Happy New Year, NCGNP Members!

I hope everyone had a joyous and restful holiday season. This is already proving to be a busy year for NCGNP. We are planning for our first face-to-face Board of Director’s meeting at the end of this month at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark, the site of NCGNP’s 2008 Conference. This year for the first time, we brought the Conference Planning Committee together in St. Louis for an intensive working meeting to plan for the conference. Some of the Committee members attended in person while others were on a conference call for the essential discussions around topics and speakers. Barbara Phillips, DSN, APRN-C, former NCGNP President, is the Conference Planning Committee Chair, and I know the Committee will do a wonderful job of planning our 2008 Conference. Make sure to save the date on your calendar NOW, September 25-27, 2008!

I am thrilled to announce that Sue Mullaney, MS, RN, CS, GNP, was elected as NCGNP’s President-Elect and joined us at our January Board meeting. A great big congratulatory welcome to Sue! I would also be remiss if I didn’t include a congratulatory welcome to Evelyn Duffy, ND, APRN-BC, FAANP, and Marianne Shaughnessy, PhD, CRNP, as new Board members! Marianne was elected as Treasurer for a two-year term, and Evelyn was appointed as the second Director-at-Large when the bylaws were changed to add this additional Board position, also a two-year term. I am thrilled to have these nurses join our already dedicated and talented Board! Roll up your sleeves, ladies, there is a lot of work ahead!

I am also very excited to announce that we have our first Gold Corporate Membership! Please join me in extending a warm welcome to EverCare as a Gold Corporate Member and to the individual EverCare APNs as they join over the next few weeks. Our current membership is 1,153; our goal for this year is to reach a membership of 2,000! We can reach this goal if each of you brings a friend or colleague into the organization this year. Strengthening our membership is in everyone’s best interest because organizations with greater membership numbers have a more powerful voice! I will have more to say about this soon.

Many of our NCGNP colleagues are doing exciting things out in the healthcare world! I would like to highlight more about NCGNP members this year in our newsletter. If you or your colleagues are doing something interesting in the area of education, research, clinical care, community health activities, or in health policy, please let us know. “WE WANT YOU!” (as the military used to say) on the front page of the newsletter. I encourage you to send me or Harriet McClung (hrmclung@puetzamc.com) an e-mail and let us know about your activities.

I have spoken to many of you about my goal of increasing NCGNP’s collaborative efforts and gaining greater visibility with other healthcare organizations. We do that by making sure that NCGNP has both formal and informal liaisons to organizations, as well as providing our expertise in gerontological care to other healthcare entities. If you are a member of another healthcare group that you believe would benefit from a more formal relationship, let us know and the Board will consider pursuing that relationship.

As always, I want to hear from you if there are issues or problems that you want the Board to discuss. I also encourage e-mails that describe positive things as well, so don’t be shy! I’m looking forward to hearing from many of you and seeing all of you at our 2008 conference. Meet me in St. Louis!

Sincerely,

Deb Bakerjian, PhD, MSN, FNP
President

Save the Date
2008 Annual Conference
September 25-27, 2008
Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark
St. Louis, MO
• Preconference, September 24, 2008
• Postconference, September 28, 2008
Certification & Certification Renewal
News and Announcements

ANCC Announces New Credentials for Advanced Practice Nurses Effective January 2008

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Commission on Certification (COC) has officially announced ANCC’s new advanced practice credentials for nurse practitioners (NPs). The previous credential, APRN,BC (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Board Certified) is retired effective January 1, 2008.

NP Credentials

The new credentials for ANCC-certified nurse practitioners will be NP-BC (nurse practitioner-board certified) preceded by a letter indicating the particular specialty, e.g.:  

- Family Nurse Practitioner FNP-BC
- Adult Nurse Practitioner ANP-BC
- Acute Care Nurse Practitioner ACNP-BC
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner PNP-BC
- Gerontological Nurse Practitioner GNP-BC
- Family Psych and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner PMHNP-BC (Family will be on the certificate and can be added if desired)
- Adult Psych and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner PMHNP-BC (Adult will be on the certificate and can be added if desired)

Implementation of New Advanced Practice Credentials

ANCC’s new advanced practice credentials go into effect January 1, 2008. ANCC will notify state boards of nursing and other stakeholders of this change. Furthermore, all ANCC-certified NPs will receive an updated certificate by mail during the second quarter of 2008, with the new credentials clearly stated. ANCC hopes this will help to avoid or overcome any potential confusion or difficulty.

