



# CARING FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN



## Ohio Association of School Nurses

Summer Quarter Newsletter

September 2007

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Dear OASN Member,

Have you visited the OASN website lately? Members can find access to past newsletters, legislative updates, a *Health Notes Section* (personalize and print a health newsletter for your school), and important announcements.

The newsletter editor continues to seek information about community health events or fairs, awards or recognition received by school nurses in your community, and other items of interest.

Have a great school year!

[www.oasn.org](http://www.oasn.org)

### • President's Message

OASN Invited to First Lady of Ohio's  
Roundtable

OASN was invited to attend a roundtable discussion on education and health on Friday, August 10th, that was facilitated by Frances Strickland, the First Lady of Ohio. Attending this roundtable was Norma Nikkola and Renee Besecker. Also in attendance were school administrators from across the state; representatives from the Ohio Department of Education; the Ohio Department of Health; the American Cancer Society; Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance Association; State Planning Committee for Health Education in Ohio; Ohio School Boards Association; Buckeye Association of School Administrators; Miami University; and the Ohio Department of Transportation.

The focus of the meeting, as stated by Mrs. Strickland, was to discern what society values in health. Discussion was informal, with attendees identifying specific characteristics or attributes that impact our general health status and what has gotten us to this point in our schools. Some of the educational factors identified were the tendency to teach what's "tested"; lack of standards for physical education; educational decision-making that may be good in the short-term but not the long-term; and the emphasis on science, technology and math and with the drain away from other subjects.

Societal values identified that impact health were free speech, free market, time/convenience, money, celebrity, individualism, team/collaboration, instant gratification, hip hop culture, status, and in Ohio, anti-taxation. Discussion then turned to possible solutions for change such as No Child Left Inside, a program to combat denial of physical education and recess being used for punishment, especially for students with ADHD or emotional disorders. There was quite a bit of discussion about coordinated school health with a member of SPCHEO describing the summer conferences and team-building with educators to develop a model for their districts. A School Health Report Card was also suggested. Support for HB 254 which establishes an Ohio child wellness advisory council in the office of the governor was also mentioned. Current bill language includes the OASN to be represented on the council. The Ohio School Boards Association representative reminded those present that whatever programs for change were developed, the local school board would have to be sold on the program and give their approval.

A pocket-folder with position statements on the role of the school nurse, facts on school nursing in Ohio,

Dear Ohio School Nurses,

Don't you just LOVE summer?

It gives us a chance to renew our friendships and strengthen our family ties. It is a chance to renew our inner peace and recharge with new ideas for our school nursing career. I trust that everyone enjoyed the summer and accomplished a lot.



OASN has been busy this summer and we completed our summer retreat in July. Here are a few of the items that have been worked on during the months since annual conference:

- There were some concerns brought up about construction of new health clinics in the state that were not adequate for the needs of the school nurse. A packet of information was gathered from school nurses statewide by our executive director, Renee Besecker, and sent to the state committee as OASN recommendations about what should be included in a proper health clinic. This list was ranked from most important to desirable but not a necessity. If your school is doing building renovations and you would like a copy of this document please notify someone on the OASN board.
- The governor went around the state to gather information about safe schools. He was trying to find out what is already being done and what needs to be looked into in the future. School nurses in Ohio had the opportunity to give written and oral testimony. I want to thank everyone that sent in written testimony and give a special thanks to Nancy Moska for giving oral testimony in the Youngstown area.
- The NASN conference was held in Nashville- June 28-July 1. This was an exciting conference with our own Norma Nikkola honored as the National School Nurse of the Year. Norma was also elected and installed as NASN's secretary/treasurer. Congratulations Norma for

and coordinated school health as well as the DVD on coordinated school health from Dr Cooper was presented to Mrs Strickland by the representatives from OASN. In conclusion, Mrs Strickland said she might be calling this group together again in the future.

We'll keep you posted.

Prevent Blindness Ohio has a grant to implement continuing education programs on vision health with Dr Christopher Rizzo as the presenter. They would like to schedule Dr Rizzo for more programs. If there are regions or other school nurse groups interested in scheduling Dr Rizzo, they should contact Wendy @ [wendyk@pbohio.org](mailto:wendyk@pbohio.org) for questions or scheduling.

Dr. Christopher Rizzo was also a presenter at the 2007 OASN conference. His current role is the Program Director for Maximizing Office Based Immunization (MOBI), a program of the Ohio Chapter AAP and the Ohio Dept. of Health. In the May newsletter, an interest was explained in regard to a trial of a "question and answer" section on the topic of [immunizations](#) within the OASN newsletter. In addition, our webmaster, Juliet Kolde, has developed a resource section with many useful websites for further information.

