

Chapter Update

Northeast

Big Apple #102

The New York Hospital Queens Trude Weishaupt Memorial Dialysis Center in Fresh Meadows hosted the Winter Audio Conference in February. The Spring ANNA/IPRO ESRD Network workshops on *It Is Within Your Power to Increase Fistula Rates* were held in Albany, Bronx, Smithtown, and Fresh Meadows, Queens. Each meeting was very well attended. American Access Care provided speakers and refreshments at each location.

We continue to need volunteers to help develop our chapter. If you are interested and/or would like additional information about our chapter, contact **Anne Preston** at apreston@aac-llc.com.

We hope everyone enjoys their summer and we look forward to being able to offer our members some new and exciting educational programs in the fall.

Keystone #110

Congratulations to the Keystone Chapter for being presented with the Outstanding Chapter Recognition Award at the National Symposium in San Antonio. President **Lisa Balk**, President-Elect **Eric Imondi**, and Secretary **Karen Russell** were in attendance to receive this honor. Other chapter members at the symposium included **Laureen McClure**, **Paula Richards**, and **Karen Black**.

Cristina Chui of the American Access Center hosted a workshop on May 13 at their facility in South Philadelphia. This well attended event provided 2.0 CNE credits as **Dr. Louis Domenico** spoke on *Principles of Infection Control*.

Jersey North #126

Jersey North is proud to announce that we won the 2009 Northeast Regional Chapter of the Year (COTY) Award. The award was presented during the National Symposium in San Antonio. Thank you to all our chapter members who supported our activities which enabled us to win this honor. It was exciting to meet and greet many of our chapter members in San Antonio.

Led by President **Suzanne Juliano**, the chapter officers and educational committee have started plan-

ning another exciting year for our chapter. Our annual certification review course is being planned for September 11-12 at Holy Name Medical Center in Teaneck, NJ. We also have been approved by NNCC to host the CNN-NP, CNN, CDN, and CCHT certification exams at Holy Name on September 26. Visit the NNCC website to register for the exam.

For more information about our chapter, visit our website at www.annajer-seynorth126.com or ANNA Connected. We have chapter meetings monthly and invite all our members to attend. For information about our meetings, contact Secretary **Marilyn Eilert** at marilyneilert@aol.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Northern New England #131

The chapter officers for this year will remain the same: President **Isabelle Sargeant**, President-Elect **Patricia Murray**, Secretary **Mary Dyson**, Treasurer **Charlotte Calacci**, Maine Health Policy State Director **Nadine Tasker**, New Hampshire Health Policy State Director **Marybeth Snow**, and Vermont Health Policy State Director **Bette Gilmartin**. We look forward to another good year with audio conferences and our large annual conference. If you have any questions or concerns, e-mail Mary Dyson at mmedyson@yahoo.com.

Southeast

Cardinal #201

The chapter has the great pleasure of congratulating **Lesley Dinwiddie** on receiving the Outstanding Contribution to ANNA Award at the National Symposium in San Antonio. Lesley, we are so proud of you and know firsthand how dedicated you are and how fitting this award is. Thanks for all you do and all you have done.



Cardinal chapter member **Lesley Dinwiddie** (second from right) received the Outstanding Contribution to ANNA Award at the National Symposium.

Congratulations are also in order for our “ANNA Idols” **Lesley Dinwiddie** and **Amy Woodard**. After auditioning earlier this year, they were both picked to read manuscripts from the *Nephrology Nursing Journal*. This will give all ANNA members the ability to listen to articles on the go. It is a great way to catch up when we do not have the time to sit and actually read the articles ourselves.

Six chapter members attended the Volunteer Leaders Workshop (VLW) and the National Symposium in San Antonio. The week was full of learning, networking, and even time for fun to see the sites of San Antonio.

On June 10-11 the North Carolina State ANNA meeting was held at the Embassy Suites in Concord, NC. This is our fourth year collaborating with the other North Carolina chapters: Greater Charlotte, Tar River, and Blue Ridge. The chapter is looking forward to the upcoming year and offering our members continued educational opportunities. The chapter also hopes to continue as a virtual chapter and present satellite presentations which have proven to be quite successful. Efforts are already underway for Kidney Disease and Awareness (KDAE) Week and getting our local, state, and federal representatives informed and aware of what we do everyday.



Cardinal chapter members (from left) Emily Arnold, Wanda Bandy, Lorraine King, and Brenda Martin attended the Volunteer Leaders Workshop and National Symposium in San Antonio.

Congratulations to our newly elected Southeast officers. Our chapter is looking forward to working with you this year. Any questions, please call 919-606-3071 or e-mail our secretary, **Lorraine King**, at lorilee51@aol.com.

Greater Charlotte #202

The chapter would like to introduce our new officers: President **Diane Derkowski**, President-Elect **Rhonda Duggan**, Secretary **Leah Smith**, Treasurer **Cyndy Rape**, and Health Policy Representative **Ericka Lee**. Our chapter started the year with a lot of activity. On May 15 we partnered with the NKF to sponsor a KEEP screening. We were able to screen over 175 people making it the largest KEEP screening in the state. We also celebrated Nurses Week by participating in a professional fair at Carolinas Medical Center.

The Third Annual North Carolina Statewide Collaborative Meeting was held June 10-11 in Concord, NC, which is just outside of Charlotte. Greater Charlotte was proud to be the host chapter this year.

Our chapter was well represented at this year's National Symposium with five members attending. We look forward to a great year ahead.

Alamo City #205

Congratulations to our new incoming officers for 2010-2011: President/President-Elect **Frank Borse**, Secretary **Maria Sanchez**, Treasurer **Pauline Newstead**, and Health Policy Representative **Esme Guerra**.

The National Symposium in San Antonio was a huge success. Our chapter received kudos for representing the host city. The chapter sold T-shirts and Fiesta head gear. The items sold like hot cakes. Thanks to everyone for your support. Chapter President **Frank Borse** did an awesome job in representing our city at the opening ceremonies. He switched from a sombrero to cowboy hat symbolizing the cultural diversity in San Antonio. We as a chapter took many people to the Mercado and had dinner

at La Margarita. We traveled via the Trolley, and everyone had a great time.

Congratulations to **Janie Martinez**, our New Southeast Regional Vice President and **Ruben Encino**, the newly appointed Southeast Region Special Assistant.

Our annual chapter retreat was held at the home of our chapter president, **Frank Borse**. Thank you to his wife Youngie for hosting the retreat. During the retreat we planned all the educational offerings, fundraising events, and community work for the 2010-2011 year.