Charlotte’s Website Update

Thank you for your patience as the website is in a “holding pattern” as we redesign and develop the new website. It is hoped that the website will be completed by late spring.

Charlotte Kelley, MSN, GNP, ARNP
Website Editor
Debra Bakerjian, PhD, MSN, FNP
Novato, CA

“...in the mid-1990s, Debra accepted an active duty position as an educator in the Army Reserves...she was responsible for designing and implementing training programs for hospital corpsmen, staff nurses, and physicians.”

Debra Bakerjian, this year’s NCGNP President, has had a long history of going to school. She started her healthcare career as a medical assistant in the office of her own family physician. Finding that job interesting but frustrating because of her lack of understanding of why things were done a certain way, she convinced her physician boss to write a recommendation to nursing school. While a student nurse, she worked nights as a nursing assistant (before the days they were certified). She graduated with honors from Evergreen Valley College with an associate degree in nursing. Subsequently, she received a baccalaureate in health services administration followed by a family nurse practitioner certificate from University of California, Davis, in 1989.

She received both her master’s of science in nursing (1992) and her PhD in gerontological nursing and health policy (2006) from University of CA, San Francisco. She was a Hartford Pre-Doctoral Scholar from 2004-2006 and is currently a Claire M. Fagin Post-Doctoral Fellow. Her post-doctoral fellowship, funded by the John A Hartford Foundation and Atlantic Philanthropies, focuses on a secondary analysis of Medicare claims data to examine differences in nurse practitioners’ and physicians’ use of emergency rooms and acute hospitalizations of nursing home residents. This is a follow up to her dissertation study that examined practice patterns of primary care physicians and non-physician providers (primarily nurse practitioners) in nursing homes for the year 2004. She currently holds a faculty appointment as an Assistant Adjunct Professor and is very involved in the local Hartford Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence. She recently completed a literature review of Advanced Practice Nurses for the Hartford Collaborative and is working with several other nurse experts, led by Keela Herr, on pain in nursing home residents through a generous grant from The Mayday Fund.

Debra has had somewhat of an eclectic background in health care. Although starting out as a staff nurse in an acute care hospital and following the familiar path to intensive care, her subsequent career path has been quite diverse. In the mid-1980s she left acute hospital care to work in a physician’s office. While there she was trained to do echocardiography and for many years was the only person who could perform echocardiograms in the entire community. During this time she completed her FNP education and returned as a nurse practitioner to the same office and also was the first FNP to obtain admitting privileges in the hospital. In this practice Debra saw patients in the office, hospital, nursing home, and made house calls to homebound seniors. While trained as a family nurse practitioner, her practice was extensively focused on older adults.

In addition to working and going through the FNP program, Debra was also a nurse in the Army Reserves. So, in the mid-1990s, Debra accepted an active duty position as an educator in the Army Reserves. In that position, she was responsible for designing and implementing training programs for hospital corpsmen, staff nurses, and physicians. While a reserve nurse, she developed an ACLS training program for all of the nurses and physicians in the unit that resulted in certification of the entire unit’s professional staff. She also was a project director for a multi-million dollar tri-service field training exercise that provided realistic training for army hospitals and ambulances, Air Force aero-medical evacuation units, Navy corpsmen, utilizing transportation resources over land and sea to move personnel and equipment. This exercise was the largest and most realistic exercise in the history of the Army Reserves west of the Mississippi.

After three years on active duty, Debra returned to a reserve status and began looking for a job as a nurse practitioner. While on active duty, Debra had continued to see nursing home patients to maintain her skills, so it seemed a logical next step to continue. Unfortunately, there were no jobs in nursing homes so Debra started her own practice, contracting with two physicians to provide nursing home visits to their patients. Since that time, Debra has built the business to include several other NPs and now has a group practice. Her office also provides administrative support and medical billing for physicians with nursing home practices.

