Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
1965-1966

PRESIDENT

This is our 35th year. We owe the founders of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists a word of thanks. Some are with us today and, speaking for the entire membership, to all those who gave us a good beginning we express our gratitude for your efforts and sacrifices. We hope you are pleased with us and our accomplishments in developing the principles and objectives stated in 1931. The story of the pangs of growth and rewards of achievements has been recorded many times. 1966 gives evidence that the need for the nurse anesthetist is no longer a subject of debate. We may rightfully take pride in the art of anesthesia. We too have our Rembrandts and Van Goghs.

During the past year your Board of Trustees has conducted the affairs of the members of the AANA. As president I briefly report the activities and progress of our association.

As you know, we have a central office here in Chicago with an experienced administrative staff and secretaries. These people are functioning each day of the year to keep all the records in order and bring pertinent information to the attention of the Board of Trustees. Were it not for their diligence it would not be possible for anyone to hold an office in the association and still retain their position as anesthetist.

This has been a demanding and instructive year. Who really knows how to be president? What person, even with the experience of several years on the Board of Trustees, can be prepared for the changes that take place during any given year? This year there have been many changes that will have long-lasting effect upon this association and its members. As you hear the reports of the members of the committees you will find that we are entering a new relationship with our friends among the anesthesiologists. New challenges are being presented to us to meet the ever-increasing demands that will be made upon us and our successors. In addition to these major developments I have had an interesting year.

All invitations to speak at state or regional meetings were accepted with one exception due to a conflict in meeting dates. These trips took me from coast to coast and to the north and south. Meeting many of you collectively and individually was one of the more pleasurable duties of this office.

In addition to attending the postconvention, midyear and preconvention meetings of the Board of Trustees, I attended the meetings of the Planning Committee and Joint Committee of the AHA and AANA. I want to share one statement made by a member of the Joint Committee concerning the members of the AANA: Dedication and good morale are the two strongest weapons. Is this a tribute worth conserving?

I represented the AANA at the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Conference in Washington, D. C. on May 23rd upon request of the National Research Council.

We have been approached concerning publication of a textbook for our schools of anesthesia, and one that could also be used as a reference book for our members. It has been suggested that one or more members of the association write this book. This will be discussed by the Board of Trustees. In the past, these books have not been well received and this will need preliminary consideration.

Anesthesia has had some derogatory comments from the press, but we were probably not singled out as much as some other groups. The American Medical Association refuted the statements on radio and T.V. We have met with criticism before. Perhaps each crisis shows us what we have become.
November, 1966

Many of you have served on committees for our association. My personal thanks for your willingness to serve and from the Board of Trustees an expression of appreciation for your accomplishments. For you the old Chinese proverb seems apt: “Satisfaction is the highest wage of all.”

To you, the members, I state that we have had a cooperative Board of Trustees. My thanks to the board members for their assistance and understanding.

Each year some hospital and anesthesia department generously sends one of its staff to many meetings to represent the AANA as its president. Usually this is done with the blessings of all concerned. This year was no exception. My appreciation to those staff members and students of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital School of Anesthesia who graciously sent me on my way and welcomed me on my return. I shall always be indebted to the late Dr. Crandell for his encouragement and confidence.

My appreciation to the members for electing me to the Board of Trustees and to this office. I have never treated this confidence lightly. For my errors of omission I ask your indulgence. My thanks for the many expressions of interest and concern. Your hospitality during my visits will always be a priceless memory. You have my affection and best wishes.

We had our genesis in 1931 because a few nurse anesthetists cared and had foresight. We are reaping the rewards. We are a great society in 1966 because more and more people took an interest in our association.

What about 1976 or 1986? Dwight Eisenhower once said, “Whatever America hopes to bring to pass in the world must first come to pass in the heart of America.” Surely, whatever the AANA hopes to bring to pass must also first come to pass in the heart of its members.

Helen P. Vos, C.R.N.A.
President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The fiscal year ending August 31, 1966 shows a total membership of 12,722. Of these 18.1% are inactive members; 11.1% of the members are men. In addition to these members there are 866 junior members.

Meetings which I attended totaled 50 days, 46 of which were weekends. In addition to the committee meetings held in Chicago, there were the Teacher’s Workshop and two Council Conferences. I did attend the two meetings with the American Society of Anesthesiology and the National Research Council meeting in Palo Alto, California.

Members of the Executive Staff participated in the preparation and conduct of the conferences as well as the many committee activities. Extraordinary activities during the past year were the move of the Executive offices on October 8, 1965, and the refiling of our entire mailing system to conform with the new zip code regulations which will become mandatory on January 1, 1967.

In the month of July approximately 3,000 mailing plates still did not have zip codes and each street address was searched out in the zip code directory published by the government and added to the mailing plates.

The activity in our outgoing mail from the office has increased over previous years. More than 700,000 addressograph impressions were made. First class mail exceeded 60,000 copies. Changes of address totaled 8,605—almost double over last year. This figure as well as the additional addressograph impressions resulted from the zip code project.

Two and one tenth tons of parcel post packages were mailed.

At the present time we have 13 members on the executive staff. In addition Mrs. Mary Stover, our retired bookkeeper, works 4 days each month. We continue to keep slightly below our estimated need of one member on the staff for every thousand members.

I wish to commend and thank all of the members of the staff for their continued loyalty to me and to the association, and for their unusually hard work during this past year and I here record their names in the order of their employment:

Mary Stover, Inez Wicklund, Bernice O. Baum, Marie Cazkka, Elmaor Uhlir, Kay Norman (who is having a leave of absence), Carol Russell, Karen Kozel, Joanne Fitzgibbon, Wanda Guy, Lee Dusold, Mildred Whitmer and Diane Stangret.

Florence A. McQuillen, C.R.N.A.
Executive Director