South Florida Flamingo #206



South Florida Flamingo chapter members **Marta Sandoval**, **Judy Scaglione**, **Jane Sapp-Wallace**, **Joanna Harrell**, **Norma Gomez**, and **Nury Robert** attended the NBC Health Expo at the Miami Beach Convention Center. They are pictured with Mrs. Florida.

The chapter assisted in offering an educational session at the newly opened American Access Care Center in Miami. **Dr. Manu Sehgal**, interventional radiologist, presented *Advanced Vascular Interventions*. The session was very well attended, and everyone had an opportunity to be introduced to the equipment and services offered for patients.

An additional session was offered at the American Access Care Center in Plantation. That also was well attended. **Dr. Goel** talked about *Assessment and Treatment of the Challenged Vascular Access*.

Chapter officers **Norma Gomez** and **Sylvia Vargas** as well as past president **Jane Sapp** attended the VLW in San Antonio. They brought back some exciting ideas for the com-

ing year. A business meeting was held on May 19. The action plan for the year was completed. The chapter is hosting a PCT to RN Scholarship. For more information, go to our chapter website on ANNA Connected.

Upcoming events include a certification review in the fall and other exciting programs throughout the year.

Dallas #208

We are so proud to have chapter member **Donna Painter** serving as



Dallas chapter board members and guests enjoyed a delicious and fun-filled dinner on the Riverwalk in San Antonio after attending the Volunteer Leaders Workshop. Pictured (from left) are **Janny Freeman**, **Marion Church**, **Cynthia Wright**, **Cynthia Krieger**, **Angie Wieler**, **Glenda Payne**, **Donna Painter**, and **Deuzimar Kulawik**.

national ANNA President! She has been a very faithful and active member of our chapter, driving more than 60 miles one way to participate in our meetings, including business meetings to plan chapter events. We applaud her achievement of being president of our association.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of outreach to members in the greater Dallas and Fort Worth Metroplex. We have some ideas but would love to hear more from you. The chapter board of directors will be doing some initial planning on July 17. Members interested in helping this year with programs or with ideas for outreach are welcome. Contact **Cindy Wright** or **Glenda Payne** (gpayneful@aol.com) if you would like to attend the planning meeting or want to help our chapter do great things this year.

Several members of the chapter board of directors attended the VLW in San Antonio. Chapter members also attended the ESRD Network Annual Meeting in Dallas on June 25-26.

Caribbean #210

Our chapter began the year with lots of enthusiasm. New chapter officers were elected: President **Jeannette Dominguez**, President-Elect **Maritza Cintron**, Secretary-Treasurer **Rita de Jesus**, and Health Policy Representative **Marien Saade**. **Jeannette Dominguez** and **Marien Saade** attended the National Symposium in San Antonio, with Jeannette also attending the very valuable VLW. We were pleased to meet with and congratulate **Lesley Dinwiddie**, who guided us in our beginnings and who came to Puerto Rico to inaugurate our chapter. We were very proud to be there for her recognition.

Our chapter was the educational provider for the recent and highly successful *Transplant Designee Workshop* sponsored by Quality Insights Renal Network 3. Eighty-one RNs attended in addition to other



Marien Saade, an ANNA pioneer in Puerto Rico, met with Lesley Dinwiddie (left) during the National Symposium in San Antonio.



Dogwood chapter members received the Chapters Strategic Collaboration Award at the National Symposium in San Antonio.

health care professionals for a total of 103 attendees. This event was held on April 28 in the lovely town of Aguadilla on the western tip of the island.

On May 23 we held the annual “Encuentro de Pacientes” or Patient Encounter, now on its 18th anniversary. This is organized jointly by our chapter and the Puerto Rico Kidney Foundation, with the help of other groups. Almost 500 patients and relatives attended the 1-day meeting held in a new convention hotel. This year’s educational activity for patients included insomnia, dental care, nutrition, diabetic foot care, patient support services – all given by experienced professionals.

Suncoast #213

Our biggest endeavor as a chapter was again a huge success at the TradeWinds Resort on St. Pete Beach. The 3-day seminar was well attended with great speakers, vendors, and attendees. Special thanks to all who participated and helped make this the wonderful annual event that it has become for 31 years. Our location

changed, but we were delighted to see that our faithful followers of the seminar were still in attendance. We also were delighted to welcome new participants and hope they also will join us annually.

Plans are underway for a fall dinner presentation around Nephrology Nurses Week. More information about our presentations can be obtained from **Stephanie Hull** at 813-872-0933 or **Donna McDuffie** at 813-265-9733.

Dogwood #224

Our chapter was well represented at the VLW in San Antonio. Our new officers for 2010-2012 are President **Angela Taylor-Smith**, President-Elect **Lillian Pryor**, Secretary **Lilieth Tiller**, Treasurer **Joan Wokpara**, and Health Policy Representative **Carolyn Dorsey**. Each officer briefly described their experience at the VLW:

Angela ~ “I have attended VLW before but each time it gets better and better. I continue to learn and that is what being human is all about, being given the opportunity to grow.”

Lillian ~ “It’s wonderful to see such diversity not only culturally, but



The Caribbean Chapter hosted a Transplant Designee Workshop that was well attended.



Angela Taylor-Smith (center), president of the Dogwood Chapter, was the winner of the 2010 Helen Feigenbaum Award for the Promotion of Excellence in Nephrology Nursing.



The 2010-2011 Dogwood chapter officers posed for a picture with ANNA President-Elect Rowena Elliott (center).



Congratulations to Norma Heard, Dogwood chapter member, on winning the Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award.

in terms of experience, come together."

Lilieth ~ "VLW gave me a different perspective for the roles I saw people do at every chapter meeting. I am proud to be able to be an active part of such a wonderful organization."

Joan ~ "VLW has valuable information for new officers as well as returning officers to be able to fulfill their chapter roles with the opportunity to ask questions and network with other officers in the same roles."

Carolyn ~ "It was the first time I have been involved with any organization at this level. It gave us a chance to witness the power of a collective voice standing for the same cause. Overall it was one of my best experiences in nursing."

We received many informative ideas and helpful hints that will benefit our chapter and the nurses in our

area. We were able to network and share a wonderful camaraderie with other officers from 50 states, Canada, and Puerto Rico. The VLW is more than a workshop. It's a real celebration of nurses and their accomplishments and an excellent way to encourage each other.

The National Symposium was equally as exciting as the workshop. The chapter would like to thank our members who attended the symposium. We would especially like to thank **Monica Lee**, a new nurse graduate from Athens, for her dedication and determination to get involved in ANNA.