<http://www.oasn.org/Resources.htm#immunizations>

So, we still need to hear from you! If you have any immunization questions that you would like Dr. Rizzo to answer, please forward them to [newsletter@oasn.org](mailto:newsletter@oasn.org). We'll send your email questions onto Dr. Rizzo and post the answers in the OASN newsletter (November 2007)!

### Upcoming conferences

--7th Annual Immunization Conference

"Vaccinations B-Z"(No Avian!)

October 12, 2007

both honors!! Joan Hlinomaz, from SW Ohio was the poster presentation winner---way to go Joan!!

The preconference leadership class was lead by motivational speaker Mary Kay Slowinkowski. She presented different leadership styles and we ranked ourselves to find out what style we presented with. After the presentation, we approached Mary Kay and she is saving the dates in her calendar for our state conference. Updates on that will come later.

There were many educational offerings over the course of the conference and it was a great conference. One of the highlights of the conference for me was the opportunity to present grant information from a walking project that I did at one of my schools. This was presented at a breakout session entitled, "It Worked at my School".

There is much to look forward to in this school year. One important event that I want you to put on your calendars is the OASN Annual Conference to be held April 3-6, 2008 in Huron, Ohio at Sawmill Creek Resort. Plans are underway and I know it will be another outstanding OASN educational offering. Just for future reference, the NASN conference is scheduled for June 28-July 1, 2008 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. These are events that need your attendance and it is never too early to start saving funds to make your presence at both of them a reality.

Thank you for all that you do to make the students in Ohio safe and healthy. Have a great school year!!

Sincerely,

Kathy Inderbitzin, RN, BSN, MEd.

OASN President

[president@oasn.org](mailto:president@oasn.org)

The Ritz Carlton Cleveland

Cleveland, Ohio

--Update on Inhaler Use in the Treatment of Asthma AND Are You on Board With Tobacco Counseling?

September 20, 2007

Dayton Children's Medical Center

Dayton, Ohio

For further information about conferences and events, please visit the OASN website.

Conference/event website :

<http://www.oasn.org/Events/events.htm>

2006-2007

Board of Directors

President

Kathy Inderbitzen(NW)

[president@oasn.org](mailto:president@oasn.org)

President-elect

Deborah Strouse (C)

[presidenelect@oasn.org](mailto:presidenelect@oasn.org)

Vice President

Maureen Knowles(NW)

[vicepresident@oasn.org](mailto:vicepresident@oasn.org)

- **Update on Ohio School Facilities Commission & School Clinics**

On May 10th, Deb Strouse, Norma Nikkola, Sam Whitaker and Renee Besecker attended a meeting at Ohio School Facilities Commission to discuss school clinic design and offer information for the improvement of clinic renovation or construction. We met with Michael Shoemaker, Chair of the OSFC and Steve Lutz, Planning Chair of the OSFC. Both were attentive and receptive to our examples of poorly designed school clinics or those located in areas of schools that were not designed for that purpose. We talked about what should be included in clinics undergoing renovation or newly constructed using articles from the Journal of School Health, citing OSHA standards, and examples submitted by school nurses. We learned that money and space are the factors that influence the final outcomes.

Mr Lutz shared the architectural plans that the OSFC has for elementary, middle school, and high school clinics. These plans appeared to meet the most basic needs for a school clinic but we were told that school administrators did not necessarily have to follow them. Mr Lutz and Mr Shoemaker invited us to submit what we thought were necessary elements for well designed clinic and those elements that would be great to have but not necessary. After this meeting we went back to the OASN membership and asked for their input. There was a great outpouring of ideas and more examples of poorly designed clinics from OASN members. In June, a letter along with a comprehensive list of necessary features for a fully functioning school clinic, many supported by JSH articles and OSHA and the Ohio Revised Code, was sent to the OSFC.

The Ohio Association of School Nurses has asked for a follow up meeting with the OSFC. We will be meeting with them on August 27th to discuss the list and obtain their recommendations for how school nurses can have better outcomes for a healthy working environment and the welfare of their students. A follow up article will be featured in the fall OASN newsletter or the OASN website ([www.oasn.org](http://www.oasn.org)).

