

JANUARY 2008 NEWSLETTER

Member Appreciation Day
Wild - Wild West Evening



“Mama Don’t Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowboys” but you can be a **bukeroo** for an evening, **February 7, 2008**. Hitch up your buck-board or saddle up ol’ Nell and head down to the Stoney Creek Inn, Moline IL. (not the **“Heartbreak Hotel”**) for a rootin’ tootin’ good time. Skeeaddaddle on down on Feb 7, 2008 and we’ll all gather ’round for some of that good ol’ country roasted chicken like Gramma used to make on her old cook stove or a mighty fine steak like they serve down at the **“Delmonico”**, not that dern ol’ tough buffalo or **“Raw Hide”** that you get out on the trail from the chuck wagon. There will be all the fixin’s besides. You’ll have time for jawin’ with old cronies and meetin’ new friends. There will be plenty of **snake oil salesmen** and a few **travelin’ shows** preachin’ a little gospel and **sellin’ bottles of Dr. Good** and probably a **“Maverick”** or two thrown in for good measure. This will net you a **“Bonanza”** of goodies to pack in your saddle bag for the **“Happy Trails”** home. And jus’ so you don’t get a little dull in the head the school marm will be teachin’ a class on Herpes for your enrichment. So lads dust off the Stetson, polish up the boots and pull on your best dungarees. Lassies get out your fancy bonnet and put on your best Sunday-go-to-meetin’ gingham dress (or lassies who are buckin’ the system you can sport the dungarees and those fancy shirts with them pearlized snaps too!) But shucks, **“Don’t Take Your Gun To Town”** as there won’t be any **“Gun Smoke”** at the **OK corral** and we will all avoid **boot hill**. Dress like your favorite Western hero and win a prize!! You may meet Dale Evans, Roy Rodgers, Annie Oakly, Calamity Jane, Buffalo Bill Cody, the Lone Ranger, Tonto, (but probably not Silver) or some of the “ladies” from the **“Best Little Whore House in Texas”**. Dress up for fun and prizes!! We’ll see ya’al at **Stoney Creek Inn, 101 18th St., Moline, IL. on Feb. 7, 2008 at 5:30 pm.**

FROM THE PRESIDENTS PEN



Hi Everyone,
The following is the philosophy of Charles Schultz, the creator of the 'Peanuts' comic strip. You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just read this straight through, and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America Pageant
4. Name ten people who have won a Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winner for best actor and actress.

6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.
How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners .

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money or the most awards. They are the ones that care.

'Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia' (Charles Schultz).

When I recently got this e-mail I thought of all my colleagues in the Alliance and in our professions - YOU are the ones who care and make a difference in peoples' lives! My children gave me a sign that reads "To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world." This not only pertains to our personal lives, but to our professional lives as well. We have all made a difference in someone's life. The Alliance is just one more way we have of helping our professions and each other. As I look at the members of the QCA APN/PA Alliance I feel warm inside because these members are APN's and PA's that really believe that they can make a difference. As you read this newsletter you will see how far the Alliance has come from the days of the beginning toddler steps we all took together when the Alliance was formed in 2001. As we consider the destiny of the Alliance and our professions we need to be reminded that "Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice." We can coast through out lives and our careers and let things happen or we can influence them. Our membership is not made up of professionals who are satisfied with the status quo. If you would like to become more involved with the Alliance we have need for help on several committees. Please contact me at 788-6502 if you would like to help. I know schedules are tight and lives are busy with family, work, and life in general, but your membership and your attendance at meetings is greatly appreciated. If there are any activities you think the Alliance can or should be more involved with, to help serve your needs, please call me. This is *YOUR* Alliance and I want it to be all that you expect of the local professional organization.