Congratulations to all our chapter members for winning the Chapters Strategic Collaboration Award. Special thanks to our 2009-2010 chapter officers.

Congratulations also to President **Angela Taylor-Smith** on receiving the Helen Feigenbaum Award for the Promotion of Excellence in Nephrology Nursing. It was the first time ever for this prestigious award and was presented by the family of the late Helen Feigenbaum. Congratulations to **Norma Heard**, past chapter president and health policy representative, on receiving the Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award.

Congratulations to **Loretta Jackson Brown** on her article entitled "Identification of Modifiable Chronic Kidney Disease Risk Factors by Gender in an African American Metabolic Syndrome Cohort," which was published in the March/April issue of the *Nephrology Nursing Journal* and for serving as Southeast Vice President.

We had a good turnout at our annual conference, *Spring Bling, Nephrology Potpourri II*, at Emory University Hospital on May 22. Thanks to our speakers: **Loretta Jackson Brown, Alex Rosenblum,**

Marina Villano, Donna Hyatt, Frank Pascarelli, and Reggie Drumgoole. Thanks also to our sponsors: **AMAG, Atlanta Access Care, Access First, Dialysis Access Center of Atlanta, and Kidney Care Group, Inc/Loganville Dialysis.**

Watch for information about future events on our website at www.annadogwoodchapter224.com. Upcoming events include an all-day program on September 11 and the certification exams on September 18 at Emory University Hospital Midtown. Brochures will be sent via ANNA Connected. Get "connected" via e-mail provided by ANNA or broadcast fax to your clinic.

Music City #228



Music City chapter officers attended the Volunteer Leaders Workshop. Pictured are (front) Health Policy Representative Janet Wright, Secretary Anjoli Venkataraman; (back) Treasurer Rose Smith, and President Judith Wales.

Chapter officers **Rose Smith, Anjoli Venkataraman, Judith Wales, and Janet Wright** attended the VLW in San Antonio. While at the VLW the officers learned valuable tools that will contribute to a new and exciting year for our chapter. They made numerous connections with other chapter leaders, which will serve as resources and support in the upcoming year.

Several chapter members also attended the National Symposium, including **Jackie Blanton, Clara Cothran, Paula Seaquest, Anjoli Venkataraman, Judith Wales, Margaret White, and Rebecca Wingard.** Upon returning from the VLW and National Symposium, Nashville had been devastated by flooding. ANNA members volunteered their time at shelters and with relief efforts, supporting such groups as the Red Cross and Hands on Nashville. Members who volunteered their time include **Carol Akers,**



Music City chapter members attended the National Symposium in San Antonio. Pictured are Judith Wales, Machel Seaquest, and Denise Cothram.

Anjoli Venkataraman, Judith Wales, Rebecca Wingard, and Mary Withers.

Our first educational meeting of the ANNA year was sponsored by Amgen on May 20. Dr. Christopher Vell Poole presented *Sensipar and Improved Management of SPTH in the Dialysis Patient*. The meeting started off with an introduction of our new chapter officers who briefly told about their experience at the VLW and their plans for the upcoming year. We encouraged all our chapter members to make plans to attend the next National Symposium in Boston and the Fall Meeting in Las Vegas. We also encouraged chapter members to consider being a chapter leader next year.

Hazel Taylor #239

Summer is a busy time for everyone, and our chapter officers are no exception. After the officers returned from the National Symposium, we got busy planning the next year of chapter activities. Plans are underway for our annual November Nephrology Update; this will be our 26th year! Wow, can you believe our chapter is 26 years old?

As part of our action plan, we are looking at alternative host sites for chapter meetings, having conference calls with members to hear what is on their minds, activities to recruit new chapter members and keep the ones we have, and finally in August we always participate in KDAE Week. Keeping nephrology nursing in the forefront for our legislators is vital if we are to be advocates for our patients and our association. Our chapter health policy representative is working with the governor's office to obtain a proclamation for KDAE Week.

Tidewater #241

The chapter would like to welcome a new member, **Lori Bedor**, who hails from Maine and is now making Tidewater her new home. Lori will soon assume an officer role in our chapter! **Bev Grier-Smith** represented our chapter at the VLW and National Symposium in San Antonio. Highlights of the action-packed training sessions at VLW and the highly anticipated educational offerings will serve as the catalyst behind the development of the chapter action plan for this fiscal year. Plenty of time was spent exchanging ideas and concepts with other chapters in all regions of ANNA. It should be noted that the meeting was very well organized and attended. San Antonio was a perfect site. Education + fun = a wonderful experience! Finally, congratulations to our chapter president, **Bev Grier-Smith**, on receiving the Board of Directors Award. She received an ANNA pin, plaque, and complimentary registration to a future ANNA symposium.

Acadiana #252



Carolyn Robinson and Queen Norris were among the Acadiana chapter members who attended a fistula camp presented by Network 13.

H. Jackson Brown said, "In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins, not through strength but by perseverance." This is the motto for our chapter this year. We are mighty in members. Sit on the bank and watch us roar. We might just run right past you! Acadiana is that stream in the fight against the rock, which is kidney disease. We are always fighting for new ways to promote education and awareness in the community.

With a new year come new officers, new members, and new ideas. Along with the experience and guidance from those who have traveled before, our perseverance grows. The chapter goal for the upcoming ANNA year is to double our membership and seek out fun new ways to provide the renal community and the public with information to strengthen them in the



Acadiana chapter member Crista McGuffey practiced cannulation during a fistula camp hosted by Network 13.



Acadiana President Kathey Day (left) presented a donation on behalf of the chapter to Cedric Glover, the mayor of Shreveport, LA, and Janet Mentese, the director of the Martin Luther King Health Clinic.

fight against kidney disease. With the teachings of the VLW behind us, we take that knowledge and begin.

After a wonderful week of education and networking with others who share our dedication to the renal community, we returned to our health care professions ready to take on the challenges. Acadiana worked with Network 13 to set up a "Fistula Camp" on May 20. An overwhelming turnout created an opportunity for learning and some networking with area renal nurses and technicians. Of course, Acadiana never lets an opportunity pass to recruit new members. ANNA applications were handed out during break time along with refreshments and snacks.

