



## *President's Message: Mary Whitten*

I have just returned from attending the National NAPNAP Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. What an awesome, informative and inspiring conference!

Despite the airline issues of missed connections BOTH ways, spending the night at the Dallas airport in a chair and losing my luggage for 2 days, I still say it was worth the trip!

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I arrived on Saturday much later than expected (see above) but was able to get some sleep before the ortho class on Sunday. Also taking the class with me were **Denise Alejandro** (NAPNAP-LA president elect) and **Judy Cobos** (NAPNAP-LA past president). Learned some new office exam tricks!

Monday morning we started early with the president's meeting and breakfast. The best part was meeting with presidents from other chapters. The big topic was about the chapter unification study. At this time it is only being studied. Personally, it sounds like a great idea once they get the bugs worked out. There are 3 different ways that were discussed in uniting chapters with National. It comes down to numbers when we lobby for our issues. The more PNP's that belong, the stronger our voice.

Over the next few days there were endless topics to attend and learn about. I went to mental health, ODD and Conduct Disorder, sports medicine in the pediatric office and GI disease to name a few. I also went to taming toddler temper tantrums and calming fussy babies. Dr. Harvey Karp had some great information that will help me in the office.

An especially nice conference gift was that all attendees can access on-line any of the classes we were interested in but could not attend for various reasons. Hopefully, that will continue to be offered in the upcoming years as well. So many great classes and so little time.

### Special points of interest:

- Spring Conference Pictures
- President and President Elect's Message
- 2008 Recipient info

### *President's Message cont'd*



I met with chapter presidents to discuss a Westcoast Conference to be put on with CA, AZ, WA and OR chapters. If you are interested in being on this new committee please contact me at

[mwhiten@rocketmail.com](mailto:mwhiten@rocketmail.com) We are looking at October 2010 in Anaheim, CA.

Looking forward to our annual luncheon, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Remember to send in your registration to join us there. Meet the scholar-

ship recipients, Pal of the Year and One of Our Own. See you there!

### *President-Elect's Message: Denise Alejandro*

In April, I had an amazing opportunity to attend the National NAPNAP Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. What an experience!! It was nice to meet other chapter leaders from around the country, hear about their activities, and get fresh ideas to bring back to our chapter. As part of the chapter president events, I attended a workshop led by *Shar McBee*, who offered practical tools and tips on leadership. I met PNPs from all walks of life and gained insight on current National NAPNAP issues such as the DNP and the Unification Study. Mary and I also had the opportunity to personally meet with chapter presidents from Sacramento, San Diego, and Washington State to discuss plans for a West Coast Conference to be held in 2010. All in all, the conference was informative, energizing, and inspiring. Next year's National Conference will be held in San Diego and I hope to see you there!

It has been an exciting year to be part of the NAPNAP-LA Board, and I look forward to my new role as President. A personal WELCOME to new board members, **Shannan Stephenson, President-Elect** and **Elizabeth Armstrong, Secretary** – and a big personal THANK YOU to **Mary Whitten, President** for her leadership the past two years!!!



See you at the Awards Luncheon on May 31<sup>st</sup>!

## *2008 Award Recipients*

**The NAPNAP Los Angeles Chapter "One of our Own" Award**, is given to recognize a chapter member for outstanding contributions to the PNP role. Such contribution is through activity in the workplace, advocacy in the community, unique projects reflective of the PNP role, mentoring members, preceptoring students, contributions to current literature, legislative activity, chapter offices and/or other award worthy activities.



**Melissa Reider-Demer, CPNP** has been selected as our 2008 awardee. She has been NAPNAP-LA chapter president serving 2003-04. She also served as social chair for 2 years, participated in the Tijuana outreach program, participated in the initial organizing of the local conference joining NAPNAP-LA and CHLA, and still continues to serve as an adviser to our chapter.

A graduate from UCLA, she has been a PNP since 1998. She has worked at CHLA in gastroenterology, surgical admitting and neurology. She has authored articles in JPHC, several position statements for NAPNAP and has co-authored a chapter to be published this spring. She just spear-headed the first outcomes measurement project for PNP's at CHLA.

