

ANNUAL REPORT
September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015

2010-2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President – Mary Anne Wesoloski (NE)
President-elect – Linda Vollinger (LS)
Recording Secretary – Karen Pfaff (DP)
Treasurer – Joan Kittler (LS)
Director to NASN – Lynn Rochkes (MS)
Executive Secretary – Linda Gibbons (LS)

DIVISION PRESIDENTS

BL Cheri Hayes
DP Patty Pratapas
LS Kathy Knawa
MK Lisa Kleeman
MS Jeanne Martin
NE Carol Virtue
NL Wendy Kaplan-Smith
NW Vicki Naretta
SC Sara Wilson
SO vacant

PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Dear members, as we near the completion of my first year as president I want to share many of the exciting things happening at IASN. We began the year with our January Board meeting devoted to IASN mission, goals, and strategic planning. We have come through some rough seas in Springfield these past few years, and we have shown our resiliency. It is now time for us to place a firm hand on the tiller, trim the sails, and set the course of *OUR* choosing.

In March, Sandy Lawinger (Legislative Affairs) and I traveled to Springfield to meet a legislator proposing a bill negating the need for a PEL (certified) nurse in an IEP. We were successful in convincing the legislator to let the proposal time out. While there, we met other legislators at an evening social sponsored by the Illinois chapter of the American Nurses Association (IL-ANA).

At the April Board meeting we again devoted a half-day to strategic planning. Based on the IASN membership survey sent in January, we developed four areas to explore: Technology, Education, Advocacy, and Membership or TEAM. Two-year goals were established. These may be found at the end of my comments.

April also found some of us attending a presentation at the Midwest Nursing History Research Center housed at UIC. We were able to go to the archive room and see where our history is kept. It is exciting to think IASN pictures, artifacts, and documents are being saved for future research.

June found 35 of us traveling to Philadelphia for the NASN convention. 10 Illinois school nurses presented at NASN. We were thrilled to discover Martha Bergren (LS) was awarded the Outstanding School Nurse Educator Award! Michelle Maurer (MS) won a National Poster Award! IASN School Nurse of the Year Nila Hawkins and School Nurse Administrator of the

Year Monica Blum were also recognized. Illinois nurses continue to be nationally recognized for their expertise and professionalism.

July brought us our own Independence Day as we announced our approval as a provider unit for CNE's. IASN offers our deep gratitude to Mary Girardi, Ed/Cert chair, for her hundreds of hours given to this endeavor. July also added a new plug-in to our web site which allows us to conduct electronic registration for IASN education offerings. Additional web based member benefits are being developed as I write. IASN is grateful to Barb Wicks and Linda Gibbons for their many hours of work on web site design and maintenance.

Throughout the year, Board members are strengthening our relationships with partners. These include IDPH, IL-ANA, all three Illinois teacher unions (IEA, IFT, and CTU), Healthy Schools Campaign, and a new coalition of Special Education Support Personnel. School nurses have attended and been present "at the table" for legislator meetings, round tables in Chicago and Cook County, health committees at ISBE in Springfield, Nurse Practice Act committees, IDPH focus groups, and many more. The invitations increase as we become more visible.

I hope you are as excited as I am about the potential for school nursing and IASN going forward. We are an essential healthcare "system" to our state's children. We improve student health and academic success. We save school staff time, parent workdays, and healthcare dollars. We are cost effective. We have much to offer our students and communities!

In closing, I look forward to personally meeting many of you at the IASN Fall Conference October 23rd and 24th in Oak Brook. The conference committee has worked hard to bring you a terrific conference with great educational offerings. It will be well worth the trip! If you ever have any suggestions, questions, or concerns regarding IASN, please feel free to contact me at nurseskimnsn@gmail.com Mary Anne Wesoloski, RN, MSN, PEL-CSN, NCSN.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Linda Gibbons, Executive Secretary

The office of Executive Secretary was established in 1990 to help ensure continuity and enhance communication between members, outside agencies, and other organizations. Responsibilities include membership, the IASN Newsletter and public relations, assistant web master of the IASN web site (www.iasn.org), assisting the officers and committee chairmen as requested, and special assistance to the committee chairmen. The membership number changes every month due to the Anniversary Membership. IASN has become more active in reaching out to non-members at venues such as the Cook County Health Department School Nurse Update Day, the SNEC courses across the state, and any other opportunities that I am aware of, by providing giveaways at the courses and workshops.

REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER GROUPS

Chicago Teacher's Union	Helen Ramirez Odell (LS)
Midwest Dairy Council – Chicago	Linda Gibbons (LS)
Healthy Schools Campaign	Eve Detloff (NE)
Illinois Alliance to Prevent Obesity	Mary Ann Wolfenson (LS)
Illinois Caucus on Adolescent Health	Donna Kunz (NE)
IL Chapter Am. Academy of Pediatrics	Linda Gibbons (LS)
Illinois Coalition for Nursing Resources	Lynn Rochkes (MK)
Illinois Education Association Delegate	Donna Kunz (NE)

Illinois Federation of Teachers	Donna Rehm (LS)
Illinois Mental Health Partnership	Linda Gibbons (LS)
	Donna Kunz (NE)
ANA – Illinois	Cam Traut (NL)
Immunization Task Force	Karen Pfaff
IMERT	Maryann Tolzien (LS)
ISELA	Lynn Rochkes (MS) and Jeannie Martin (LS)
National Certification of School Nurses	Ginger Barnes (MK)
Pediatric Preparedness	Pat O’Connor (DP)
School Nurse Emergency Course	Pat O’Connor (DP)

LIAISONS/NETWORKING

The Illinois Association of School Nurses has developed and maintains liaisons and networks with many other health related organizations, specialty groups, agencies, and educational facilities in order to provide input and to exchange information on issues relating to children, health, school health services, and school nursing. During the year, IASN has maintained communication with the following:

American Lung Association
American Nurses Association - Illinois
EverThrive Illinois
Healthy Schools Campaign (HSC)
Illinois Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK)
Illinois Caucus on Adolescent Health (ICAH)
Illinois Center for Violence Prevention
Illinois Coalition for Nursing Resources (ICNR)
Illinois Coalition for School Health Centers
Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers (PTA)
Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)
Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation (IDFPR)
Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
Illinois Education Association (IEA/NEA)
Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT/AFT)
Illinois Mental Health Partnership
Illinois Poison Center (IPC)
Illinois School Health Association (ISHA)
Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
ISELA: Illinois Education of the Handicapped Coalition
Midwest Dairy Association
Millikin University School Nurse Certification Program
Lewis University School Nurse Certification Program
University of Illinois-Chicago School Nurse Certification Program

BYLAWS/RESOLUTIONS

Janet Ritter (NL), Chairman, Susan Brady (DP) and Julia Olsta (NE)

Plus **Division** Chairmen:

BL Sue Ickes
DP Terry Donahue
LS Kathie McCroary
MK Angie Kimbrell
MS Terri Luckenbill
NE Lisa Gratz
NL Janet Ritter
NW Vicki Naretta
SC Nila Hawkins
SO vacant

The responsibilities of the Bylaws Committee are to communicate with the IASN Division Bylaws Chairman, review the Division Bylaws each year, receive and prepare recommendations for amendments to the Bylaws and present them to the membership for a vote at the Annual Meeting. At the 2014 Annual Meeting, there were no changes made to the IASN By-Laws. A By-laws amendment is presented for voting at the 2015 Annual Meeting that will allow us to conduct elections by electronic balloting

CRISIS INTERVENTION

Sheila Grogan (DP) Chairman

Plus **Division** Chairmen:

BL Jennifer Jacobs
DP Pam Breslin
LS Vacant
MK Pam Harmon
MS Angela Wetzel
NE Vacant
NL Vacant
NW Vacant
SC Vacant
SO Vacant

Listings of school districts seeking school nurses and school nurses who are seeking employment are made available to the public on the IASN web site. Listings will be posted for 6 months or until notification to remove. Contact Barbara Wicks (encoder422@comcast.net) to place an opening on the IASN website Job Board.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

Mary Girardi (NE) Chairman, Monica Blum (DP) and Pam Seubold (DP)

Plus **Division** Chairmen:

BL Jennifer Jacobs
DP Carleen Banks
LS Ingrid Thompson
MK Deb Mayer
MS Regina Brown
NE Vacant
NL Vacant
NW Joan Bradley
SC Vacant
SO Vacant

Thanks to the fabulous efforts of Mary Girardi, IASN is an approved provider of Nursing Continuing Education contact hours through the Midwest Multistate Davison. This means that we can now evaluate and approve our own offerings. Mary has developed toolkits to guide individuals and division chairs in completing the application and planning programs that can be approved. Division Chairmen should contact the chairman for assistance and guidance as they begin to plan for their division meetings.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Sandy Lawinger – Chairman, Kim Hutchinson (NL) and Ellen Wolff (DP)

Plus **Division** Chairmen:

BL Cheryl Hayes
DP Eileen Rydel-Boesso
LS Linda Gibbons

The primary focus of this committee this year has been HB 4092, which would have gutted the requirements for certification for school nurses. The committee chair and IASN President worked with Rep. Mayfield, sponsor, and she withdrew the bill.