May 21 was an open house for the new Martin Luther King (MLK) Health Clinic in Shreveport, LA. The MLK Clinic is the oldest functional freestanding full-service clinic in the state. Many city and state officials were on hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony. Acadiana took this opportunity to present their donation in the

amount of \$600. Acadiana provides this donation every 6 months to assist in the purchase of supplies to perform random microalbumin checks on patients at high risk for kidney disease to provide early diagnosis and intervention. **Kathey Day** and **Gwen Ashley** were able to catch a picture with Janet Montesane and Shreveport Mayor Cedric Glover for the presentation of the check. In addition, chapter members were able to catch a minute of time with Louisiana House Representative Roy Burrell. Of course, health care reform and bundling was the main topic of conversation. However, the members were able to address needs in the city and community, which turned out to be great timing as he announced his bid for city mayor in a news conference later that same day. Wow! Talk about right place, right time.

June saw a record turnout for our monthly education meeting. **Dr. Zabaneh** spoke on the importance of phosphorus binders and the nurse's role in patient education as well as administering the medication at the correct time to be most beneficial to the patient. **Genzyme** sponsored the dinner at Ralph & Kacoo's featuring local Cajun cuisine. Visit our website to see what we are up to and follow Acadiana with our mighty flow through the many currents of the nephrology river.

East Texas #255

Several chapter members attended the National Symposium in San Antonio and witnessed the transition of the National President. Congratulations to **Donna Painter!** Thanks to the Alamo City Chapter for a job well done hosting this year's symposium. While in San Antonio we held a business meeting to plan our year and enjoyed a nice steak dinner. Everyone had a good time!

This year's chapter officers are President **Martha Redd**, President-Elect **Alice Thomas**, Treasurer **Mary Jo Engelby**, and Secretary **Danyelle Hannum**. In July **Danyelle Hannum** participated in the ANNA Texas Collaborative kick-off retreat in Galveston to plan the 2011 annual meeting.

We are scheduling an all-day educational program to be held in East Texas in the fall as well as the audio conference. Check out our chapter web page on the ANNA website for further details. If you have pictures of the national meeting that you want to post on the chapter website, e-mail them to **Danyelle Hannum** at ruby.hannum@fmc-na.com.

Northeastern Oklahoma #256

Deloris Gill and **Katie Colpitts** attended VLW and the National Symposium in San Antonio in May, and our chapter received the Southeast Region and National Recruitment and Retention Awards. Thanks to all our new and returning members who made this possible!

In June we had a meeting provided by **Amgen** at Bodean's Seafood Restaurant on *Dynamic Anemia Management*. It was presented by **Dr. James Wetmore**. Also in June, **Pentec Health** provided a meeting on *The Entity of CKD Malnutrition* at TiaMo's Restaurant. Thank you to Amgen and Pentec for their continued support of the chapter.

We want to remind all our members to submit applications for the awards and grants offered by ANNA. Information can be accessed online at www.annanurse.org. Remind your colleagues about joining ANNA and help us to have another great year. Contact **Katie Colpitts** for more information at kcolpitts@sjmc.org.

Central Virginia #258



A room full of nurses were very interested in an educational program entitled "CRRT, Understanding the Critically Ill Patient" and hosted by the Central Virginia Chapter.



Barbara Reader, Clinical Director of Critical Care for NxStage Medical, presented information to Central Virginia chapter members on April 29.

The new chapter officers met on April 1 to plan educational sessions and other activities for the ANNA year that started on that evening. Many educational and fun sessions are in the planning phase, but we don't yet have final dates to publish. Stay tuned to your e-mail where ANNA Connected will provide updated information as plans are confirmed with speakers, dates, topics, and locations.

On April 29 the chapter enjoyed an educational session entitled *CRRT, Understanding the Critically Ill Patient* presented by **Barbara Reader**, Clinical Director of Critical Care for NxStage Medical, Inc. **NxStage** sponsored her travel expenses for which the chapter is very grateful. The room was packed and as you can see from the pictures, all attendees were very interested in this great presentation. Thank you, Barbara!

If you are thinking about your professional development and would like to consider becoming more active planning local events, we have a fun approach to chapter activities and planning that will not overtax your time. Your ideas for presentations and other fun activities are always welcome! Please contact **Anne Webber**, chapter assistant secretary, at awebber@hiiweb.com for any questions, interest in working with officers, if you have presentation topic ideas, or if you just have a question about the chapter.

Fleur-de-Lis #263



Fleur-de-Lis chapter officers participated in the 2010 Volunteer Leader Workshop. Pictured are Health Policy Representative Bernadine Milton and President Cheryl Poole.

Chapter members attending the VLW in San Antonio included President **Cheryl Poole** and Health Policy Representative **Cheryl Poole**. Other members attending this year's

National Symposium included **Sue Cary, Toni Nizzo, and Jeanette Pou.**

On May 13 a dinner and speaker presentation was hosted by our chapter at Ruffino's restaurant in Baton Rouge, LA. The lecture entitled *KDIGO: Treatment Guidelines for CKD Metabolic Bone Disease* was presented by **Sue Cary**. Special thanks to Sue for presenting the educational lecture and to **Genzyme** for sponsoring the program. Attendees included RNs, dialysis care technicians, and other members of the nephrology health care team. Everyone enjoyed good food, an excellent learning opportunity, and a chance to network. After the program was finished, the chapter officers conducted a short business meeting.

Scenic City #269

Congratulations to the following local members who achieved certification in April: CNN-NP – **Stephanie Sheridan**; CDN – **Lisa Cheeks, Jan Deal, and Dana Sweitzer.**

Upcoming educational opportunities for nephrology professionals include the Annual Renal Symposium at Erlanger's Probasco Auditorium on August 31 and the Annual Vascular Access Seminar at Erlanger's Probasco Auditorium on September 16. Brochures will be available in July.

The chapter will host the Fall Audio Conference on November 9 at DCI, Lyerly. If you are interested in hosting a satellite audio conference site, contact a chapter officer. E-mail virginia.smith@dciinc.org for additional information or a copy of activity announcement/brochures.

Sunshine Central #272

Our chapter started the calendar year off by successfully hosting our first One Day Spring Conference in 10 years on March 20. **Rose Lee** and



Sunshine Central chapter member Renee Hill (left) enjoys a photo opportunity with Southeast Chapters Coordinator Charla Litton at the Volunteer Leaders Workshop in San Antonio.

Renee Hill attended the VLW and National Symposium in San Antonio and brought back exciting news to our members. Because of our efforts this past year, our chapter was recognized with the Rising Star Award for the Southeast Region.

The chapter is seeking members who are willing to help the officers and be mentored to serve during this year and the upcoming year. We held a planning meeting on June 8. Please watch for e-mails via ANNA Connected for future activities.