Debra is involved with many professional organizations. At the state level, she is on the Board and chair of the Education Committee for California Long Term Care Medicine. In this position, she is responsible for developing the annual educational program for professionals interested in long term care. In addition to being NCGNP’s President, she is on the Board for LTC Direct, Inc., on the Advisory Board for Centers for Excellence in Assisted Living, and Vice Chair of Advancing Excellence in America’s Nursing Homes.

Debra lives in Novato, CA, about 20 minutes from the wine country with her husband and their blended family of four children who move in and out of the spare bedrooms. Those of you with young adult children understand that phenomenon. Her husband, Stephen, is an insurance broker who often helps her run the family business which has employed all four of their children at one time or another. In their spare time, Debra and Stephen both enjoy golf, traveling, and wine tasting.
Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Lois C. Hamel, PhD, APRN-BC, ANP
Chair, Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has had a busy start to this year. We met via teleconferencing October through November to prepare the ballot for the special election on the heels of the annual conference. Susan Mullaney, MS, RN, CS, GNP, received the majority of votes for President-Elect.

The Committee had a teleconference on January 10 to prepare for the 2008 ballot process. In 2008, we are in need of a Secretary (two-year term), a Nominating Committee member (one-year term), President-Elect (three-year commitment), and a Director-at-Large (two-year term). Let this be the year you agree to serve your profession and demonstrate a leadership role. Anyone who has been a member of NCGNP for at least one year is eligible. The Nominating Committee ENCOURAGES members with diverse educational preparations, diverse geographic distributions, and varying years of practice to self-nominate.

Send your interest to any member of the Nominating Committee: Lois Hamel (DRHLCH@aol.com), Jennifer Serafin (jserafin@hsf.org), Siobhan McMahon (siomcmahon@earthlink.net), or the NCGNP National Office (hrmcclung@puetzamc.com) TODAY, do not delay.

We are planning to have the biographical statements from the candidates run in the next issue of the newsletter.

Member Services Committee

Valerie Matthiesen, PhD, ANP/GNP
Chair, Member Services Committee

The Member Services Committee has been working on two projects. The first project is completing a proposal for an Annual Chapter Excellence Award. The proposal will be sent to the Board in January. Following Board approval, this award will be included in the annual NCGNP awards and presented at the conference in September. All chapters will be notified of the award criteria following approval by the Board.

The second project is determining what additional membership benefits to provide NCGNP members. The Committee has surveyed other professional nursing organizations and will make recommendations for additional benefits to be considered by the Board.

In addition, the Committee is developing a timeline for chapters to make bylaws revisions in order to be in compliance with the national bylaws changes that were approved at the conference last fall.

The Member Services Committee which includes all chapter Presidents and others remains dedicated to serving the needs of the membership. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact the National Office or the Committee Chair.

Practice Committee

Susan Mullaney, MS, RN, CS, GNP
Chair, Practice Committee

The Practice Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis and has established the following goals for 2008:

• Maintain and update the Practice Links Web page (Nursing Home and Assisted Living Modules - Develop tools to assist new NPs)
• Develop clinical pearls
• Distribute and then expand Fast Fact Sheet to members
• Contribute articles to quarterly newsletter
• Respond to member questions
• Review research and practice opportunities for GNPs
• Participate in conference planning

The Practice Links Web page has been undergoing a transformation and, when all modules have been updated, the Committee would like to hear from you. The ultimate goal of the Practice Committee is to support members so we are very interested in your feedback. Please watch for the survey.
One of the greatest challenges for the gerontological advanced practice nurse is filtering through the vast body of research and scholarly articles to identify best practices and consolidate pertinent information to use in clinical practice. Research evidence is available that could impact and improve practice, but often practicing nurses do not have time to read all of the many lengthy studies that are published annually. It has been suggested that investigators should develop brief summaries of research results with recommendations for practice. Intellectual critiques of research publications can be beneficial for the use of putting research evidence into practice in the real world. The Research Committee of NCGNP will begin reviewing articles pertinent to care of the older adult and would like to share a couple with you in each newsletter issue. Anyone who has read a good research article that you would like to share with the NCGNP members, please e-mail Lisa Byrd, Chair of NCGNP Research Committee, at LByrd3@comcast.net


Different doses of vitamin D were studied in nursing home residents over a five-month period. Participants were given different doses of vitamin D, but the group that received a daily dose of 800 IU of vitamin D supplement exhibited the best results with a 72% lower adjusted incidence of falls than the placebo group. This study showed the significance of adequate doses of vitamin D in prevention of falls in nursing home residents.


