



## GCNA MARCH DISTRICT MEETING

**Tuesday March 6, 2012**

**5:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

**The Manor Party Center**

**24111 Rockwell Dr., Euclid, Ohio**

**216-481-8080**

### Inside this

President's Message 2

GCNA Ballot and  
Voting Instructions 3

GCNA Candidate  
Bio's 4

2011 Elizabeth K.  
Porter Award 5

GCNA Scholarship 6

### The Diversity Challenge

**Presented by Tameka L. Taylor, Ph. D**

**Partner and Consultant of Compass Consulting Services, LLC**

**Join us for the very relevant topic of diversity in the workforce. Our presenter Dr. Tamika Taylor will discuss diversity management and inclusion.**

**Schedule:** 5:30 – Social Hour, Dinner  
6:00 – Business Meeting  
6:30 – Program  
8:00—Adjournment

**Cost:** \$20.00 – Members/Guests  
\$15.00—Students  
\$25.00 – Non-members

**REGISTER AT 216-771-6922 OR VIA EMAIL AT  
GCNA@CLEVELANDNURSE.ORG  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 2, 2012**

**A Joint Meeting of The Greater Cleveland Nurses Association,  
The Ohio League for Nursing, Northeast Region and  
The Cleveland Council of Black Nurses**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We nurses often don't experience what it is like to be "on the other side." As you may know, my husband has had a number of health issues over the past several months so I have had the opportunity to experience what it is like for the patient.

I am proud to say that from emergency room nurses to home care nurses, the nurses provided excellent care. From recent graduates to advanced practice nurses, I saw nurses acting as patient advocates, from recognizing subtle changes in his condition to preventing unnecessary blood draws I saw men and women who were aware of his (and sometimes my) emotional needs as well as physical needs. We nurses know that pain management is important for all patients and all the nurses were vigilant in maintaining his comfort as much as possible. They were proactive in preventing post-op complications such as pneumonia, pressure area, or infection.

Of course there were a few times when I saw actions that were not "best practice" (at least in my opinion) but I know that with staffing cuts, increased patient assignments, and increased patient acuity, we are not always able to provide the care we want to. But I am very proud to be a nurse and am confident that we have our patients' best interests uppermost in our minds as we strive to provide quality, compassionate care in a caring manner to them all.

Let's remember that February is Black History Month and GCNA partners with the Cleveland Council of Black Nurses for our March 6 District Meeting. February is also American Heart Month so let's remember that we need to take care of ourselves so that we can take care of others. And on a final note don't forget to mark Saturday June 9th on your calendars for the Second Annual Nursing Gala.

All the best,

*Betty Freund*

President

## MARK THE DATES !

There is a lot going on in 2012 and you don't want to miss out so get out your phones, mobile devices or just plain pen and paper and mark these dates.

Feb. 22 - GCNA Board of Directors

March 6- District Meeting

April 3 - GCNA Board of Directors

May 11- Nurses Day Luncheon

May 31 - GCNA Board of Directors

June 5 - District Meeting

June 9 - Nursing Gala

Aug. 15- GCNA Board of Directors

Oct. 4 - GCNA Board of Directors

Nov. 28 - GCNA Board of Directors

Dec. 4 - District Meeting.

## NURSING NOTES

**Thank You . . .** Our own Harriet Coeling and the St. Malachi Healthcare Clinic would like to thank Kathy Noles and Jennifer Kinzer and all the St. Vincent Charity Medical Center nurses who contributed, and helped to make the Christmas gift bags for the needy clients at the St. Malachi Healthcare Clinic. . . .

**Introducing COCHA . . .** Last year a group of health care professionals united to create a new political advocacy association - one based on mutual respect, organizational transparency, and a patient-centered focus. Thus COHCA, the Council for Ohio Health Care Advocacy, a trans disciplinary health care organization was born. For more information go to the COCHA website at [www.cohcaonline.org](http://www.cohcaonline.org)

**Changed Email—Let Us Know . . .** GCNA is increasing the number of e-publications it sends out to members. These include the e-Voice, the weekly Nursing News Flash and periodically Nursing Events in NE Ohio. In this electronic age people change their email address many times and if you have not been receiving these publication or other email updates from GCNA, or you recently changed your email address, contact us at [gcna@clevelandnurse.org](mailto:gcna@clevelandnurse.org) so that we can update our records. We want to make sure you have the latest information about GCNA and the nursing community in NE Ohio.