First Coast #276

The chapter is pleased to introduce our officers for the 2010-2011 year: President **Jeanne Torbert**, President-Elect **Gayle Hall**, Secretary



The Sunshine Central Chapter hosted a successful One Day Spring Conference. Planning Committee members included Rose Lee, Renee Hill, Ruth McLean, Vivene Falconer, Karen Garvin, Eunice Roberts, and Judith Cunningham.

Jeanette Rempert, and Treasurer **Nancy Lister.**

Our May 27th dinner meeting on *Entropy of CKD Malnutrition* was very informative. We have several educational offerings planned, including a collaborative effort with our neighboring Gainesville chapter scheduled for July 31 and August 1. Bundling and disaster planning are two of the informative topics being presented at this exciting beach seminar. Keep tuned in to ANNA Connected for more news.

North Central

Windy City #305



The Windy City chapter officers accepted the 2009 North Central Region Chapter of the Year Award in San Antonio, TX. Pictured (from left) are Donna Bednarski, 2009-2010 ANNA President; Susan Kuester, Chapter President; Debra Kaiser, Health Policy Representative; Mary Kay Larson, Treasurer; Gary Reschak, Secretary; and Sylvia Moe, North Central Regional Vice President.

All of our chapter officers attended the VLW as well as the National Symposium in San Antonio in May. Several chapter members also were able to escape our cool midwestern spring and enjoy some southwestern sun. We are proud to announce that our chapter received the 2009 North Central Region Chapter of the Year Award! This achievement is only possible because of our active membership. The chapter officers would like to thank all of our members for a fun, educational, and very successful year! Other members actively participating in the symposium included **Jane Gardner**, who presented her poster "Nurse Solutions for Creating a Healthier Work Environment in the Outpatient Hemodialysis Setting."

Thank you to **Shire** for the educational grant that supported our May 20th dinner/educational meeting held at the Pompeii Bakery & Restaurant. The program, *Chronic Kidney Disease Related Mineral and Bone Disorders: An Update*, presented by **Dr. Orly F.**

Kohn, was very informative, while the raffle and give-aways added to the dinner and fun.

Our chapter's fourth annual *Nephrology Nursing: Back to the Basics* certification review course will be held on July 16 on the Loyola University Medical Center campus. This will be just in time to meet the July 31st application deadline for the nephrology certification exams to be held in Chicago, IL, on October 9. Visit our website at <http://home.comcast.net/~anna-windycitychapter305/annawindycity.html> for a map, registration form, costs, and CNE information. Click on the "Events" page. The chapter website is updated monthly and is the place to stay informed regarding chapter events.

Future plans for this year include a fall dinner/educational meeting and the Fall Audio Conference in November. Watch the website for details and keep your e-mail address up to date through the ANNA website at www.annanurse.org. Stay involved and keep this an award-winning chapter. Think about becoming an officer for next year. Contact any officer through our website or talk to us at a chapter activity. You are never alone in ANNA or this chapter. We are all in this together!

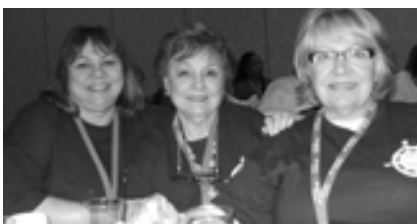
St. Louis Metro #307

Congratulations to our chapter for receiving the Regional Chapter Rising Star Award, which was awarded during the Nephrology Nurse Recognition Luncheon at the National Symposium in San Antonio.

The chapter held an evening program on April 22 at Morton's Steakhouse. Sponsored by **Abbott**, the program was titled *Secondary Hyperparathyroidism Across the Continuum of CKD*. The program was very well attended.

We also held an evening program on *Entropy of CKD Malnutrition* at Maggiano's Little Italy on June 3. It was sponsored by **Pentech Health**.

Heart of America #313



Heart of America chapter members Sharon Bunnell, JoAnn Ross, and Carol Pope attended the Volunteer Leaders Workshop in San Antonio.



Heart of America chapter members Molly Cahill, Carol Pope, and Sharon Bunnell stopped by the ANNA booth in the exhibit hall at the 2010 National Symposium.

Our newest chapter officers, Treasurer **JoAnn Ross** and President **Carol Pope**, attended the VLW in beautiful San Antonio in May. They returned home with wonderful ideas for the year. We held an officer meeting on May 11 and started brainstorming. We are holding our annual fall meeting, most likely in September, with more details to follow. We will most likely hold another silent auction in which you can bid on great items and help raise money for our chapter. Excellent speakers will make the day even more enjoyable. Please start thinking about where and when you would like to meet to earn CNE credits and topics that interest you. We would love to have our members' input on what would benefit you most.

The NKF and ANNA worked together once again during a Health Fair in Independence on St. Patrick's Day. **Christy Corbett** and **Sharon Bunnell** attended and screened many Independence citizens for CKD and hypertension. It was a successful event, and it is obvious there is a need for more screenings in our communities. The lines were long with people who had positive risk factors. Education and guidance was provided for those in need.

President **Carol Pope** and Secretary **Christy Corbett** hosted a booth at another NKF event, a CNE offering entitled *Seize Chronic Kidney Disease*, in May. This was a great way to network with current members as well as recruit new members.

We would love to hear your thoughts on upcoming events and locations, so don't hesitate to contact a chapter officer or e-mail Secretary **Christy Corbett** at christine.corbett@live.com.

Southeast Minnesota #316

Our chapter was well represented at the National Symposium in San Antonio this year by chapter officers: outgoing President **Tina Oain**, incoming Health Policy Representative **Sum Kao**, and President-Elect **Tiffany**

Lohfink. The chapter gave a scholarship to member **Bonnie Jensen** for the poster presentation *Correlational Study of Vascular Access Flow Measurement: Ultrasound Dilution Method and Conductivity Dialysance Method*. Chapter member **Julie Yotter** presented a poster on *Dialysis Therapy: The Home Option*. The chapter recognizes **Donna Magtibay** for her presentation *Hemodialysis Patient Care Technicians: A Training Program Incorporating Distance Education and Use of Simulation Center*.

The chapter is developing our action plan and promoting the professional development of members with high-quality educational offerings. Chapter member **Brenda Walsh** is developing the goal of sponsoring a 1-day conference this fall for PCTs to earn credits toward obtaining or maintaining their certification.