A study was conducted with 134 ambulatory older adults with mild to severe Alzheimer’s disease in a nursing home setting. It was found that a simple exercise program, one hour twice a week, can significantly slow the decline in ADLs of older adults with Alzheimer’s disease in a nursing home setting.


This study examined the use of high intensity ambient light in public areas of long-term care facilities. Findings showed residents who were exposed to this supplemental lighting had significantly increased night-time sleep when exposed to both morning only and all-day high intensity ambient lighting.


This report on the pilot care management program and a description of a larger randomized controlled trial modeled after the After Discharge Care Management of Low-Income Frail Elderly [AD-LIFE] trial. It compares an integrated medical/social care management model with a purely social model on low-income elderly patients with chronic conditions and functional impairment at high risk for re-hospitalization or nursing home placement. There was a significant decrease in hospital admissions showing a savings of $1,000 per patient per month. Based on these findings, a three-year trial has begun.

The Research Committee is anticipating the submission of some great abstracts of nursing research for the 2008 conference. If they are anything like past years’ submissions, these findings will influence the way we care for the older adult population. Start getting those abstracts together to submit. The call for abstracts is on the NCGNP website; the deadline for submission is June 15, 2008.

Provider Unit

Cindy Gerstenlauer, MSN, APRN-BC, CDE
Provider Unit Manager

As Provider Unit Manager, I am committed to working with the Provider Unit Committee members, Dancy, Puetz & Associates (DP&A), the Board of Directors, and the 2008 Conference Planning Committee to ensure that the continuing education process for this year’s conference will go smoothly. Last year was my first year as Provider Unit Manager and also DP&A’s first year managing our conference. There were some glitches in the continuing education process. For example, not all of the session objectives were in the program book which made it difficult to evaluate the achievement of the objectives. Another potential problem was the pharmacology credits. I had to estimate the amount of pharmacology content based on the information I had at hand. This year we are asking the speakers to include this information as part of their educational plan.

(continued on page 6)
The Planning Committee recently met and reviewed the comments submitted for the 2007 conference. We have already made plans to implement many of them. One repeated issue is that people wanted more contact hours. We actually had more minutes of educational sessions offered this conference over last, but it was less credit because we now get one contact hour per hour of instruction instead of 1.2 contact hours per hour (a change by the American Nurses Credentialing Center). We also need to balance education, the business of the organization, and social/networking activities which can be invaluable to members.

Many were unhappy that some of the industry-supported symposia did not offer contact hours. NCGNP does try very hard to obtain contact hours for these symposia, but members need to understand that new pharmaceutical guidelines curtail the ability of pharmaceutical companies to support educational programs in the same manner as in the past. The process is completely taken out of the hands of the pharmaceutical reps who still want very much to support us. We must now apply for an educational grant and hope that our needs line up with the current company priorities. Contact hours can only be awarded for unbiased, fair-balanced programs, which is not always possible. Therefore, such programs will be called Product Theatres, and we will indicate that contact hours are not available. However, these Product Theatres generally provide a meal, which is very expensive for the companies, to the attendees and does help offset conference expenses as well as provide networking and socializing opportunities for the attendees. Attendance is certainly optional and meals can be purchased elsewhere.

NCGNP provides other opportunities to obtain continuing education credits. Managing Anemia in Chronic Kidney Disease Patients in LTC is still available for downloading from the NCGNP website. This is available for no charge and is worth 1.4 contact hours with 0.5 pharmacology credits. You also should have received in the mail all three parts to the self-study modules on Counseling Points (August, October, and December 2007 issues) worth 1.2 contact hours each, also at no charge. Please take advantage of these opportunities. If you have suggestions or comments related to continuing education, please feel free to e-mail me at cgerstenlauer@comcast.net
NCGNP Foundation

The NCGNP Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors would like to recognize and thank members and chapters that accepted the challenge to make a donation to the Foundation. We appreciate your support and enthusiasm for our mission of promoting research, scholarship, and education for advanced practice nurses who serve older adults.

