a) The Board shall have sole authority to deny, suspend, revoke or limit any license to practice nursing or certificate of prescriptive authority issued by the Board or applied for in accordance with the provisions of this chapter or to otherwise discipline a licensee upon proof that the person:

- (1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice nursing;
- (2) Is guilty of a crime or gross immorality;
- (3) Is unfit or incompetent by reason of negligence, habits, or other causes;
- (4) Is habitually intemperate or is addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs;
- (5) Is mentally incompetent;
- (6) Is guilty of unprofessional conduct;
- (7) Has had a license, certificate, or registration revoked, suspended or placed on probation or under disciplinary order in any jurisdiction;
- (8) Has voluntarily surrendered a license, certification, or registration and has not been reinstated in any jurisdiction; or
- (9) Has willfully or repeatedly violated any of the provisions of this chapter.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

January 10, 2001

Collins, Ronald
L29373, Malvern, AR
Probation Non-Compliance
Suspension - 1½ years

Dodd, Tracie Naomi Etter
L34703, Jonesboro, AR
Probation Non-Compliance
Suspension - 2 years
Complete previous Civil Penalty

Freeman, Nancy Jackson
R27161, Dover, AR
Request for Reinstatement
Reinstatement Granted

Hampton, Wanda Marie
R55869, L21817 (inactive)
Lakeview, AR
Probation Non-Compliance
Suspension - 6 months, followed by
Probation - 2 years

Harper, Charlene Denise McClain Morris
R50662, Manila, AR
Request for Reconsideration
Reconsideration Denied

Hodge, Nela Jean Cavaness Gettle
T01459, Russellville, AR
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance
Suspended until Board appearance

Isaac, Helen M. Hawkins Depriest
L38812, Yellville, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(2)&(a)(6)
Probation - 1 year
Civil Penalty - \$200
Course - Legal & Ethical Issues

Rhule, Tina Marie Williams White
L26259, Hot Springs, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(a)(6)
Suspension - 1 year
Civil Penalty - \$600

Wilson, Alexandra Nicole
L36588, Benton, AR
Probation Non-Compliance
Suspension - 1 year

Consent Agreements

Erickson, Robin Denice Brown
L19599, T01389, Benton, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(2)&(a)(6)
Probation - 1½ years
Civil Penalty - \$600

Fritsch, Charles Henry
R56247, DeWitt, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(a)(6)
Probation - 2 years
Civil Penalty - \$800

Stanfill, Carolyn Sue Blan
L24584, Marmaduke, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)
Probation - 1½ years
Civil Penalty - \$500

Sweeden, Anita Ann Sweeden Gates
R44218, Van Buren, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)
Probation - 1 year
Civil Penalty - \$600

Wooton, Ivette Gierbolini
R52361, L30403 (exp)
Fayetteville, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(a)(6)
Probation - 3 years
Civil Penalty - \$1,500
Course - Legal & Ethical Issues

Letters of Reprimand

Main, Alisa Marie Bryan
L38012, Seligman, MO
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)
Course - Medication Administration

Qin, Yiyue
R53672, P01711, Little Rock, AR
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)
Course - Legal & Ethical Issues

Probationary Status Removed

Allen, Peggy Lorene Bryson
R55323, Hot Springs, AR
November 27, 2000

Johnston, Rebecca Beal Bowen
R27574, P00881
December 18, 2000

Laflora, Kimberly O Bass
R50246, Malvern, AR
November 22, 2000

Surratt, Christopher L
R63603, Jonesboro, AR
November 22, 2000

Thompson, Patricia Ellen
R49364, Austin, AR
November 22, 2000

Reinstatements

Brown, Jimmy William
L24304, DeWitt, AR
November 22, 2000, followed by
Probation - 2 years

Miller, Barbara Ann England
R51520, Uniontown, AR
November 27, 2000, followed by
Probation - 1 year

Voluntary Surrender

Clay, Sheri Brock
R35948, Benton, AR
December 5, 2000

McKeel, Melissa Jean
L36454, East Camden, AR
November 16, 2000

Arkansas State Board of Nursing
 1123 South University, Suite 800
 Little Rock, AR 72204

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IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE BOARD HAVE YOUR CURRENT NAME AND ADDRESS

Has your name or address changed? If so, please complete this form and return it to:
Arkansas State Board of Nursing, 1123 S. University, Suite 800, Little Rock, AR 72204

ADDRESS CHANGE <i>(NO FEE)</i>	For identification, please provide the following:
Name:	SSN# _____
New Address:	License # _____
City, State, Zip, County	I DECLARE MY PRIMARY STATE OF RESIDENCE TO BE: _____
	SIGNATURE: (MUST BE SIGNED) _____

NAME CHANGE

(Notarized copy of marriage licence or court action must accompany fee.)

Current Name: (Last, First, Middle, Maiden)	ENTER LICENSE NUMBER AND ENCLOSE \$10.00 FOR EACH LICENSE HELD.	
Address:	LPN _____	\$10.00 _____
	LPTN _____	\$10.00 _____
City, State, Zip, County	RN _____	\$10.00 _____
	APN _____	\$10.00 _____
Former Name (Last, First, Middle, Maiden)	RNP _____	\$10.00 _____
		Total _____