# 2012 GCNA ELECTIONS

## GCNA VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

GCNA has gone to electronic online voting! Here's how to do it:

1. To cast your ballot go online to **www.votingplace.net/gcna**.
2. Enter your first name as it appears on your ONA ID card and your ONA ID number DO NOT INCLUDE THE ZEROS AT THE BEGINNING OF YOUR ID NUMBER. All entries are case sensitive
3. You should be at the ballot. Vote by clicking your mouse on the box next to the appropriate name. Write-ins are accepted but you need to type a name in before checking the box.
4. Submit your ballot and you have voted!
5. THE DEADLINE FOR VOTING IS March 3, 2012.

You can still vote with a paper ballot if you would prefer that. Just contact our office at 216-771-6922 and we will forward the envelopes for voting

### 2012 OFFICIAL BALLOT

Greater Cleveland Nurses Association - District 16 - ONA

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vote for One in Each Category  
**OFFICERS**

	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>
	Meghan Zona

	<b>SECRETARY</b>
	Patricia Sharpnack

	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>
	Robin Blake

	<b>AT - LARGE (open write ins welcome)</b>
	LaTonya Carroll

	<b>EDUCATION</b>
	Janet Baker

	<b>STAFF NURSE</b>
	John Reitz

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Vote for One in Each Category

	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>
	Donna Hughes

	<b>EDUCATION</b>
	Judy Beeler

	<b>STAFF NURSE (open write ins welcome)</b>
	Sandy Levine

	<b>AT - LARGE</b>
	Open

# MEET THE 2012 GCNA CANDIDATES

Candidates nominated for 2012 GCNA offices were asked to provide basic biographical information for the purposes of introducing themselves to members. Each Board of Directors candidate was also given the option to include a personal statement. The ballot has been prepared and distributed with this issue of the VOICE. One person will be elected for each position on the Board of Directors as indicated. Four persons will be elected to serve on the Nominating Committee. The deadline for voting is March 3, 2012. Election results will be announced at the March District meeting and posted in the following issue of the VOICE. Term of office for both the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee is two years. Terms of office will begin upon announcement of election results at the February meeting.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS – VICE PRESIDENT**

**Meghan Zona** RN, BSN; Quality Improvement Nurse  
**Education:** CWRU, FPB School of Nursing **Activities:** GCNA Vice-President 2010-2012 GCNA Board of Directors-Staff Nurse 2004-2006 ONA Delegate 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009  
**Personal Statement:** Recruitment of new members and retention of old members is a daunting challenge in today's economy. GCNA should have a formal mentoring process by which current members could foster the newer members. Improving the visibility of GCNA is vital to sustaining our membership. GCNA can hold either focus sessions or district meetings held at local hospitals to increase bedside nurses' attendance and to introduce them to the organization.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS – SECRETARY**

**Patricia Sharpnack** RN, DNP, CNE, NEA-BC; Director – Undergraduate BSN Program and Associate Professor, Ursuline College  
**Education:** St. Vincent Charity Hospital School of Nursing (Diploma); Ursuline College – The Breen School of Nursing (BSN); University of Akron (MSN); CWRU – FPB School of Nursing (DNP) **Other Nursing Organizations:** OLN Education Summit Steering Committee 2009 – present; OLN Professional Development Advisory Committee – 2009 to present; Sigma Theta Tau - Iota Psi Governance Committee Chair: 2008-2010; MNRS – Midwest Nursing Research Society Subcommittee Membership – 2009 to present; Nurse Educator, Informatics and Geriatric Nursing Subcommittees; NEONI Education Subcommittee – 2009 to present; Northern Ohio Simulation User Group – 2010 to present; OCONL - Ohio Consortium of Nursing Learning Labs – 2007 to present; GNEC – Geriatric Nurse Educators Consortium – 2007 to present; HIMSS - Health Information Management System Society – 2011 to present; OAAPN – Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses – 2011 to present; AACN – Organizational membership 2006 to present; Student Nurses of Ursuline College – (SNUC) (Established NSNA Chapter) – Faculty Advisor – 2007 to present **Personal Statement:** The Greater Cleveland Nurses Association (GCNA) has enjoyed a long-standing reputation as a pacesetter in the Cleveland healthcare