The Foundation is accepting applications for travel and education scholarships to be awarded in St. Louis. Access details about the application process and the awards by going to the NCGNP website (www.ncgnp.org) and clicking on the Foundation link. The Foundation has two travel awards this year: the David Butler Spirit of NCGNP Award and the Student Travel Award and a Research Award.

The Spirit Award recognizes an NCGNP member who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to the organization and actively supports the mission of NCGNP. This scholarship offers a stipend up to $1,000.00 to be applied toward registration at the annual NCGNP conference, travel, and lodging.

The Student Travel Award recognizes the research or clinical project of one advanced practice nursing student and offers a stipend up to $1,000.00 for registration, travel, and lodging at the annual conference in St. Louis. The Foundation will collaborate with the Research Committee and will choose the awardee from the abstracts submitted to the Research Committee.

The Research Award supports research of members, including student members. The intent is to assist members with some of the costs associated with the research project.

Thanks to MJ Henderson, RN, CS, GNP, and her cadre of willing volunteers, we had a variety of successful fundraising events in San Diego. We are pleased to announce the Foundation will organize similar and/or additional events in St. Louis. Mark your calendars for the Golf Tournament and the Fun Run, then check the NCGNP newsletter and conference registration for additional events.

The NCGNP Foundation is supported entirely through donations from individuals, organizations, and corporate donors that are accepted at any time throughout the year. Donations are 100% tax deductible and should be made payable to The NCGNP Foundation, c/o Eric Joh, Esq., 4600 North Ocean Boulevard, Suite 206, Boynton Beach, FL 33435.

Mary Pat Rapp, PhD, RN, FAANP
NCGNP Foundation Secretary/Treasurer

Member in the News

Charlotte Kelley, ARNP, MSN, GNP-BC

January 1st was another road mark for nurse practitioners in Iowa. Charlotte Kelley ARNP, MSN, GNP-BC, was granted privileges with the Iowa Health System (IHS). This allows her to be added to the list of approved primary care providers (PCP) for those who are insured under the IHS plan, the employees of IHS. Ms. Kelley owns her own private practice in Des Moines, IA. Nurse practitioners have long been sole PCPs with privileges in rural clinics. Although she had privileges in several rural hospitals where she holds her specialty clinic in continence rehabilitation, this is the first time an NP practicing in her own practice in an urban setting has been given this privilege. This now allows even urban-living Iowans the access to a NP as their PCP. Ms. Kelley credits her moving forward confidently to the strong, unfailing collegial support from the NPs and nurses she has association with through various state and national professional organizations.

Congratulations, Charlotte!

NCGNP President Elected Vice-Chair (continued from page 6)

As the Campaign enters into this second year, it just had its first in a series of eight webinars to present overviews of the process frameworks of the Campaign goals. The first webinar was on acute and chronic pain and was presented by Steve Levenson, MD, past President of AMDA. This webinar was extremely well attended with over 1,000 portals and an estimated 3,000 attendees participating. The next webinar is scheduled for February 21 and will focus on pressure ulcers. This webinar will be the first to integrate nursing and medicine into “one” presentation with the process framework being the broad view and the specifics being the implementation of the framework at the bedside. Volunteers from NGNA, NADONA, AMDA, and the Arkansas Quality Improvement Organization will be working on this along with Steve Levenson and Deb Bakerjian who will co-present the webinar. Be sure to save February 21. Information will be forthcoming on how to register for the webinar. There is more information available about the Campaign at www.nhqualitycampaign.org

It is not too late to join the Local Area Network of Experts (LANE) in your state. The Campaign is also looking for additional volunteers for several upcoming projects. If you are interested in becoming more active, please notify Deb Bakerjian.
Chapter News

Chicago Chapter

Beth Slutsky, APN, GNP-BC
CGAPN Chapter President

This year the Chicago Chapter will celebrate ten years since becoming a chapter of NCGNP. Many of the original members continue to be active in the local chapter, as well as with the national organization. To celebrate, we will be holding a special event planned for the summer in addition to our quarterly meetings. The date and venue are under discussion at present. Past members are warmly encouraged to participate in the celebration.