Chapter President **Erin Lander**, President-Elect **Tiffany Lohfink**, Treasurer **John Peterson**, Secretary **Mary Holstad**, and Policy Representative **Sum Kao** are busy planning the Annual Spring Conference scheduled for April 15-16, 2011, so mark your calendars and watch for further information.

Heart of Illinois #319

Our chapter along with Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, IL, hosted the CNN, CDN, and CCHT certification examinations in February. Several sat for the exams, including one person writing the nephrology nurse practitioner exam.

Plans are being made to host a late summer, early fall conference in Lincoln, IL. The topic will be *Understanding Peritoneal Dialysis* with **Dr. Allen Krall** as the guest speaker. Further information, including dates and time, will be decided by the next update article.

A survey has been sent out to all chapter members. Please take time to fill out the survey. We are interested in knowing what members want from their chapter and also ways to increase attendance at meetings, teleconferences, and educational seminars.

Bluegrass #322

Our incoming chapter officers are President **Jan Jurgensen**, Treasurer **George Pinson**, and Secretary **Jill DeBolt**. **Jan Jurgensen** attended the VLW prior to the National Symposium and has lots of great ideas. If you are interested in volunteering for a special project or chapter leadership position, contact Jan at 859-388-9693. We need you!

On March 2 our chapter hosted a very successful educational program on *Vascular Access - Permanent vs. Temporary* presented by **Dr. Kevin Harned**. Special thanks to Dr. Harned for his very dynamic presentation and to all those who attended. We also hosted the Winter Audio conference on February 2 at the VA hospital.

Watch for information about upcoming events.

Black Swamp #323

On March 24 chapter members attended a meeting at Mercy St. Vincent Conference Center and heard **Drs. Gregory Kasper** and **Eyal Morag** discuss *Vascular Management and Interventions*. Commercial support was provided by **Angiotech** and **Covidien**.

April 18 was a volunteer opportunity for the chapter at the Kilometers for Kidney Walk sponsored by the Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio. **Trish Carter** assisted with registration, and **Ruth Pudlowski** and **Ann Ellis** offered blood pressure screening for those walking. **Glenna Frey** sponsored an information table as a co-chair of the local Polycystic Kidney Foundation (PKD) Chapter. Many other members were represented as walkers at this event. The walk generated \$25,000 for the Kidney Foundation.

Abbott Laboratories sponsored a presentation entitled *Secondary Hyperparathyroidism for CKD Stages 3, 4, 5*, which was presented by **Karla Giles** from Washington School of Nursing. Members enjoyed the presentation and dinner at LaScolla Italian Grill.

On May 26 the Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio Summer Symposium was offered to members. The event was arranged by **Trish Carter** and held on the campus of UTM. This event drew 45 attendees and offered 4.33 contact hours. The topics of interest included: water treatment, geriatric nephrology, the patient as captain of his team, and nursing law. Vendors set up exhibit booths, and raffle prizes were given.

Platte River #324

We have begun a new year as chapter officers with the full steam of a locomotive. All the chapter officers attended VLW this year. There were quite a few new online procedures, and we are getting more familiar with the expectations. We will be using ANNA Connected to send out notices so get used to logging in and become familiar with the website.

The officers met on May 20 to discuss and plan the educational

opportunities for the new ANNA year. We are already well into the planning of our fall meeting, *Renopoly*, to be held in collaboration with the Nebraska Kidney Association. It will be held September 15-16 at Embassy Suites in Lincoln. The speaker lineup is very exciting. Watch for "save the date" cards to be mailed soon.

We will be hosting sites for the Fall Audio Conference. Contact us if you are interested in having a site at your facility.

You will soon be receiving a survey asking for your opinion on how your chapter can better serve you. Please take the time to complete and return it! We want to better serve our members and need guidance to do so. Take a minute to sign into ANNA's web page at www.annanurse.org and make sure your e-mail address and personal information is correct. If you are not receiving information from our chapter, e-mail our chapter secretary at tmunsinger@nebraskamed.com so your contact information can be updated in the chapter specific list also. If you prefer snail mail, we are happy to mail the chapter information to you so just let us know.

Questions? Contact any of your chapter officers: President **Peggy Delaet**, pdelaet@unmc.edu; President-Elect **Denise Murcek**, dmurcek@unmc.edu; Secretary **Terry Munsinger**, tmunsinger@nebraskamed.com; Treasurer **Jen Walker**, jen.walker@dciinc.org, and Health Policy Representative **Dana Zeiss**, danazeiss@creighton.edu.

This is a reminder to all to visit ANNA online and explore all the new offerings. The options are numerous!

Greater Minnesota #329

Many of our members took part in a KEEP screening on April 8 in Willmar, MN. To quote one of the NKF staff members, "It definitely went down in my books as the best screening I have ever been to in the 3 years I have been at NKF (and I have been to quite a few screenings)." 120 participants were screened in a 4-hour period, and each person takes 45-60 minutes to screen. With the encouragement of chapter members, the screening became possible with support from Rice Health Foundation and Rice Memorial Hospital.

We kicked off the new ANNA year with a business and educational meeting in Cold Spring, MN, on May 13. Welcome to our new officers: President **Carolyn Clement** President-Elect **Nancy Smith**, Secretary **Taryn Schultz**, Treasurer **Sharon Hoffman**, and Health Policy Representative **James Thoms**.

Mark your calendars for the *17th Annual Renal Symposium* on October 28 at St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. Call **Nancy Smith** at 320-231-4235 if you have questions.

Congratulations to **Linda Lindberg** on receiving the Watson Career Mobility Scholarship, which was presented at the National Symposium in San Antonio.

Anthony Wayne #335



Suzann VanBuskirk was the featured speaker at a dinner meeting hosted by the Anthony Wayne Chapter at Don Hall's Guesthouse in April. Pictured are *Suzann VanBuskirk* and chapter officers *Renee Nicholson*, *Marie Shook*, *Phil Gill*, and *Gretchen Whitham*.

A recent educational dinner hosted by our chapter was well attended. Participants were treated to a presentation on *Immunizations and Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease* by **Monica Richards**. Audience members also enjoyed the presentation of *Overview of KDIGO Clinical Practice Guidelines for CKD-MBD* by **Michelle Shield**. Thank you to **Genzyme** for sponsoring this event at Chop's Steak and Seafood. The summer months have allowed chapter officers to educate local dialysis staff about ANNA in the hopes of increasing our membership. Please contact President **Gretchen Whitham** or any chapter officer for information on joining ANNA if interested.