- **SWOSNA NEWS**

The SWOSNA board meeting/transition meeting

Secretary

Jan Florian (NW)

[secretary@oasn.org](mailto:secretary@oasn.org)

Treasurer

Deborah Stoner (C)

[treasurer@oasn.org](mailto:treasurer@oasn.org)

NASN Representative

Aurelia Barney (NE)

[nasnrep@oasn.org](mailto:nasnrep@oasn.org)

OASN Executive Director

Renee Besecker (SW)

[exdirector@oasn.org](mailto:exdirector@oasn.org)

Central Region Representative

Joan Keith

[centralrep@oasn.org](mailto:centralrep@oasn.org)

East Region Representative

Tracy Childress

[eastrep@oasn.org](mailto:eastrep@oasn.org)

Northeast Region Representative

Mary Massey

[northeastrep@oasn.org](mailto:northeastrep@oasn.org)

Northwest Region Representative

Marie Kraus

[nothwestrep@oasn.org](mailto:nothwestrep@oasn.org)

Dayton, OH. SWOSNA membership grew to 181 members during the 2006-2007 year. The officers for the 2007/08 year are:

- President: Judy Marrinan ([judy@marrinan.us](mailto:judy@marrinan.us))
  - President-Elect: Crystal Thornton ([Thornton4@aol.com](mailto:Thornton4@aol.com))
  - Past President: Eva Garchar ([egarchar@aol.com](mailto:egarchar@aol.com))
  - OASN Rep.: Joan Hlinomaz ([jhlinomaz@yahoo.com](mailto:jhlinomaz@yahoo.com))
  - Secretary: Marian Doukoure ([rnschool1967@yahoo.com](mailto:rnschool1967@yahoo.com))
  - Treasurer: Cheri Hunkemoeller ([chunkemoeller@fuse.net](mailto:chunkemoeller@fuse.net))
  - Membership: Judy Ganguly ([judyganguly@hotmail.com](mailto:judyganguly@hotmail.com))
  - Newsletter: Peggy Brockmeier ([peggynurse@aol.com](mailto:peggynurse@aol.com))
  - Public Relations: Andrea Smalls ([andrea.smalls@sbcglobal.net](mailto:andrea.smalls@sbcglobal.net))
  - Webmaster: Julie Kolde ([kolde@fuse.net](mailto:kolde@fuse.net))
  - Ways and Means: Kay Larson ([larson\\_k@hcesc.org](mailto:larson_k@hcesc.org))
- Pat Roach ([pat.roach@anson.k12.oh.us](mailto:pat.roach@anson.k12.oh.us))
- Historian: Jenny Boles ([jenny\\_boles@fuse.net](mailto:jenny_boles@fuse.net))

SWOSNA voted to contribute \$50 to OASN for the ASHA/ODH exhibit. Also, a \$25 donation was given to OASN for the 2007 Ohio NASN Conference basket.

SWOSNA received five nominations for the 2007 Cameos of Caring Award hosted by Wright State University (WSU). Geneva Connally RN, BSN, MEd has been chosen as the 2007 recipient. She will be honored this fall at WSU in Dayton, OH.

Several SWOSNA members attended the NASN Annual Conference in Nashville, TN. Norma Nikkola was honored at the banquet for being the National School Nurse of the Year. Joan Hlinomaz won the NASN research poster presentation award for her study on "The Effect of a School-Based Physical Activity Program on Student Attendance," funded by the OASN Carolyn Azbell Research Award.

The first SWOSNA Board meeting for the 2007/08

Southeast Region Representative

Annette Scott

southeastrep@oasn.org

Southwest Region Representative

Joan Hlinomaz

southwestrep@oasn.org

Member-at-Large

Eva Garcher(SW)

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership

Kim Toole (SW)

Nominations

Deborah Strouse (C)

presidentelect@oasn.org

Annual Conference

Maureen Knowles(NW)

vicepresident@oasn.org

Professional Issues

Susan Praeger (SW)

profissues@oasn.org

Finance

Deborah Stoner (C)

treasurer@oasn.org

meeting of SWOSNA is scheduled for Thursday, September 20, 2007 from 4:30 - 7:30 PM at the Holiday Inn Dayton Mall. The CEU offering is "A Psycho- educational Approach to Suicide Prevention" presented by Catherine Strunk.

