Legislative news
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The results were outstanding. I’d like to thank all the people who were involved at this time. The bill containing our provision, moved out of conference committee around August 2.

Although this is a reason for happiness, we still have many things to do.

At the time of this writing, the bill still has not passed the House and Senate in its final form. All indications are that it should pass with relatively little problem. After passage from the House and Senate, the bill will go to the President’s desk for his signature. However, when the President signs it, our work has just begun.

After the President’s signature, the bill must still be funded. Allow me to explain. The bill has an authorization level of $2,000,000. That is the maximum amount that can be appropriated to the bill. However, that doesn’t mean that less can’t be appropriated. For instance, we might only receive $1,000,000 of funding for the traineeships. Our work consists of obtaining specific examples of places where we need this money, such as schools that could expand enrollment with increased funding; training programs contemplating closure that could be strengthened by money from the provision; any facility that is willing to commit its time and resources to the training of nurse anesthetists but can’t because of a lack of stipend support needed to fund the program; or students enduring undue hardships because of a lack of financial assistance. It is with these types of specific examples that we can obtain the full authorization level of $2,000,000.

Any information you should be sent to me at the AANA, 216 Higgins Road, Park Ridge, Ill. 60068.

Funding for the bill will probably come from a supplemental appropriations bill which cannot be acted upon until the beginning of fiscal year 1980, which is in October, 1979. Key people in our hopes with this supplemental bill are members of the Senate and House Subcommittees on Labor/HEW Appropriations, whose chairmen are Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) and William H. Natcher (D-KY), respectively. I will keep you informed of any new developments in this area.

The recently completed Annual Meeting in St. Louis was a joy for me. I met many people with whom I had communicated in the past and many whom I had not. I gained insight into the membership of the Association.

In talking with people at the meeting, I discovered that the need for a more complete Labor Situations File is imperative to the welfare of the nurse anesthetist. Any information that you as members have for me will be greatly appreciated, as stated before.

JOHN KASPER (ll), AANA legislative and employment practices coordinator, reviews the status of the Nurse Practice Act with AANA Board member Joyce Kelly, CRNA.

I hope that the people whom I had contact with in St. Louis enjoyed talking with me half as much as I did conversing with them. I am sorry if there are people who missed me at the meeting who wanted to see me. If this is so, please contact me at my office and I will do my best to serve you.

Helen Vos named recipient of the 5th Annual AANA Agatha Hodgins Award for Outstanding Accomplishment

Helen Vos, BSN, AANA Emeritus member, and a past-president of the AANA, was named the recipient of the 5th Annual AANA Agatha Hodgins Award for Outstanding Accomplishment at the AANA Annual Meeting in St. Louis. The award recognizes individuals whose "foremost dedication to excellence has furthered the art and science of nurse anesthesia."

Miss Vos was cited as being a dedicated educator, "who during her professional career, helped countless numbers of students realize their goal to achieve excellence in the field of nurse anesthesia." She has additionally provided continuing education to countless practicing anesthetists.

In accepting the award at the AANA Annual Banquet, Miss Vos gave special thanks to her family, students, and friends, indicating that her award was, indeed, their award. Here are excerpts from her remarks:

"A friend asked me a few days ago if I had my life to live over, would I select anesthesia, and teaching in particular. It took me no time at all to respond with 'yes.' Teaching, to me, is just plain fun! Of course, there have been a few valleys but there have been far more peaks."

"In my travels to your states, I sometimes think I feel the pulse of the AANA, its heartbeat, if you will.

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Agatha Hodgins Award
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One of the kindest things we have done for ourselves during the past few years is mandatory continuing education. I have personally met many people who had not attended educational meetings for many years and then I saw their faces as they rediscovered the joy of learning and the blessing of returned self-confidence.

"Are you aware that many nurses are very threatened by the 1985 standardization of education? The three-year diploma nurse feels devalued. A possible schism between the 'have' and 'do not have a degree' is in the offing. We could have a mini civil war in our profession. Everyone loses in a civil war.

"I like to think that we, in our association, have done somewhat better in managing our standards of education and have kept our programs to a minimum. But, we are by no means home free. Things could go away tomorrow. I would challenge each of you to recognize each other's skills and strengths. Are you embarrassed to learn from the young? You, the young, are you embarrassed to learn from someone who has practiced anesthesia for 30 years?

"We are members of a caring profession, yet we often do not show that we care for each other. We want all things to be status quo—but that is not possible for any length of time. We either progress or regress—which one shall it be for the AANA, for your department, and now for the biggy—which one shall it be for you?

"Please let me talk about you as an individual. That's all the AANA consists of—you—you—you and, as an emeritus, me!

"I hope you like what you are doing from day to day. Surely it isn't just a job so you may eat and live well! Satisfaction in your daily efforts is top priority. So you work eight hours—what do you do for another eight hours? What do you say, read or think about. In Proverbs it says, 'As a man thinketh in his heart—so is he.' Are you thinking progressively or regressively. Are you building something or being destructive in your thinking. Do you manage some kind thoughts toward your fellow man. And, what do you think of you? Do you like what you see? I do not like ego driven people anymore than you do. I do like to deal with people whose motivation is directed by well thought out convictions, which does not necessarily mean I agree with them.

"If you and I are right with ourselves, we will probably be right with our family, our co-workers, our superiors, and perhaps also our Maker. I want to quote Abraham Lincoln:

'I desire so to conduct the affairs of this administration that if at the end, when I come to lay down the reins of power, and I have lost every other friend on earth, I shall at least have one friend left, and that friend shall be down inside of me.'

"You have given me this award, I consider it a high honor, and it shall be placed in a prominent place in my home. But your demonstration of warmth, love and friendship will be in my heart for the rest of my life.

Program at Hurley Hospital, Flint, Michigan; United Christian Hospital, Lahore, Pakistan; and North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, North Carolina where she also was appointed Assistant Professor, Allied Health Programs, Bowman Gray School of Medicine. She served as president of the AANA from 1965-66 and more recently served on the Council on Practice.

In recognition of her achievement, Miss Vos has received a commemorative plaque inscribed with her name. A permanent plaque—complete with the name of all Agatha Hodgins award recipients—is on display in the AANA Executive Office.

The AANA Annual Agatha Hodgins Award for Outstanding Accomplishment was established in 1975. The recipient of the award does not necessarily have to be a CRNA, but must

RECEIVING THE AGATHA HODGINS AWARD from (r) Josephine A. Nickel, CRNA, AANA president, is Helen Vos, BSN, (l).

"For each of you, I wish the joy of loving, perhaps even liking yourself so you will always have a friend inside of you."

Miss Vos is a graduate of the Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing, Marshalltown, Iowa. Following her nursing education, she spent four years in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. After leaving the service, she graduated from the University of Michigan Hospital School of Anesthesia, Ann Arbor, Michigan and then attended Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan where she received a BS degree in Nursing.

She has been educational director of the Barnes Hospital Anesthesia School, St. Louis, Missouri and has served as Director of the Anesthesia

have worked toward furthering the nurse anesthesia profession.

Nominations for the award are solicited each year from the state associations by the AANA Public Relations Committee. Individual members are also free to submit names of candidates they wish considered. Once all nominations are received, the Public Relations Committee then reviews all prospective candidates and their backgrounds, and makes a recommendation for that year's recipient to the Board of Directors, who must approve the recommendation.