Red River Valley #341

Chapter members had a nice time at the National Symposium in San Antonio. It was wonderful to see ANNA members from other parts of the country and beyond. The symposium included abundant learning from lecture classes to the vendor displays. It was good to get rejuvenated. Three chapter members attended the VLW and the symposium. We had our monthly meeting in the Tower of the Americas just outside of the convention center.

Some activities our chapter has been involved with include KEEP screenings earlier this year. We are going to have a booth and participate



The Desert Vista Chapter was well represented at the VLW in San Antonio. Pictured (from left, back) are Sheila Deziel, JoAnne Gilmore, Melinda Martin-Lester, Deb Goulding, Tamara Jansen, Corinna King, and (front) Gladys Benavente.

in the local Kidney Walk, and we are having a fundraising event this summer where we will be selling brats at a local grocery store for a couple days. We are planning to meet once a month and develop a plan for recruitment and retention. It was good to see we are not alone when it comes to just having a few active members in our chapter. I know we appreciate each other as we keep the wheels turning.

Western

Desert Vista #501

Chapter officers for 2010-2011 are: Past President **Jenny Bell**, President **Judy Bachman**, President-Elect **Tamara Jansen**, Treasurer **Lisa Donald**, Secretary **Debra Goulding**, and Health Policy Representative **Corinna King**. Four of the incoming officers attended the VLW, and three attended the National Symposium in San Antonio.

Dr. Debra Goulding was awarded the Barbara F. Prowant Nursing Research Grant for the study "Preventing Hypotension in Hemodialysis" at the National Symposium. The pilot study "Preventing Hypotension in Hemodialysis" also was presented at the poster sessions during the symposium.

The educational program *Transplant A-Z* was held in Phoenix, AZ, on June 11. The program offered 9.5 contact hours.

The chapter will host the CNN, CDN, and CCHT certification exams on October 30.

Greater Puget Sound #503

In February the Annual Dialysis Conference was held in Seattle. Chapter members presiding and/or speaking at the conference included: **Lynda Ball**, **Nancy McAfee**, and **Nancy Colobong Smith**. These members have volunteered to serve as part of the planning committee for next year's conference.

The following chapter members attended the National Symposium in San Antonio: **Lynda Ball**, **Carol Kinzer**, **Nancy McAfee**, and **Nan Kunze**. Lynda was a presenter at the Certification Review preconference workshop. Carol presented at a pre-conference workshop on co-morbidities. Nancy presented on camp programs for children on dialysis. Nancy, chapter health policy representative, and Nan, chapter secretary, also attended the VLW, which provided valuable information for their chapter roles.

Nancy McAfee has stepped up as co-State Director for Washington State. Health policy has been busy as the legislature works on health care reform. It is important for nurses to advocate for patients and monitor the impact of the new rules for dialysis units on patient care. Bundling of services will be the big issue facing dialysis units. Further information on how to be involved will be sent via ANNA Connected.

Congratulations to **Lynda Ball** on receiving the *Nephrology Nursing Journal* writing award in the area of education.

On the business side, chapter officers met June 8 to begin planning for a summer educational event and for *Renal Update 2011*. If you would like to be involved with the planning, contact **Nancy Colobong Smith**.

Nephros South #506

Our chapter officers for 2010-2011 are: President **Anneli Ford**, President-Elect **Wendy Lester**, Health Policy Representative **Gloria Booth**, Treasurer **Barbara Merkle**, and Secretary **Kathi Amarillas**. We work so well together we decided to do it again.

On April 14 we hosted a dinner meeting sponsored by **Novartis**. **Jenny Bell** presented *Focus on the African American Transplant Patient*. The May 18th educational event, sponsored by **Fresenius**, was held at Rocking Baja Lobster Restaurant in Old Town San Diego. **Dr. A. Kaldun Nossuli**, director of Fresenius Hemodialysis Unit in Bethesda, MD, presented the latest perspectives on iron therapy in anemia in CKD.

Plans are underway for a full-day educational event on transplant in the fall.

Los Angeles #508

The chapter held its first *Pediatric Nephrology Review* on April 10 at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare Center in Los Angeles. Over 35 area nephrology nurses attended the half-day session. Distinguished speakers and topics included **Dr. Lawrence Opas**, Pediatric Nephrology & Chief of Pediatrics, LAC - USC Medical Center County Hospital, "Causes of Renal Failure in the Pediatric Population;" **Dr. Joshua Zaritsky**, Pediatric Nephrology, UCLA Medical Center, "CVVHDF and Anticoagulating the CVVHDF Circuit in the Pediatric Population;" **Dr. Eileen Tsai**, Pediatric Nephrology, UCLA Medical Center, "Renal Transplant and Compliance in the Pediatric and Teen Population;" and **Dr. Hilda Fernandez**, Pediatric Nephrology and Adult Medicine, UCLA Medical Center, "Managing and Balancing Ca/PO₄ and iPTH in the Pediatric Population."

By special request, a second *Pediatric Nephrology Review* is scheduled for August. Requested topics include: IVIG therapy, pediatric transplant, water safety, buttonhole cannulation, and understanding the critline for optimizing fluid removal during hemodialysis.

Cascades #518

Nancy Strickler and **Heather Dotson** attended the National Symposium and brought to our chapter a wealth of information to continue with this year. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this educational meeting. Our officers held a planning meeting on June 5. Watch



Inland Empire and Las Vegas chapter members enjoyed a boat ride along the San Antonio River Walk while in San Antonio for the National Symposium.



2009-2010 Inland Empire Chapter President Nitaya Soeprono and President-Elect Yvette Dobson enjoyed a fun-filled ANNA National Symposium.

for future meetings via your e-mail and our chapter website.

Nuevo Mexico #520

Chapter members met on May 24 to discuss offering CE on Wheels to nurses in rural areas, increasing membership by five members by the end of the year, setting up the Fall Audio Conference, the nephrology symposium in January in Albuquerque, and ideas for KDAE day/week in August. Also discussed was the recent survey given to members about encouraging more attendance at CNE offerings. Most members would like food and low cost or no cost inservices. We plan to let members know via e-mail when the next local chapter meeting will be held.

Sawtooth #521

On March 14 our chapter held a conference at the Hampton Inn Suites in downtown Boise, ID, entitled *A Focus on Nephrology Issues that Impact Nursing Today*. Thirty-five registered nurses attended and



Inland Empire chapter members enjoyed networking opportunities at the National Symposium in San Antonio.

received 6.0 CNE credits. We were honored to have two nursing professors from Boise State University present information about evidence-based practice, professional nursing development, and cultural sensitivity issues in the renal population. We also received excellent education from two of our own chapter officers who are both practicing nurse practitioners with Idaho Nephrology Associates. **Val Lee** presented *Vascular Access Permanent vs. Temporary*, and **Kristina Unterseher** presented *Techniques to Facilitate Advanced Care Planning*. Incoming President **Sandra Cook-Stewart** also presented a module on vaccinations and the ESRD population. This event was well received and attended due to planning to promote to nurses in the chronic units as well as acute members. Plans for the 2011 conference are in the works.