Joan Hlinomaz , RN, BSN, MS, NCSN

Southwest Ohio Representative to OASN

[www.swosna.org](http://www.swosna.org)

#### • NWOASN News

The NWOASN conducted a business meeting on August 15, 2007. The following is a list of the new board members:

- Laurie Gladieux- President
- Denise Kauffman - President- Elect
- Ann Brunning - Treasurer
- Meg Sullivan - Secretary
- Mary Schwartz - Ways and Means
- Marie Kraus - NW Rep to OASN
- Mary Beth Durbin and Mary Martin - Newsletter
- Ann Cipriani - Membership
- Jan Overmeyer - Website

The board discussed using email for membership registration and conference registration. Ann Cipriani distributed an updated roster of member information including email addresses. Jan Overmeyer provided the email address for the webmaster and encouraged the board to post NW events on the site such as upcoming conferences, etc.

Mary Schwartz announced that there are still school nurse t-shirts, school nurse stuffed bears and patient bears available for purchase. Denise Kaufman announced that a conference for NWOASN is scheduled for October 30, 2007 at the Stone Oak Country Club. The topic will be Living Well With Asthma. Denise is also working on bringing the H.A.N.D.S. (Helping Administer to the Needs of the Student with Diabetes in School) presentation to Northwest Ohio this coming winter.

Maureen Knowles, OASN Vice President and

Public Relations

Open position

pr@oasn.org

Newsletter & Communications

Jennifer Ferris (SW)

newsletter@oasn.org

Librarian/Historian

Joyce Ferguson (E)

Research

Nancy Mosca (NE)

research@oasn.org

Awards

Mary Massey (NE)

awards@oasn.org

Scholarship

Linda Miller (C)

scholarship@oasn.org

Webmaster

Juliet Kolde (SW)

webmaster@oasn.org

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ODH Representative to OASN

State Conference Chairperson, was present and provided the board with an update on the State conference planning. Maureen reported that a date and location have been selected for the conference as well as the conference title and keynote speaker. Committee chairpersons are in place and a conference planning committee meeting is to take place on August 21, 2007

The board was still in the process of transitioning materials from past members to current members. Treasurer and secretary reports will be updated at the next board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Kraus, NW Rep

<http://www.nwoasn.org>

• SEOASN NEWS

Current SEOASN Officers:

Lesa Slack - President (Lawrence County)  
slacklj@yahoo.com

Tammy Lorbach - Vice President (Jackson County)  
tlorbach@JCS.K12.OH.US

Kim Skidmore - Secretary (Gallia County) GL-KSKIDMORE@seovec.org

Becky Gilpen - Treasurer (Lawrence County)  
bgilpin1@earthlink.net

Annette Scott - SE Rep. (Lawrence County)  
ascott\_ic@scoca-k12.org or scotfmly@cloh.net

Lori Moore - Nominating Committee (Jackson County)  
lmoore@wcs.k12.oh.us

We want to wish the following nurses a **HAPPY RETIREMENT**:

- Madeline Fisher - Morgan Junior High - Morgan County
- Debbie Martin - South Point Schools - Lawrence County
-

Dorothy Bystrom (C)

OBN Representative to OASN

Kathy O'Dell (SW)

SPCHEO

Julie Winland (C)

Action for Healthy Kids

Julie Winland (C)

Prevent Blindness Ohio

Gabi Karpowicz (C)

Ohio School Based Health Care Association

Renee Besecker (SW)

#### REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

Central

Lisa Kauffman

East

Patricia Milosevich

Northeast

Elizabeth Anderson

Northwest

Laurie Gladieux

We want to wish the following nurse a **Wonderful Welcome:**

- Rhonda Smith - Morgan Junior High - Morgan County (Who is replacing Madeline Fisher)

#### UPDATES

· Next SEOASN meeting is scheduled for the night before the ODH School Health Conf. in the fall.

· Annette attended the Board Meeting retreat at Sawmill Creek in Sandusky, OH in July. She returned the plaque that SE was awarded for membership. Pictures were taken.

· Sam Whitaker, Legislative Rep gave updates on the Medicaid/CAFS meetings. Legislators; Senator Steve Stivers and Senator Tom Niehaus agreed to get a group together to see how to serve small schools without services. A group of OASN reps will be meeting with them. If you have concerns or questions, please contact your rep or the OASN Ex. Director as soon as possible. He also discussed the recommendations that the OASN gave to the Ohio Schools Facilities Commissions by request from Representative Mike Shoemaker and the commission. SE nurses should email Annette for a copy of this recommendation

· All regional reps. received a copy of the Coordinated School Health Program DVD from Dr. Cooper. If you'd like to review the CD or purchase on at cost - Contact your regional rep.