community. This rich history serves as a strong foundation for future growth and an expanding emphasis on organizational involvement with establishing local healthcare policy underscores the need to champion leadership opportunities. However, for long-term viability to be secure, it is imperative that this professional organization strategically plans for leadership training and succession to ensure the long-term viability of this professional organization. The priority goals for GCNA are to actively recruit and engage new members, promote leadership opportunities for nurses in all areas and specialties and to provide for educational opportunities that endorse a quality and safety agenda. There are many methods to achieve these tasks. One technique is to promote partnerships with student nurse organizations, particularly with students at the senior rank in nursing programs, providing opportunity to pair with seasoned members who can provide for networking opportunities. Another method is to champion formal and informal leadership training opportunities for new graduates, and a third is to offer educational programs for both new and experienced nurses concentrated on the components emphasized in the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Future of Nursing report. While there are many areas where this organization can influence healthcare policy in the greater Cleveland area, I believe that an emphasis on the vibrancy of this organization is the first step at ensuring the long-term viability, strength and on-going influence of the American Nurses Association agenda for quality and safety in nurse's lives. I look forward to an opportunity to play a small part in this established agenda.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS- ADMINISTRATION**

**Robin Blake** RN, MSN, DNP; CNS, Louis Stokes VA Medical Center  
**Education:** CWRU Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing MSN, ND **Activities:** GCNA Board member 1990-1992, 2010-Present; ONA Nominating committee **Other Nursing Organizations:** St. Malachi volunteer, member of APNA, Sigma Theta Tau **Personal Statement:** The first issue I feel that is important is membership. I have been a member of the organization since I first became a nurse in the early 1980's and have seen the gradual decline in numbers and would like to see some ideas to attract this new generation of nurses who appear to more tech savvy and less attracted to traditional organization methods. To begin I would consult with nursing schools and student nursing organizations to survey what is needed to help nurse transition into the district organization. The second issue is helping nurses move towards BSN education as their nursing foundation so that nursing's educational ladder equals that of other professions where the baccalaureate degree is the foundation of the profession and the educational standard is unified at the academic level. This is the time to start the dialogue.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS– EDUCATION

**Janet Baker** RN, ACCNS-BC, CPHQ, CNE ; Director of Graduate Nursing, Ursuline College **Education:** CWRU FPB School of Nursing, **Other Nursing Org.:** HIMMS, OAAPN, MNRS, NLN, Iota PSI, OAHCQ, NACNS, NOHIMMS, NONPF **Personal Statement:** I believe that by working together we can provide the necessary leadership and supportive environment to mentor new nurses in the greater Cleveland area. I believe that we can unite to influence positive health care reform policies that will meet the needs of the community. I believe that the GCNA can play a greater role in promoting positive health care behaviors with improved health outcomes in the Cleveland area. I think as an organization of dedicated professionals we can play a greater role in supporting community initiatives to help residents in need in the greater Cleveland area. Through educational programs and advanced educational preparation and leadership development, I believe that the membership of the Greater Cleveland Nurses Association will have a positive impact on the health and well being of Cleveland residents, nursing professionals, and the larger health care community. Through the active involvement of current GCNA members and the expanding participation of new members, the GCNA can launch programs and initiatives of broader scope and reach.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS– STAFF NURSE

**John Reitz** RN, BSN, CARN ; Staff Nurse, St. Vincent Charity Hosp. **Education:** University of Akron **Personal Statement:** I have not been an active participant in GCNA up until now, so I have no real insight as to the specific challenges facing GCNA, but as a staff nurse I would like to see more support of each other – professionally, personally, and politically; but also focus on evidence based policy changes. If a policy does not produce results, or has no benefit, I would vote to rescind .

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS– AT LARGE

**LaTonya Carroll** RN, MSN; ESS PRN-RN UH Case Medical Center, Clinical Instructor FPB School of Nursing CWRU **Education:** College of Mount St. Joseph, CWRU FPB School of Nursing, **Activities:** GCNA Board Member 2011-12 **Other Nursing Org.:** Member, Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority, Inc. Gamma Eta Chapter, President, Graduate Student Nurse Association, FPB School of Nursing, CWRU, Member, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Greater Cleveland Alumnae Chapter **Personal Statement:** One of the most important issues facing GCNA in the next two years is the recruitment and retention of members. Members who have been a part of the district and working with the district have been in their positions or working for a while. As not to discredit their hardwork and dedication, new members with new ideas on how to continue the districts goals need to be recruited. We also need to ensure that those members who do join, are welcomed and their ideas as well as their input are valued.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE –ADMINISTRATION

