



# ASNA Newsletter



January 2010

## IMPORTANT DATES

ASNA Board Meeting  
February 11, 2010  
3:45-4:45pm  
AaNA office  
Call in: 274-0801

NASN Annual  
Conference:  
Chicago  
June 29th-July 3rd  
Registration begins  
April 15, 2010

## *From the President*

Happy New Year! I hope this finds all of you meeting your goals for a healthy happy year. Personally, I am glad to be past the H1N1 Vaccine Clinics at our ASD schools! However, there is still so much more to accomplish this school year!

The most exciting upcoming event is the ASNA Spring Conference. It is well on its way with regards to the planning thanks to the hard work of the Conference Planner, Tracy Silta, from Soldotna. Assisting Tracy is Christy Kinter from Kodiak, Becky Hansen our ASNA Vice President, Janet Capito from Juneau, Mary Bell our State School Nurse Consultant, and several school nurses from the Kenai Peninsula.

The ASNA Spring Conference will be in Homer at the Land's End on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. You will have the opportunity to get additional CEU's due to a presentation on Sunday. You can attend any part of the conference or the entire three days. Look for more information coming your way via emails and next month's ASNA Newsletter.

Another way you can increase your knowledge base, besides getting CEU's, is by serving as a Board member of ASNA. All the Board positions are available. Please open the document, "[ASNA is looking for YOU to Serve!](#)" attached to this newsletter. It will describe each position's eligibility and expectations.

All of the current Board members have served several years even though most of the positions (with the exception of the NASN Director) have a one-year term commitment. These lengthy commitments are the best indicator of how fulfilling it is to volunteer!

Annette Johansen, the current Treasurer, will be stepping down this year. Annette has served ASNA for five years and has been dedicated to bringing our books and finances into the 20<sup>th</sup> century! We are a "non-profit" due to her diligence and persistence. Annette was also responsible for finally making our website [www.alaskasna.org](http://www.alaskasna.org) a reality. This sounds like a "hard act to follow" however, we all started as "newbie's" and we have all helped each other along the way. Our ASNA Board is a "family" that supports and helps each other. So don't hesitate, Annette will be staying on as our Webmaster and will be available for questions.

A second loss is Jennifer Cottle, our current Secretary. Jennifer is always upbeat, vivacious and happy. She is always willing to jump in and do whatever is needed. It has been delightful to work with Jennifer! She is another dedicated soul as she has been our Secretary for three years. Jennifer plans to continue to do our ASNA Newsletter so she will also be available for questions.

Patty Barker, our NASN Director is in her first year of a four-year commitment. Patty has been a past Vice President and past President. Patty has helped me enormously through my first year as President and my two years as Vice President. Patty is very knowledgeable about ASNA and NASN, available to help at any time, supportive in a very caring calm manner, and extremely organized. Patty continues to amaze me, as she is always three steps ahead of everybody else!

The President and Vice President positions are open if you are interested. Becky Hansen, the current Vice President and I are planning on running again for our seats. I find it very interesting that once a person serves on the ASNA Board, they tend to continue for more than their term commitment! Please consider serving for ASNA as this is a very fulfilling endeavor both professional and personally!

Luann Fogels, RN  
ASNA President

## ASNA Spring Conference 2010

# "Waves of The Future"

## Navigating School Nursing Best Practices

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Homer, Alaska

Land's End Resort

1-800-478-0400

Group rates available- tell them you're with "ASNA"

Get together with your school nurse colleagues and book a room. Travel together- "road trip" or fly on ERA (\$276RT)

Conference Topics include: Epilepsy Update, Brain Trauma in Children, Dating Violence, Sexual Abuse, START/jumpSTART, Common Sports Injuries, FASD Update, Vision Screening, 504 Plans and much more!

## From the Vice President

Consider supporting your professional organization by joining NASN and ASNA. Yearly dues for both are only \$126, and they can now be paid in quarterly installments for a \$5 yearly fee. Benefits include online CEUs and discounts at the state and national conference, discounts at the NASN bookstore, subscriptions to two magazines, discussion lists, national advocacy, and partnerships such as VSP and insurance. Some School Nurses ask local organizations to pay for their professional dues because the Sight for Students plan is a cost-effective benefit to students. See <http://www.nasn.org/Default.aspx?tabid=125> for more info.

### NCSN CERTIFICATION

As a way to generate interest in School Nurse Certification (NCSN), I asked a few certified nurses to answer the following questions about certification. Here are the replies:

"How has your certification helped you in this current economic time?"

The extra addendum is very helpful since I am a single parent. -Kim

The \$2,000 certainly has helped to pay for continuing education and attending the national nursing conference. I feel I am a more informed nurse because of the certification. At Nationals, you learn what other nurses are doing in other states and come back with a wealth of resources and contacts. -Lee

I know that I am highly qualified when I get the extra check! -Heidi

The extra \$2000 yearly certainly helps! -Debbie

This certification brings with it many rewards; along with feeling as if I am highly qualified in my field of nursing as a school nurse. ASD also recognizes school nurses for our NBCSN by giving us a \$2,000 stipend each year that we remain certified. -Kathy

"Do your schools know you are certified?"