At our November meeting, Marquis Foreman, PhD, RN, FAAN, with the University of Illinois at Chicago, presented “Delirium: The State of the Science and Implications for Care.” We also reviewed the results of the member survey that was conducted in August. Many of the respondents indicated an interest in participating in small interest group meetings outside of the scheduled quarterly meetings. We are currently working on this for March. In February, we have scheduled an informational session with two local employers, Home Care Physicians and Evercare, to discuss employment opportunities. In May, we will hold our Annual Dinner Meeting at Costa’s Restaurant in Greektown with a special speaker, Mary Ann McDermott, EdD, RN, FAAN, from Loyola University Chicago, who will present a program on aging and the arts.

This promises to be an exciting year for the Chicago Chapter. We welcome all advanced practice nurses and APN students who work with older adults to attend the meetings and become members. Please contact me at bas1000@comcast.net for more information.

Great Lakes Chapter

Alice Early, MSN, APRN-BC
Great Lakes Chapter President

The Great Lakes Chapter held its holiday meeting on December 6 with featured speaker Dr. Kerry Cramner. He spoke on peripheral neuropathy. The meeting was sponsored by Eli Lilly. Our next meeting is March 13, and Dr. Peter LeWitt will speak on Early Stage Parkinson’s Disease. Please check the chapter website for further information. Our chapter is in the early phases of planning a fall geriatric conference that will be held October 11, 2008, at the Doubletree Hotel in Novi, MI.

Northern California Chapter of NCGNP

Jennifer Serafin, RN, GNP
Chapter President

It looks to be an exciting year for the Northern California Chapter! We will meet during the winter/spring on January 19 and May 3. We hosted an all day CE event on February 2. Please contact me at jserafin@jhsf.org if you would like more information. Lastly, we continue to work on our group projects, which include promoting our Tube Feeding brochure, and creating a CPR brochure.

Magnolia Chapter of Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses (MagGAPN)

Lisa Byrd, PhD, RN, CFNP
Chapter President

The Magnolia Chapter of Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses (MagGAPN) and Mississippi Nurses Association (MNA) District 13 partnered to offer an educational offering on geriatric and palliative care at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS, on Tuesday, February 19, 2008. The proceeds benefited both groups. MagGAPN is growing in Mississippi and Louisiana. We are proud to announce that we have expanded to take in another southern sister state: South Alabama. Welcome! Anyone needing a local chapter in Mississippi, Louisiana, or South Alabama-please e-mail LByrd3@comcast.net for more information.

New IRS Filing Requirements for Chapters

The IRS has changed requirements for organizations with gross receipts of $25,000 or less. This requirement will likely affect your chapter. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 requires you to file an annual electronic notice. If a chapter has not been required to file a tax return because it has made less than $25,000, you may now be required to file the electronic notice as a communication with the IRS that your chapter is still receiving less than $25,000 annually. If your chapter set up tax exempt status with the IRS, your requirements may be different and you will want to continue filing as you have in the past. This change only affects those who have not been required to file in the past. The annual electronic notice will be due by May 15 and can be completed online at the IRS website (www.irs.gov). Please visit the IRS website and click on Charities and Non-Profits for more information and filing requirements.
Corporate Group Membership Opportunities

NCGNP has Corporate Group Membership opportunities. Below are the packages for the Platinum, Gold, and Silver Level memberships. Please contact the NCGNP National Office at (866) 355-1392, (850) 471-7075, or e-mail ncgnp@puetzamc.com for an application or for more information.

Platinum Corporate Level Membership Package: $50,000 ($79,250 Value)
• Full benefit membership for up to 1,000 employees ($75,000 value)
• NCGNP corporate members will receive an additional ten percent (10%) off member registration rate for the annual conference
• Special Acknowledgement on the NCGNP website, in The NCGNP Newsletter, and at the NCGNP Annual Conference
• Six complimentary employment advertisements on the NCGNP website and a 20% discount on additional employment advertisements for the year (min $1200 value)
• Two Quarter-Page Advertisements in The NCGNP Newsletter ($800 value)
• Two Free NCGNP mailing lists ($600.00 value)
• Complimentary exhibit booth at the annual conference ($1,800.00 value)
• Complimentary full page advertisement in conference program book ($1000 value)
• Platinum Level Corporate Member Plaque presented at annual conference ($150 value)
• Invitation to participate on the Industry Advisory Board