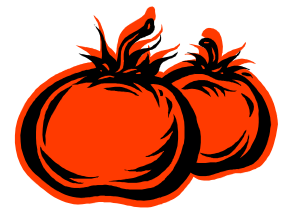
At the National level, Melissa served a two-year term as secretary 2005-07, and on a number of committees including the Professional Issues Committee; Retail Based Task Force, Scope of Practice Committee, Awards Committee and the Nominations Committee. She was recently elected as the National Chapter Coordinator.

**The NAPNAP Los Angeles Chapter "Pal of the Year" Award**, is given to someone who is not a PNP but supports and enhances the role of the PNP in the community.

**Stephanie Merton Tombrello, LCSW** has been selected as this year's awardee. She has been instrumental in founding Safety Belt Safe USA, a nationally recognized organization that provides technical expertise and program excellence. This includes a Safe Ride Helpline, training workshops and public awareness campaigns.

Stephanie has assisted with the writing of child restraint laws in the California legislature and has petitioned for legislation that enhances protection of children in cars and aircraft. She has established the website [www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org) and responds to questions through the website. She has also developed curriculum and training programs that assist us in our roles as PNP's.

In essence, she has been a constant voice advocating for the safety of children in cars and aircraft, from the county to the state levels. It is her passion to bring death and mortality rates down to zero.



## *2008 Scholarship Recipients*



### **Diana Castillo Memorial Scholarship:**

**Emily Jackson:** PNP, UCLA Student. She was admitted through UCLA School of Nursing bachelor's to master's bridge program. Emily works at UCLA PICU. She would like to work at a children's hospital or with low income population.

### **Diana Castillo Memorial Scholarship:**

**Jessica Mcmeekin:** PNP/ CNS UCLA Student. First job at Seattle Children's Hospital, Heme/onc floor. She currently works at UCLA Heme/onc floor. Jessica participated in a hospital wide palliative care committee and aspires to continue working in Peds Oncology. Interests are in bone marrow transplant. She enjoys the role as educator.

### **Newsletter Editor Scholarship:**

**Liza Jia:** UCLA PNP student to begin Fall 2008 and graduate in 2010. Interested in international health and has participated in the International Medical Corps as a medical volunteer in Indonesia. She was also a grant Writer for "Thai Parent Adolescent Sex Communication and the Effects of Adolescents Sexual Behaviors". Also holds a master's degree in Public Health.



## *Spring Conference '08: Cathy Goodhue*

The Spring Conference was our most successful conference ever! We had over 150 attendees and about a dozen vendors including a book vendor who was a big hit! Thanks to EVERYONE who helped me organize and roll-out the conference. If you were not able to attend, please email me possible topics and speakers for our conference in 2009. Cathy Goodhue [cgoodhue@chla.usc.edu](mailto:cgoodhue@chla.usc.edu).