MK Ginger Barnes
MS Angela Wetzel
NE Juanita Gryfinski
NL Vacant
NW Vacant
SC Vacant
SO Vacant

MEMBERSHIP

Executive Secretary Linda Gibbons (LS), Chairman

Plus **Division** Chairmen: This membership count is taken on July 31, 2015

	<u>2013-2014</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>
BL Kay Amy	18	12
DP Linda McWilliams	175	160
LS Brenda Taylor	220	197
MK Deb Mayer	46	36
MS Becky Ebbing	45	54
NE Karen Madura	129	126
NL Irene Dorfman	84	87
NW Deanne Pierson	49	51
SC Deanna Metje	13	14
SO Jo Ellen Reichert	9	10
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	788	747

As of July 31, 2015, IASN total membership is 747. There are a total of 75 retired members. Numbers of Associate members and student members are increasing which is a positive sign. The accurate count of IEA members is questionable because that information is not collected by NASN on the registration form and many new members do not respond to my email messages or phone calls. Welcome emails are sent to new members asking the information and a request to respond to me by email, but none have responded. All members receive an email when dues are received from NASN. All members who do not renew are sent a message that dues have lapsed. Divisions can request a membership list at any time because the lists change every month. Divisions are working hard to encourage members to both join and to renew when their membership is up.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Donna Kunz (NE) Chairman

Nancy Connolly (DP)

Deb Mayer (MK)

Results of the 2015 election as announced by Carol Virtue (NE), Chairman of the Teller Committee:

2015-2017 Secretary, Maryann Tolzien (LS)

2016-2020 Director to NASN, Cam Traut (NL)

Nominating Committee, 2015-16

Jean Geller (NW), Chairman

Nancy Connolly (DP)

Susan Gerardot (NE)

SCHOOL NURSE / SCHOOL NURSE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

Lynn Rochkes (MS), Chairman

At the October 2014 IASN Conference in Rockford, Nila Hawkins (SC) was honored as Illinois School Nurse of the Year. The School Nurse Administrator of the Year was Monica Blum (DP). Both had their nominating portfolio forwarded to NASN as Nurses of Excellent and were honored in Philadelphia, PA.

PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Executive Secretary Linda Gibbons (LS), Chairman and Barb Wicks (LS), Webmaster

The IASNewsletter is published annually. The September issue includes membership polling information, an invitation to the Annual Conference and is mailed to all IASN members. The Editor cooperates with other organizations and agencies in an effort to provide the membership with up-to-date and accurate information. Members are encouraged to submit division news and personal stories, which should be shared with all school nurses. The IASN web site publishes Division meetings, workshops, Job Board, and other current information. A NewsBlast is sent out after each Board Meeting to keep members informed.

The IASN website was redesigned this year and conference registration was available through the website by credit card. Feedback from members and others who contact IASN have made many positive comment on the look of the website.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Debra Terry (LS), Chairman

Joan Kittler, Treasurer (Ex officio)

June Oney (MK)

Linda Gibbons, (LS), Executive Secretary (Ex officio)

Because the IASN fiscal year is September 1 – August 31, it is not feasible to include the financial report here. It will be distributed at the Annual Meeting. The proposed budget for 2015-2016 is being mailed to all members with the September IASNewsletter. The budget passes if there are no negative votes, which is according to the IASN Bylaws. The Treasurer's books are audited annually, and the report is on file with the IASN Treasurer.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES, INC. (NASN)

NASN Director Lynn Rochkes (MS) represented IASN at the NASN Board Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, June 22. Cam Traut, newly elected Director to NASN, was an observer at the NASN Board Meeting. This is Lynn's 4th and last year as Director. Her report is in the September newsletter. Cam Traut (NL) will be the IASN Director to NASN for the next 4 years. The 49th NASN Conference is in Indianapolis, IN, June 30 to July 3, 2016.