Gold Corporate Level Membership Package: $30,000 ($40,000 value)
• Full benefit membership for up to 500 employees ($37,500 value)
• NCGNP corporate members will receive an additional ten percent (10%) off member registration rate for the annual conference
• Special Acknowledgement on the NCGNP website, in The NCGNP Newsletter, and at the NCGNP Annual Conference
• Three complimentary employment advertisements on the NCGNP website and a 20% discount on additional employment advertisements for the year (min. $600 value)
• One Quarter-Page Advertisement in The NCGNP Newsletter ($400 value)
• One free NCGNP mailing list ($300.00 value)
• Complimentary exhibit booth at the annual conference ($1,800.00 value)
• Complimentary full page advertisement in conference program book ($1000 value)

Silver Corporate Level Membership Package: $20,000 ($24,300 value)
• Full benefit membership for up to 300 employees ($22,500 value)
• Special Acknowledgement on the NCGNP website, in The NCGNP Newsletter, and at the NCGNP Annual Conference
• Two complimentary employment advertisements on the NCGNP website and a 20% discount on additional employment advertisements for the year (minimum $400 value)
• One Quarter-Page Advertisement in the The NCGNP Newsletter ($400.00 value)
• Complimentary full page advertisement in conference program book ($1000 value)

Please join us in welcoming NCGNP's first Gold corporate member: United Health Care/Evercare.

Looking for a Chapter Near You?

Arizona (Sonoran) Lisa Latto (Lisa.latto@inspiris.com)
California (Northern) Jennifer Serafin (jserafin@jhsf.org)
Delaware/Pennsylvania (Delaware Valley) Suzanne Ransehousen (Suzyr107@yahoo.com)
Georgia (Atlanta) Nikki Davis (Barbara_N_Davis@uhc.com)
Illinois (Chicago) Beth Slutsky (bas1000@comcast.net)
Louisiana/Mississippi (Magnolia) Lisa Byrd (Lbyrd3@comcast.net)
Maryland (Baltimore) Rosemary Smith-LaMacchia (mgcnp@yahoo.com)
Massachusetts (New England) Anne Marie Bourque (ambourque@verizon.net)
Michigan (Great Lakes) Alice Early (ame626@aol.com)
North Carolina (Triad) – Linda Chilton (lchitto@bellsouth.net)
Ohio – Alicia A. Wolf (wolfa@summa-health.org)
Tennessee – Jennifer Kim (Jennifer.kim@vanderbilt.edu)
Texas (Gulf Coast) Elizabeth Godlove (elzgd1@earthlink.net)
Texas (Lone Star) Eric White (ewhitgnp@hotmail.com)
Wisconsin (Southeast) Lynn Jensen (l2b2ylj@aol.com)

Interested in Starting a Chapter?
Contact NCGNP Chapter Services Specialist, Richelle Torres, at (866) 355-1392, (850) 471-7075, or e-mail her at richelle.torres@puetzamc.com
President-Elect: The President-Elect serves as a member of the Board of Directors and performs the following functions: performs duties as assigned by the President; automatically assumes the office of President at the end of the President’s term or in the event of a vacancy in the office of President; develops a thorough understanding of the bylaws and policies of the Society, and Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised; works closely with the President; develops and prepares goals for upcoming term as President; establishes contact with the National Office staff for the operation of the Society; recognizes and advises of changing outside influences which may affect the decisions of the Board; participates in the development and implementation of the strategic plan; contributes articles to newsletter as required; completes other duties as assigned. Travel is required and expenses are reimbursed as set by NCGNP policy. Three year commitment, first year as President-Elect, second year as President, and third year as Immediate Past President.

Secretary: The Secretary serves as a member of the Board of Directors and performs the following functions: records the proceedings of all official meetings of NCGNP; notifies the NCGNP membership of the annual meeting and any other special meetings; accepts responsibilities and assignments as delegated by the President; participates in the development and implementation of the strategic plan; contributes articles to newsletter as required; and completes other duties as assigned. Travel is required and expenses are reimbursed as set by NCGNP policy. Two-year commitment.

Director-at-Large: The NCGNP Director-at-Large serves on the Board of Directors and perform the following functions: assume responsibilities delegated by the President and/or Board; participate in the development and implementation of the strategic plan; contribute articles to newsletter as required; assist to orient the new Director-at-Large; complete other duties as assigned. Travel is required and expenses are reimbursed as set by NCGNP policy. Two-year commitment.