· OASN (State) Conference - Starts April 3, 2008 at Sawmill Creek in Huron, OH (Sandusky area). Theme: "School Nurses as Leaders in Children's Health" Poster Presentations are being sought. Present teaching ideas or something you have done in your school. More details at [www.oasn.org](http://www.oasn.org). Prepare to plan ahead to attend.

· NEW School Nurse Guidebook \$10.00 (Cost). New members will receive a free copy.

Southeast

Lesa Stack

Southwest

Judy Marrinan

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[A word of thanks!](#)

Dear OASN friends,

What a year I've had! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members who sent me their congratulations on becoming both the Ohio School Nurse of the Year and the National School Nurse of the Year. It is a most humbling and honored experience and the pinnacle of my school nursing career! My "OASN TEAM" has played such a large part in my selection and I share this award with all of you. I feel so privileged to be part of such a wonderful group of school nurses. Ohio's children are certainly in the best of hands!!

Norma

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Please note a couple of great new resources related to tobacco cessation. The National Tobacco Cessation Collaborative (NTCC), a group including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, federal agencies, national tobacco control organizations and others working in cessation research and related fields, is focusing on increasing collaboration between members and increasing successful cessation among tobacco users in the U.S. and Canada. There are two new resources offered by NTCC that states should find valuable:

--NTCC Website (<http://www.tobacco-cessation.org>)

--NTCC Newsletter NTCC News is the National Tobacco Cessation Collaborative monthly newsletter. Each issue features recent research findings and includes announcements on funding opportunities, calls for papers, and upcoming conferences and trainings. Each issue also includes a spotlight article highlighting a specific cessation topic. If you would like to receive the newsletter, you can sign up at <http://www.tobacco-cessation.org>

- Endowment Fund - To support the practice of school nursing, the Ohio Association of School Nurses has partnered with the Columbus Medical Association Foundation to establish the Ohio Association of School Nurses Education and Scholarship Fund. Annually, the fund will award the Patricia McDonald Baum Award, which provides scholarships for school nurses seeking graduate degrees and/or certification in advanced nursing practice; the Carolyn Azbell Research Award, which supports research about school nursing and health of school-age children; and grants for continuing education opportunities. Our vision for the future is to increase the size of these awards and fund grants that improve school nursing practice and school-affiliated delivery of health care. Donations are being accepted on a continual basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Scott, RN, BSN

SE representative to OASN

#### • COASN NEWS

The COASN Board will meet in August to make plans for the 2007-08 school year.

At the May 8th meeting, the COASN School Nurse of the Year Award was awarded to Rachel Little of Columbus Public Schools. Rachel has served as a school nurse in Columbus Public Schools for many years as well as an OASN board member. She retired this year after a combined public service of 35 years.

The COASN membership is now at 138 strong and represents 19 school districts. Out of the total membership: 128 are active members; 7 are associate members; 3 are retired members.

The COASN website [www.coasn.org](http://www.coasn.org) continues to provide resources and links for our membership.

The newsletter is happy to include announcements and updates from your state; just forward them to Jessica Nadeau [jnadeau@aed.org](mailto:jnadeau@aed.org)

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The **OASN Newsletter** is published four times a year as a service to OASN members. Articles, questions and comments should be submitted to the editor at: [newsletter@oasn.org](mailto:newsletter@oasn.org)

For more information, visit [www.oasn.org](http://www.oasn.org).

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webmaster.

Twelve COASN members attended this year's NASN conference held in June in Nashville: Judy Harmon, Sally Joslyn, Lisa Kauffman, Joan Keith, Kate King, Diana Kirby, Carol-Lynne O'Neil, Nancy Rini, Mary Lee Rippl, Deborah Strouse, Susan Thomas, and Melissa Willis.

#### **COASN BOARD for 2007-2008**

President - Lisa Kauffman  
([lkauffman5976@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:lkauffman5976@columbus.k12.oh.us))

President Elect - Juanita Smith

Vice President - Carolyn Bernard  
([cbernard5541@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:cbernard5541@columbus.k12.oh.us))

is scheduled. Our speaker for the evening presentation is Dr. Ellen Rome, a pediatrician with the Cleveland Clinic who is board certified in adolescent medicine. She will update us on "Issues in Adolescent Medicine."