Inland Empire #526

The ANNA Western Regional Chapter Health Policy Advocacy Award was presented to our chapter at the National Symposium in San Antonio. We recognize and honor all ANNA members and nonmembers for their active participation and Past President **Nitaya Soeprono** for her leadership. This award was made possible by the chapter's participation and involvement in kidney disease awareness and education (KDAE) events like KDAE Day at Loma Linda University Medical Center, the Loma Linda University Health Fair, and taking part in current legislative policies affecting CKD and our community, to name a few.

The chapter was represented at the VLW in San Antonio by President **Linda Mullen** and President-Elect **Yvette Dobson**. The workshop provided an opportunity to learn about new officers' tasks, provided leadership tools to grow, and helped attendees discover opportunities and ways to inspire colleagues in the field of nephrology to achieve competence in practice and service to the community. Your new leaders would like to encourage all members to increase our membership, participate in planned events and "take part," and get involved in current health policy issues. (Go to www.annanurse.org, click on the Health Policy tab, and click "Take Action" for instructions.)

Save the date! On July 28 KDAE Day will be held at Loma Linda University Medical Center. Invite to follow.

Big Sky #527

Our ANNA State Renal Conference on May 22-23 was a big hit! It was well attended, and our speakers were simply outstanding. The annual chapter business was held during the conference. The action plan was reviewed, and progressive projects are in store for the upcoming year. We would like to include student nurses in our chapter area to help promote kidney disease awareness by participating in KDAE Week and Nephrology Nurses Week. Networking with nursing programs and faculty, we hope to integrate students' participation in community awareness with student projects in local communities. So those of you interested in promoting this idea, please do so.

Discussion of other ways to promote KDAE Week and Nephrology Nurses Week included contacting publicly elected officials. We will contact our representative and senators to participate during those weeks



The Big Sky Chapter was awarded the Western Region Rising Star Award at the National Symposium in San Antonio. Pictured are chapter members Nancy Pierce, Jeff Young, Marsha Hartsell, Patty Olson, Linda Lewis, Anita Masters, Diane Trochot, Alice Luehr, Joni Walton, and ANNA President Donna Bednarski.



The Big Sky Chapter participated in the ANNA Montana State Renal Conference. The meeting featured outstanding presenters, including Kristin Larson (pictured) speaking in the Cameron Auditorium in Great Falls.

to help increase awareness by visiting a dialysis unit and get media coverage. We also will pursue Governor Schweitzer to formally proclaim KDAE Week to strengthen our public awareness efforts. If you have any input/good ideas for this effort, please contact us.

Delegates from Missoula have offered to hold the annual 2011 ANNA State Renal Conference. Hats off to them! Planning will commence, and we will seek input from chapter members on what dates will be best for the majority. The 2011 National Symposium will be held in Boston in late March. The VLW training takes place March 25-26 with the symposium running March 27-29. The consensus seems to have our state meeting after the national meetings and allow some time between gatherings. So keep in mind the latter part of April and into May.

The recent National Symposium in San Antonio was attended by **Nancy Pierce**, outgoing Western Region Vice President; **Alice Luehr**, newly elected Western Region Vice President; **Joni Walton**, ANNA Research Committee Chair; **Linda Lewis**, Chapter President; **Anita Masters**, President-Elect; **Marsha Hartsell**, Health Policy Representative; and **Jeff Young**, Secretary. Also attending were **Patty Olson**, previous chapter president, and **Diane Trochot**, chapter member. The chapter had the honor of being awarded the 2009 Western Region Rising Star Award. The award came with a \$500 check! Good work!

The VLW for chapter officers as well as the National Symposium presented excellent educational opportunities. Attendees gained valuable knowledge and returned home with increased energy and motivation to promote chapter activities.

Two individuals took the certification exams in May. Dates are currently pending for a certification review course and examinations. October is the likely month. For those of you planning to apply to sit for an exam, remember you need considerable lead time for submission of your application for acceptance. So don't delay and begin getting all the requirements gathered. All area dialysis units will be notified when dates are set.

For more information about our chapter, contact President **Linda Lewis** (LRLewisRN@aol.com) or Secretary **Jeff Young** (jefyoung@live.com).

Siskiyou #529

Our new chapter secretary is **Dani McMann**. Two chapter members, **Karen McEwen** and **Dani McMann**, attended both the VLW and the National Symposium in San Antonio.

San Joaquin Valley #532



Congratulations to San Joaquin Valley chapter members **Maria Gonzales**, **Gloria Vicenti**, **Anita Hall**, and **Cindy Shaver** who received Professional Advancement Awards from Kaweah Delta Medical Center.

Our chapter officers came back from the National Symposium in San Antonio with lots of information and exciting ideas. They got to network with old friends and make new ones.

Congratulations to **Cathy Gage-Ivers** who received an ANNA Clinical Practice Grant for \$2,500 that will be used to provide educational information for the renal community.

Our action plan for 2010-2011 was submitted. Look for educational programs, KDAE Week in August, Nephrology Nurses Week in September, and our annual "Jewels of the Vines" wine tasting fundraiser in 2011. We welcome any ideas for educational programs that you might want or know of.

Four chapter members received Professional Advancement Awards from Kaweah Delta Medical Center. Congratulations to **Maria Gonzales**, **Anita Hall**, **Cindy Shaver**, and **Gloria Vicenti**!

Check our our website at www.sjvanna.org for dates of upcoming events and meetings. We look forward to hearing from our membership in the central California area.

Silver State South #533

Chapter Secretary **Tess Quijada** and Treasurer **Cyrille Higa** represented the chapter at the VLW in San Antonio. They had positive things to say about the workshop: "We have learned a lot of things that will be very useful tools especially in our respective roles in the chapter and we are so enthusiastic to put it to use right away. We also met some of our old friends and gained new ones. We all shared old and new ideas during the roundtable. That is so far the best part of the workshop. We also had some good laughs while listening to the news in every region via some national officers acting as reporters (very convincing). As a whole, it was a very gratifying experience for us. It is highly recommended to have volunteers attend this workshop.