Nominating Committee Member (2): The Nominating Committee oversees the elections process, solicits and screens applicants, and presents a slate of candidates to the membership for voting. The business of the Nominating Committee is conducted via conference calls; travel is not required. Nominating committee members may not run for office whilst serving on the nominating committee. The candidate receiving the most number of votes will serve for two years, the second year of the term as Chair of the Committee. The candidate receiving the second most votes will serve a one year term.

NOMINATION AND CONSENT STATEMENT

A candidate must have been an active member of NCGNP for a minimum of one year preceding nomination. Nomination does not guarantee that a person’s name will appear on the final slate.

Full Name___________________________________________________________ Credentials____________________________
Current Position________________________________________________________ Work Phone _________________________
Affiliation____________________________________________________________ Home Phone __________________________
Address____________________________________________________________ Fax ________________________________
City___________________________________________________________ State______________ Zip _____________________
E-mail____________________________________________________________________________________________________

I am willing to serve in the office of __________________________________________if selected for nomination and elected by the membership.
Signed, ____________________________________________ Member, NCGNP Date_______________________________

A Complete Candidate packet includes the following:
1. A one-paragraph biographical statement that includes the following information:
   • Your professional educational background
   • Your current job title and a brief description of your current responsibilities
   • Past NCGNP positions, committees, or projects in which you were involved
2. A 250 word statement for inclusion with the ballot describing what you hope to achieve through the office you seek and what you hope NCGNP would achieve through your service. Statements exceeding 250 words will be cropped at the 251 word.
3. A passport type photo for inclusion with the ballot
4. Your curriculum vitae or resume

Return your COMPLETE CANDIDATE PACKET to the NCGNP National Office by April 1, 2008 to: NCGNP National Office, 7794 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514 or Fax (850) 484-8762
New Considerations For Managing Osteoporosis In Long-Term Care
An Evidence-Based Approach

Abstract
Recent studies show that it is safe to assume that most women in LTC facilities are at a high risk for osteoporotic fractures and should be on therapy. Despite these alarming statistics, many patients are not being treated. This presents a viable opportunity to improve residents’ quality of life and reduce costs associated with fractures.

Determining which bisphosphonate products will provide the best outcomes for residents can be a difficult process because extrapolating clinical trial data from the long-term care population can be problematic. The evolving standard for efficacy in osteoporosis therapy is fracture reduction and early onset of protection at all fragility sites. These endpoints may not have been adequately studied in the clinical trials. Also, the lack of head-to-head data further complicates the evaluation of these agents. Integrating real-world data into the process offers many benefits together with new challenges. The goal of this program is to provide clinical and real-world evidence to better evaluate the differences in bisphosphonates.

Program Faculty

William Simonson, PharmD, FASCP, CGP
Independent Consultant Pharmacist
Immediate Past Chair, commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy
Past President, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists
Suffolk, VA

Rebecca Jackson, MD
Associate Dean for Clinical Research, College of Medicine
Professor Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism
Interim Director, Ohio State University Center for Women’s Health
Ohio State University Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Learning Objectives
- Cite the incidence of osteoporosis and identify the morbidity, mortality and cost factors associated with fractures in long-term care facilities
- Discuss the importance of early fracture reduction in this population
- Compare and contrast the differences in efficacy of the bisphosphonates for fracture reduction
- Define the value of real-world data for evaluating osteoporosis therapies and the implications for long-term care residents

Target Audience
Geriatriic Nurse Practitioners or Nurses that work in the long-term care setting.

This activity has been developed and provided by Health Insights and is supported by an educational grant from The alliance for Better Bone Health, a collaboration between P&G Pharmaceuticals and sanofi-aventis US.

Accreditation
Health Insights is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the PA State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation and is provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing California Provider # CEP 12643.

This activity will provide 1.0 contact hour of continuing nursing education credit (of which 0.5 credit hour is pharmacology).

There is no fee for this activity.

Access this educational activity at: www.healthinsightsllc.com
The NCGNP

Newsletter
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF GNPS, INC.

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September 25-27, 2008
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Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark
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Preconference, September 24, 2008
Postconference, September 28, 2008

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