I am pleased to inform you that the national organization, The American College of Clinicians, has agreed to continue the discounted joint membership. The ACC is working on the national level on matters that affect both professions, APNs and PAs. Their mission statement is "We are the only national

organization to advocate and promote the mutual interests of Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants. We believe that all clinicians are entitled to fair reimbursement and recognition when providing care for our patients. We advocate for these rights through grassroots efforts on behalf of advanced practice clinicians". Established in 2004, the ACC has taken on tasks such as challenging the drug companies to not use the phrase "only your doctor can prescribe" in direct ads to consumers. So far their efforts have resulted in 2 companies that are now saying "your health care provider" rather than doctor. I think this organization will be able to accomplish many good things for both professions. The yearly dues for the ACC are usually \$60.00 per year, which is very reasonable, but now there is a terrific deal to join both organizations for one low price of \$55.00. You may do so by completing the enclosed membership forms. I hope each of you has a wonderful, happy and healthy, New Year. Peggy



Education Committee

Over the past year the Education Committee has provided meetings on the following topics: Thyroid Disease by Dr Weideman from Genesis Health Group, Bariatric Surgery by Dr. Phelps from the Davenport Surgical Group, Atopic Dermatitis and Psoriasis by Dr. Leslie Kramer from Cedar Rapids, and Overactive Bladder Disease by Dr. Morris Gist from Urological Group. In addition Clinical Corners were provided by our own members on a variety of topics. The education committee also assisted with the Member Appreciation Day celebration. This was a lot of tropical fun in January and a great success all around. We look forward to providing further timely education for our members and by our members. Janice Simmons - previous Vice President and Education Chairperson



Finance Committee

I am happy to announce that the QCA APN/PA Alliance is in the black thanks to the support of our pharmaceutical companies and the growing number of members. In the year 2007 we had 108 paid members. This is tied for the record number of members since the organization inception in the year 2001. Nancy Agnew - Treasurer



Marketing Committee



The marketing committee was very active this year. The highlighted events of this committee were the Thomas Candler Scholarship, the Race For The Cure, and the Member Appreciation Day. The Scholarship was won by Ann Heinrich an NP student. We wish her well in her future studies. 2007 was the first time the Alliance participated in the Race For The Cure. We were an underwriter sponsor, which got our organization name printed on all race materials including the T-shirts. We also had a booth where we were able to distribute information about APNs and PAs and a brochure that listed many of our members who were accepting new patients. We had a "team" that participated in the race, wearing our own Alliance Race for the Cure Shirts. We will participate in the Race again on June 14, 2008. Mark your calendars and plan to participate with the Alliance for this great cause. Watch for more information on our web site and upcoming newsletters. If you are an NP or PA student or you know someone who is, please remember that we give a \$1500.00 scholarship each year. Again, watch the upcoming newsletters and web site for details. I hope to see all of you at our Member Appreciation Day February 7, 2008. Everyone has a great time at this event and there are wonderful prizes awarded as well as a good educational meeting. An exciting upcoming event for 2008 will be the first member networking evening. This will be an evening just for networking. We are investigating Lavender Crest Winery for an evening of causal fun and getting to know each other better. There will be more details about date and time as these become available. Make sure you complete all the information on the membership forms so we can contact you. We may only be able to do the list-serv and web site so make sure you e-mail is current (and legible). SEE YOU ALL FEBRUARY 7, 2008, AT STONEY CREEK INN, MOLINE IL. FOR THE MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY. Sara Nyquist - Marketing Chairperson



Membership Committee

Everyone should be able to tell the most recent year dues have been paid by looking at your address label. The most recent year is noted after your name i.e. (07) or (08). If your dues are not current you may complete the enclosed membership forms. You will notice that additional contact information such as work address is included on a supplemental form. This is to facilitate creating a comprehensive directory of APNs and PAs to increase your visibility to colleagues and patients through website and marketing initiatives. There are 134 members listed in the previous directory. **Please complete both enclosed membership forms and bring them to the February meeting or mail directly to the Alliance address.** We also request that you include one of your business cards with these forms. You may also submit any ongoing changes in your contact information to my email at dingolab@hotmail.com. This will help keep our records current. A new QCA APN/PA directory will be available at the May meeting. (Watch for future newsletters and the web site for details). JEAN MERTES - Membership Chairperson.