The slate of officers for the NEOASN Board for 2007- 2008:

President--Elizabeth Anderson (earni2001@yahoo.com)

Past President--Deb Aloschen (trekker975@aol.com)

Vice President--Tish Perin (mperin@us.edu)

2nd Vice President--Pam Katz (pkatzm@hotmail.com)

Secretary--Cathy Fedor (jfedor@zoominternet.net)

Treasurer-- Lisa Mason-Smith (lbc55@sbcglobal.net)

OASN Rep.--Mary Massey (massey1234@aol.com)

Membership--Chris Bell (chris3040@aol.com)

Newsletter--Susan Inscore (scorein@aol.com)

Board members gathered at the home of our new president, Elizabeth Anderson, on June 23rd and began plans for the upcoming year. The idea of an August meeting to kick off the school year and network originated at that meeting. Membership forms are being mailed this year, but a concerted effort will be made to increase communication through e-mails. As our membership becomes accustomed to electronic communication, we hope to reduce postage costs.

Board members are currently finalizing plans for a fall meeting in October. They hope to have details prepared to present at the August meeting. It was suggested that we hold the following meeting in February so as not to conflict with the OASN and ODH conferences later in the spring. Members who have an idea to share or wish to become more actively involved at the regional level are encouraged to contact our new president, Elizabeth Anderson: earni2001@yahoo.com.

Mary Massey

NE Rep. to OASN

- Ohio Board of Nursing News

The Budget Bill (HB119) has corrected the provision of clinical sites for nursing students who are in out-of- state teaching institutions. Nursing students mostly in counties that border

neighboring states have been doing clinicals in Ohio & OBN recognized that this may not be a legal practice unless the clinical instructor is licensed in Ohio. The Budget Bill clarified this confusion & until Sept. 29 out-of-state nursing students can use Ohio sites as observation sites and after Sept. 29 can use Ohio sites as clinical sites.

OBN will be presenting the law contact hour at the OASN conference in April.

OBN has created a draft of an algorithm for school nurses. The OASN Board reviewed it at the August retreat. The algorithm will also be reviewed by Dorothy Bystrom, our ODH School Nurse Consultant & then Kathy will take it to the OBN meeting in September for approval. OBN is working on FAQs from school nurses which will be posted on the OBN website, TBA.

I am honored to be presenting the law contact hour from OBN to the New School Nurse Orientation in Sept.

The Carnegie Foundation will be releasing its study of the education of the profession of nursing this fall. The Foundation looks at how professions are educated & in the past has looked at clergy, physicians & lawyers. One of their RECOMMENDATIONS is that graduates who pass NCLEX after 2010 earn a master's degree within 5 years....the future of nursing education!

The Ohio Board of Nursing meets every other month & the next meeting is Sept. 27/28. The meetings are open to the public.

It is an honor to represent school nursing at these meetings.

Kathy O'Dell, RN, MEd, NCSN

- NASN update!



*National Association of School Nurses*

## **NASN NEWS YOU CAN USE**

Those of you who were not able to attend the NASN Annual Conference in Nashville really missed out on a treat. The workshops and plenary sessions were excellent and it is always good when we can network with other school nurses around the world as well as those from Ohio. Next year's conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Start your planning now. Remember that it is tax deductible, in most cases if you itemize. Stay tune for more details.

### **Recent NASN Board of Directors Meeting Notes**

- Approved the addition of a legislative award to the Recognition and Distinguished Service Awards Policy. This award will honor an individual who has supported or uniquely contributed to NASN, School Health and School Nursing.
- Special Interest Groups (SIG) may use a logo for their group. All logo procedures must be followed and the BOD must approve the logo.
- Approved of some revisions to the Standards of Practice Policy.
- Designated that the Ex. Director will provide resources for the development of the science to support the NASN Strategic Plan goals.
- NASN led regional programs/conferences will be included in Continuing Education Procedures. This will enable NASN to implement new Professional Development programs on a regional level if desired.
- NASN and AFT have collaborated on sample legislative language that can be used as a model for state legislative language. See [NASN.org](http://NASN.org) for more information.
- In Nashville, one of the tools NASN has developed was a "ruler", which showed visually where each state was rated according to school nurse to student ratio.
- The Urban Institute's analysis shows that 689,000 uninsured children are in low-

income families that fall below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. These are "targeted, low-income children" who are eligible for SCHIP but not enrolled. If all children eligible under the different state qualifications were included, the number rises to 794,000. (Uninsured for a full calendar year.)

- This estimate is lower than other assessments of this population, and demonstrates that adding \$50 billion in additional funding is unnecessary.
- The Urban Institute's Transfer Income Model (TRIM) includes corrections for:
- The Urban Institute performed the analysis using data from TRIM, a comprehensive micro simulation model. TRIM uses detailed, state-specific rules to determine which individuals are eligible for Medicaid and/or SCHIP.