**Donna Hughes**, RN, BS, BA; Retired **Education:** Lutheran School of Nursing; State University of New York **Activities:** ONA: Director, BOD; Treasurer, Secretary, 1st Vice Present, Committees: Chair, Finance Com., Chair, Nominating com., Building Com., Heritage Com. ANA and ONA Delegate to State and National conventions too many times in my 50 years of membership to list. Chair, Bylaws Com., Membership Com., Board of Directors, 1st Vice President, Executive Director **Civic/Community Organizations:** Ohio and National Republican Member and Volunteer

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE – EDUCATION

**Judith Beeler**, RN, BSN, MSN, Staff Development Coordinator, Medical-Surgical Nursing University Hospitals Case Medical Center **Education:** Sewickley Valley Hospital School of Nursing: Diploma in Nursing, University of Pennsylvania; BSN, Case Western Reserve University: MSN **Activities:** Program Committee, Present Past: President of Board of Directors , Member of Board of Directors, Legislative Committee, Staff Development Interest Group ONA: Continuing Education Approver Council: 2010 to present, Other ONA committees in the past: CE committee; Resolutions Committee **Other Nursing Memberships:** National Staff Development Organization **Community Organizations:** Current: Deacon, Noble Road Presbyterian Church

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE – AT LARGE

OPEN

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE – STAFF NURSE

**Sandra Levine**, RN

## 2011 Elizabeth K. Porter Involved Nurse Award

GCNA will be presenting the 2011 Elizabeth K. Porter Involved Nurse Award at the June District Meeting, out annual awards meeting. The award is given each year to the GCNA member(s) who:

- 1 Foster high standards of nursing practice.
- 2 Promote the professional and educational advancement of nurses.
- 3 Promote the welfare of nurses to the end that all people may have better nursing care.

Nominations will be accepted until May 10, 2012. Contact GCNA for nomination forms at 216-771-6922 or e-mail at [gna@clevelandnurse.org](mailto:gna@clevelandnurse.org)

## The Greater Cleveland Nurses

1289 East Ave  
Elyria, OH 44035

Phone: 216-771-6922

Fax: 440-322-3466

Email: [gcna@clevelandnurse.org](mailto:gcna@clevelandnurse.org)

### **GCNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Betty Freund, MSN, RN – President  
Mary Joyce ADN, RN– President Elect  
Meghan Zona BSN, RN –Vice President  
Dorothy Hamilton BSN, RN– Secretary  
Geraldine Pangrac RN – Treasurer  
Benitha Garrett BSN, RN– Director, Administration  
Robin Collins Blake, ND, MSN, RN—Director, Administration  
Rob Davis DNP, MSN, RN– Director, Education  
Khaliah Fisher-Grace RN – Director, At-Large  
LaTonya Carroll – Director, At-Large  
Stacy Booker, RN – Director, Staff Nurse  
Kerry Stouges, MSN, RN – Director, Staff Nurse

Jeff Groth – Executive Administrator

VISIT THE GCNA CAREER CENTER AT [WWW.CLEVELANDNURSE.ORG](http://WWW.CLEVELANDNURSE.ORG)

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## TIME TO APPLY FOR THE 2012 GCNA ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Greater Cleveland Nurses Association (GCNA) is pleased to announce the 2012 Annual Scholarship! GCNA will award one \$1000 scholarship to a nursing student in a basic RN program entering their final year of school. Any junior who will be a senior in good standing in the fall of 2012 is eligible to apply.

### **CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION AND AWARD**

- Be a resident of Cuyahoga or Geauga County.
- Be enrolled full-time in a basic RN program in Cuyahoga or Geauga County.
- Have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average . A copy of the most recent transcript must be included with the application.
- Maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average. A copy of the transcript/grades must be submitted within two weeks following each grading period.
- Provide proof of membership in the school's Student Nurse Association.
- Complete a 1000 word essay answering the following questions. Students should write a professional paper using correct grammar, spelling and punctuation. Margins should be 1 inch, papers should be double spaced, and the font should be no smaller than 12.
  1. What is your personal philosophy of nursing?
  2. How will you use your education for the advancement of nursing?

Interested applicants should call 216-771-6922 or contact us at [gcna@clevelandnurse.org](mailto:gcna@clevelandnurse.org) to receive an application. **Applications should be submitted no later than Friday May 11, 2012 to the Greater Cleveland Nurses Association, 1289 East Avenue, Elyria, Ohio 44035.**