

GAPNA *eAlert*

[April 4, 2014]

Happy National
Volunteer Week!

April 6-12, 2014

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GAPNA 2014 Board of Directors Election

The National Board of Directors annual election is fast approaching. The election process will open on May 6 and close on May 30. To assist you with your decision, we will be posting background information about each of the 2014 nominees on our website starting April 15. Please take a moment to get to know the candidates.

Your vote is important! Let your voice be heard.

Thanks in advance,
Nominating Committee

Awards for Excellence Nominations Open

Nominate your friend, mentor, co-worker, peer, employee, staff member, or even yourself... for one of GAPNA's prestigious Awards for Excellence.

The GAPNA Awards for Excellence honors and recognizes

Career Opportunity

Advanced Practice Provider Opportunities Along the Virginia Peninsula

Riverside Health System has 5 hospitals located along the VA Peninsula and our service area is 650,000. Riverside Health System remains the area's largest provider of services for older adults. As a physician-led organization, we have more doctors and medical professionals providing hands-on care than any other area provider and we are the largest PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) provider in the area.

For more information, please contact:

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Upcoming Events

Liberty Chapter

Monday, April 7, 2014

"The Beneficial Use of Florastor in Long Term Care and Primary Care"

New England Chapter

Saturday, April 12, 2014

"Dementia- The Importance of Cognitive Health in 2014"

Florida Chapter Symposium

May 2-3, 2014

outstanding performance and achievement during the year in seven distinguished categories: Clinical Practice, Community Service, Education, Leadership, Research, Chapter and Special Interest Group. In 2014 we will join together to celebrate the winners at the Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Please take a moment to nominate who you think excels in the area(s) of Clinical Practice, Community Service, Education, Leadership, Research, Chapter and Special Interest Group and give back to those that give us so much. The process is quick and easy.

[Click here to read more about each of the awards or to download a nomination form.](#)

Call for Research, Clinical, and Education Project Abstracts

The GAPNA Research and Education Committees are now accepting abstracts for research, clinical, and education projects for podium and poster presentations for the [2014 GAPNA Annual Conference](#) at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa in Orlando, FL. Projects should be original work not published or presented elsewhere, completed by August 2014 (the Conference takes place September 17-20), and should enrich the advanced practice nurse's knowledge and/or enhance the care of the older adult.

*Abstracts must be received by **midnight May 15**. [Click here](#) for abstract guidelines and the submission form.

Tell Us About It!

As I approach my first ANCC re-certification, I have astounded myself with how much I have learned in the last five years, and also how little I know. I think back to my nursing theory class in graduate school and I remember one theory that has always resonated with me. That is Patricia Benner's (1982), From Novice to Expert. I remember knowing very well that I was a novice at the time of graduation. At one point did it change? I can confidently say that I am no expert. However, I can also confidently say that I am no longer a novice. I have reached a point of learned knowledge and experience where I feel moderately comfortable, yet cautionary in my decision making processes. This confidence is largely attributable to my involvement in my local GAPNA chapter, the ***Great Lakes Chapter***.

My involvement started out small by attending meetings. In these meetings I was guided and

Leading the Way in Caring for the
Older Adult

[Chicagoland Annual Dinner Meeting](#)

Thursday - May 15, 2014

[Ohio Chapter of GAPNA](#)

Friday, May 16

Sixth Annual Statewide
Continuing Education Day
"Building Skills and Advancing
Excellence in Geriatric Care"

Online Library



[Advancing Geriatric Oncology Care](#)

(session captured at the
GAPNA 2013 Annual
Conference)

Facebook

Connect with GAPNA members
and other professionals through
[the GAPNA Page on Facebook](#).



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mentored by other colleagues and I was able to gain confidence and value in my skill set as an NP. Four years ago, I was asked to be a presenter for our annual NP mentorship night. I was given an opportunity to guide novice graduate NPs into practice. At a point in time where I felt lost and uncertain of my success as an NP, I was given an opportunity to alleviate those same fears and uncertainties for other students. Overnight, I had become an expert.

This organization has also provided other leadership roles. I even went as far as being a co-chair for our local 6th Annual Conference in 2013. Five years ago, as a novice, I never could have predicted I was going to be this involved. The bottom line is that I discovered I had value as a novice and this organization has helped flourish my skills into becoming an expert in some areas. I still have much to learn, and I look forward to what I will experience in the next five years.

LeAnn Sabatini
GAPNA Member
Great Lakes Chapter

GAPNA wants to hear about your latest news, items of interest, words of wisdom, and other interesting tidbits from the world of geriatric advanced practice nursing. **Tell Us About It** if you've received a promotion or award, presented at a clinical meeting, developed a practice pointer or innovation, or experienced a challenging or lighthearted moment with a patient.

[Click here for submissions](#)

[Click here to read what others are saying](#) on the "Our Voice" section of our website.

*This educational activity has been co-provided by Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc. and GAPNA.

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Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc. is a provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, provider number, CEP 5387.

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The Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (GAPNA) is the organization of choice for advanced practice nurses who want to pursue continuing education in gerontological care and who seek peer support from experienced clinicians.

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