***The following information was taken from recent NASN Weekly Digests and is presented here in case you missed it:***

#### **What is S.C.O.P.E.?**

**S.C.O.P.E.** is a comprehensive, live, full day continuing education program developed by the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) to provide strategies for school nurses to assist students, families and the school community to address the challenges of obesity and overweight. It is presented by a School Nurse with a specific interest in childhood obesity. Learn more about this new NASN program at:  
<http://www.nasn.org/Default.aspx?tabid=435>

#### **SCHIP Fact Sheet Released**

One of the most rigorous scientific reviews to-date of Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) eligibility among the uninsured was released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The analysis was conducted by the Urban Institute's Income and Benefits Policy Center.

### **Number of Uninsured Children Significantly Lower than Other Estimates**

- The Urban Institute's analysis shows that 689,000 uninsured children are in low-income families that fall below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. These are "targeted, low-income children" who are eligible for SCHIP but not enrolled. If all children eligible under the different state qualifications were included, the number rises to 794,000. (Uninsured for a full calendar year.)
- This estimate is lower than other assessments of this population, and demonstrates that adding \$50 billion in additional funding is unnecessary.
- The Urban Institute's Transfer Income Model (TRIM) includes corrections for:
- The Urban Institute performed the analysis using data from TRIM, a comprehensive micro simulation model. TRIM uses detailed, state-specific rules to determine which individuals are eligible for Medicaid and/or SCHIP.

For more information about this Fact Sheet, please visit <http://www.hhs.gov/news/facts/schip.html>.

### **Study Shows Autism Can Be Diagnosed Around Child's First Birthday**

A study published in the Archives of General Psychiatry, researchers from the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, Maryland found that autism can be diagnosed at close to one year of age, which is the earliest the disorder has ever been diagnosed. The study, which evaluated social and communication development in autism spectrum disorders (ASD) from 14 to 36 months of age, revealed that approximately half of all children with autism can be diagnosed around the first birthday. The remaining half will be diagnosed later, and their development may unfold very differently than children whose ASD is diagnosable around the first birthday. Early diagnosis of the disorder allows for early intervention, which can make a major difference in helping children with autism reach their full potential. For more information on

this study, please visit <http://archpsyc.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/short/64/7/853>

### **American College of Preventive Medicine Releases New Adolescent Health Website**

ACPM has just released their new Adolescent Health Website, with support from HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau, which aims to enhance ACPM's organizational focus on this important population. Using the Healthy People 2010 Critical Objectives for Adolescents and Young Adults as a guide, the site is focused around six major health priorities: 1. Unintentional Injury 2. Violence 3. Mental Health 4. Substance Use 5. Reproductive Health 6. Nutritional and Physical Activity. ACPM takes a broad view of adolescent health, recognizing that healthy youth development and safe, nurturing environments are important in helping young people make healthy decisions. Check out their new website by visiting <http://www.acpm.org/ah/>

### **2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Release in Record Time**

The CDC's Behavioral Surveillance Branch in the Division of Adult and Community Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, announced the release of the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) prevalence data. This again marks the earliest date the state prevalence data has ever been made available to the public, just 4 months after the end of data collection. The BRFSS is a unique state-based surveillance system active in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. Information on health risk behaviors, clinical preventive health practices, and health care access, primarily related to chronic disease and injury is obtained from a representative sample of non-institutionalized adults, 18 years and older, in each state. The BRFSS provides flexible timely and ongoing data collection that allows for State-to-State and State -to-nation comparisons. State-specific data, including racial-and ethnic-specific data from the BRFSS provide a sound basis for developing and evaluating public health programs. The BRFSS is the largest telephone-based surveillance system in the world, with more than 365,000 interviews in 2006. The 2006 BRFSS

state-by-state prevalence data are located at <http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>.

Respectfully submitted,

Aurelia Barney

OASN Director to NASN

- [Endowment Update and Annual Report](#)

I am delighted to report that as of 7/17/07, the OASN Endowment Fund had a balance of \$14,289.29, not including adjustments for the market at the time, interest accrued or fees deducted. Disbursements have been made to Candi Hendershot who received the 2007 Research Award and Sheryl St. Clair, conference attendee, who was the lucky winner of the \$500 raffle prize used towards attending the NASN conference in Nashville in June.

If you missed reading the Annual Endowment Fund Report in the last Newsletter, it will be posted as a link on the Endowment section of the OASN Website.