I really don't know if anyone at my school knows I am certified -Kim

Some of my teacher's do and my principal. -Lee

It is funny that you ask this question. I noted in our staff lounge that there is a print out of who the highly qualified teachers are and the percentage of "HQ" teachers on staff. There is no mention of me being highly qualified. -Heidi

No -Debbie

My school knows that I am certified, as I display my framed certification in my office and staff have seen the certificate and congratulated me on this accomplishment. -Kathy

Are you ever recognized for certification?"

I don't get any recognition for it. -Kim

I just attended the School Board Meeting for recognition and my Principal and Director of Nursing attended. My school gave me a gift certificate. -Lee

I haven't framed my National Certification certificate. I do have it on my email signature. -Heidi

No, but as a professional, it's not really about that. It's about being the best that I can be and

knowing it myself. -Debbie

I was recognized a few different times,

1. By my peers when the first group of ASD school nurses took the exam together in 1999 and we passed.
2. In the NBCSN newsletter listing all the nurses that passed during that testing period,
3. At the end of the year breakfast, our director Janice Bates recognized all that had successfully completed the requirement for certification.
4. When ASD recognized us as certified with our stipend and every October after that as long as we remain certified. -Kathy

For more information on School Nurse Certification, go to <http://www.nbcsn.com/>  
Application deadline for testing for NCSN certification this summer is May 31, 2010.

Rebecca Hansen, RN, NCSN  
ASNA Vice President

"NBCSN Certified" polo shirts and  
notepads are available for purchase  
at [www.nbcsn.com](http://www.nbcsn.com)  
Polo shirts- \$30  
Note pads- 3 for \$12

### *ASNA Spring Conference: Silent Auction*

Silent Auction Items are needed and we're asking that everyone participate by bringing an item with them to the conference. Christy Kinter from Kodiak will be working with the conference planning committee by getting the "silent auction forms" together. She would appreciate if you would send her the item description and suggested starting bid. You can e-mail her the information to: [seegoo@acsalaska.net](mailto:seegoo@acsalaska.net) or [ckinter01@kodiakschools.org](mailto:ckinter01@kodiakschools.org).

Thanks for your support! The silent auction is always a fun addition to the annual spring conference.

#### **ASNA Spring Conference Schedule**

- April 9<sup>th</sup> 5-6pm Hospitality Hr.  
6-9pm Conference and Hors d'oeuvres
- April 10<sup>th</sup> 7-8am ASNA Board Meeting/Breakfast  
8-6pm- Conference
- April 11<sup>th</sup> 9-1pm Conference

## *From the Director*

Welcome to 2010! I hope that all of you had a relaxing and refreshing break. It is wonderful to know that we are now on the downside of this school year.

NASN has been very busy this year with H1N1, as has the rest of the nation. Though they have been involved with many things, this has been their focus for quite awhile now. Hopefully now that H1N1 is no longer as big of an issue as it was earlier, NASN will be able to focus more on other concerns.

NASN has been encouraging membership within the organization, and I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to become members if you are not one already. There are a lot of benefits to being a member, and it makes our professional organization strong. Please visit [www.nasn.org](http://www.nasn.org) for more information.

Later this month I will be heading to Washington DC to attend the NASN board of directors meetings. I am hoping to bring back a lot of valuable information for our members. I will also have the opportunity while I am in DC to meet with our state legislators and talk about school nursing issues. This will be an amazing experience for me and I hope I represent you all well.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the spring conference in Homer.

Respectfully yours,  
Patricia Barker, RN, BSN

### **Did you know.....**

**National School Nurse Day is celebrated on  
May 12, 2010!**

**A BIG thank you to our wonderful ASNA 2010  
Spring conference planners:**

**Tracy Silta, Carmen Magee, Sharon Gorman,  
Evelyn Clough, Naomi Walsworth,  
Janet Capito, and Christy Kinter**

**They are hard at work putting together a fabulous conference!**

## 2009-2010 ASNA Board Members

**President:** Luann Fogels, RN, NCSN  
[fogels\\_luann@asdk12.org](mailto:fogels_luann@asdk12.org)

**Vice President:** Rebecca Hansen, RN, NCSN  
[hansen\\_rebecca@asdk12.org](mailto:hansen_rebecca@asdk12.org)

**Director:** Patricia Barker, RN  
[barker\\_patricia@asdk12.org](mailto:barker_patricia@asdk12.org)

**Treasurer:** Annette Johansen, RN, M. Ed., NCSN  
[johansen\\_annette@asdk12.org](mailto:johansen_annette@asdk12.org)

**Secretary:** Jennifer Cottle, RN, NCSN  
[cottle\\_jennifer@asdk12.org](mailto:cottle_jennifer@asdk12.org)

**Alaska State School Nurse Consultant**  
**Mary Bell, RN**

**She has been hard at work but you can reach her by email at**  
[Mary.bell@alaska.gov](mailto:Mary.bell@alaska.gov)

ASNA is a non-profit organization affiliated with AaNA. The mission is to support school nurses and school nursing within Alaska