The Board made the decision at our July meeting to do a mass mailing to all members this fall giving them an update on the Fund and the opportunity to send their donation to the Columbus Medical Association Fund to enhance our OASN Fund. So watch for your letter and donor card and become an "angel" by responding with a donation. Remember that categories of angels are cumulative by amounts donated over the years, but any amount will be greatly appreciated! It will go towards the worthy school nursing awards, The Pat Baum Educational Scholarship and The Carolyn Azbell Research Award. It may also be designated as Unrestricted Funding which will eventually be used to help offset special speakers' fees. Please don't forget to check the website for instructions on setting up a Legacy! That is another form of giving that is rather painless!

It's not too early to start thinking about selecting and saving your articles to donate to the 2008 Silent Auction to be held at our annual conference in the Spring. This event has become a great source of monies for the Endowment Fund over the past 2 years and we hope it continues to grow.

Terrific bargains abound and it's so much fun trying to have your silent BID be the top one!

The committee is already busy planning special Endowment events to coincide with next year's conference. Watch for more details in future news releases!

Norma Nikkola, Endowment Chair

[nnikkola@earthlink.net](mailto:nnikkola@earthlink.net) [Donate online](#)

#### • 2008 OASN Conference

The 2008 OASN conference will be held April 3-6, 2008 at Saw Mill Creek in Huron Ohio. The title of the conference is "School Nurses as Leaders in Children's Health". The keynote speaker will be Mary Kay Slowikowski. She is a nationally known speaker, in fact, she spoke at the NASN conference in Nashville last June.

The working committees of Northwest Ohio are hard at it to provide you with one of the best conference experiences yet! Looking forward to seeing you in April at Saw Mill Creek!

Maureen Knowles

Vice President

#### • School nurse regional news and events!

Ohio Nurse Nominated for 2007 Cameos of Caring

"The nursing staff of Akron Children's Hospital has chosen Kathy McCune, RN as their 2007 Cameos of Caring recipient. She has been working in school health for over twenty years and in the School Health Services Department at Akron Children's for the past four years assigned to the Cuyahoga Falls City School District. Her compassion for children and clinical expertise

make her a worthy recipient. Kathy has been a member of NASN and ASHA for the past five years and she has served as a mentor to many nurses new to the school setting. Her "can do" attitude has won the respect of administrators, teachers and her unlicensed staff. She has played a very important role in Akron Children's efforts to implement Coordinated School Health in her district. The students of this district are very fortunate to have a nurse like Kathy caring for them. Congratulations, Kathy!"

***China Trip for Health Professionals scheduled June 17-30, 2008***

OASN member, Ann (Oestermeyer) Farmer, MSN, RN, is working with retired Shaker Heights principal, Don Coffee and his wife Xiao Ying on a trip to China "Cultural Experience and Professional Connections." The itinerary includes personal interactions, and professional activities with Chinese nurses and other health professionals that will enhance your knowledge of nursing in China, health care, health challenges, and Chinese culture. A special feature is a cultural exchange in Xining, in the Qing-Tibet Highlands, and an opportunity to share and interact with health professionals who serve the Tibetan minority population there. For information on this unique trip, affordably planned for nurses, please contact Ann Farmer at [annfarmer@roadrunner.com](mailto:annfarmer@roadrunner.com) or 330-467-2275.

• **Call for Nominations**

The following positions on the OASN board will be on the ballot in the Spring:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 

These positions each require the member to serve a two-year term. The President elect will serve for two years as President Elect and then two years as President. The treasurer serves a two-year term, and then an additional year in an advisory

capacity to her successor. The secretary serves a two-year term, with no additional requirement.

I know that the Summer newsletter edition it is a little early to start listing positions for the Spring ballot, but I want each of you to think seriously about members who may fill these positions and encourage them to run for election. In the Fall newsletter, I will list a short summary of the duties for each position.

So, consider joining in the fun! Help move this organization in new directions! You can do it! And you know of some others who can do it with you!

If you would like to nominate yourself (*it is entirely appropriate to nominate yourself*), or someone else, please send an e-mail to me at [TazRNAF@aol.com](mailto:TazRNAF@aol.com) and list the member's name, region, contact information, and position on the ballot. By the way folks, no fair nominating someone without their knowledge and consent, its not a game of "tag, you're it!"

Additionally, if you would like to work on projects with the board or on a committee, please let us know. All members are welcome to join in on committee projects. It's a good way to see how the board works and get to know other school nurses around the state!

Deb Strouse, President-Elect OASN