### *A Special Thank You to our Vendors:*

**Abbott Labs - Valerey Huntley**

**Astra Zeneca - Sue Besser**

**Cyberonics - Kathy Bieri**

**Elsevier - Matt Fee**

**Medimmune - Cynthia Overlock**

**Merck - Tamar Youssefian**

**Nestle - Manya Stanciu**

**Ortho McNeil - Phill Saunders**

**Pfizer - Phillip Sanchez**

**Wyeth - Jane Lee Choe**

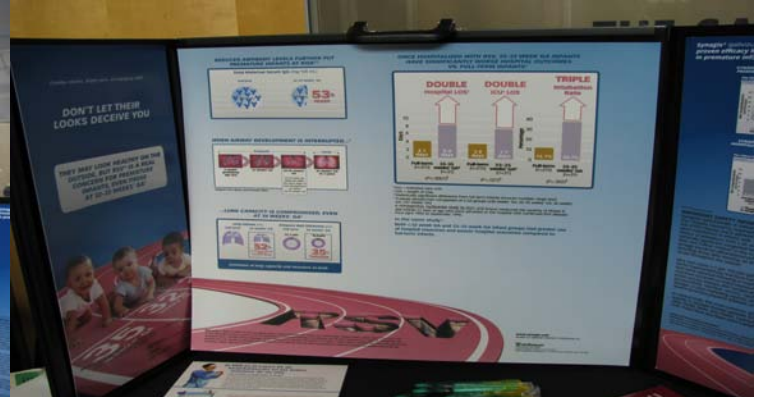
**Books are Fun**

**Desire Jewelry**

**CHLA Pharmacy - Chris Lomax**

# *Spring Conference 2008 Pictures*





## *Legislative Update: Shannan Stephenson*

**KySS<sup>SM</sup> Chapter Challenge:** Earlier this quarter I sent out an email summoning the interest of any of our members in organizing an activity to raise public awareness of children's mental health issues. The response was near to none, which I learned is not unusual nationwide. There are only 3 chapters in the country participating in the challenge. The top 3 chapters' projects will be recognized based on ingenuity, achievement, and the ease of which other chapters may be able to utilize and replicate the activity. The winning chapters will be invited to present a poster at the 2009 Annual NAPNAP Conference in San Diego. Despite whether or not we would win, in the light of the escalating undetected and untreated mental illness in our youth, I feel our advocacy and participation in this challenge would not be futile.

Therefore, I thought I would make it easier on our members by creating an opportunity for which anyone can join and participate. I think it would be a great idea to host a series of presentations for teachers and parents at a local school, based on the *KySS Guide to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Screening, Early Intervention and Health Promotion*. We will need to find a school that is interested and send out announcements to its parents and faculty. Then in a series of 2 or 3 presentations, we will educate the attendees on early identification and warning signs (red-flags), stigma, sequelae, communication, referral, and treatment of child/adolescent psycho-social dysfunction. Finally, we will evaluate our activity, with the help of NAPNAP National Office, to measure the impact of our program. No details are yet decided upon. **Your participation is greatly encouraged!!! Please reply to my email if you are interested or simply know of a school that might like to participate.** [SStephenson@ladhs.org](mailto:SStephenson@ladhs.org)

**Tamper Resistant Prescription Pad Requirement:** Per the Department of Health Care Services website, effective April 1 2008, all written, non-electronic prescriptions must be written on tamper-resistant pads, in order for Medi-Cal outpatient drugs to be reimbursable by the federal government. This tamper-resistant prescription pad requirement applies to all outpatient drugs, including over-the-counter drugs. It is also required whether Medi-Cal is the primary or secondary payer of the prescription being filled. This new law impacts any and all providers who prescribe outpatient drugs.

All relevant information that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued on this requirement can be found on the [CMS Web site](#).

As outlined by CMS, a prescription must contain at least one of the three characteristics outlined below by April 1, 2008, in order to be considered "tamper-resistant." However, all three characteristics are **required** by October 1, 2008.

1. One or more industry-recognized features *designed to prevent unauthorized copying* of a completed or blank prescription form;
2. One or more industry-recognized features *designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information* written on the prescription by the provider; or,

One or more industry-recognized features *designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms*.

**Protecting Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008 (HR 5613):** This bill places a moratorium until March 2009 on 7 restrictive Medicaid regulations issued by the Department of Health and Human Services. NAPNAP National Office sent out an alert that this bill would be vetoed unless it was passed by the House on 4/23/08 with enough votes to override the veto. It passed in flying colors! This will delay Medicaid's unfavorable regulations for 1 year.

**Interested in Federal Advocacy???:** The NAPNAP national office has newly published "A Legislative Primer for Federal Advocacy." See the national website for this free informative manual.

**Note:** There have been no changes in the legislation described in the Legislative Table in February's newsletter.

## *Committee Updates*

**Membership:** We currently have 94 members. Starting in March, we will be offering a FREE one year membership to students and new grads.

**Medical Missions:** For more informations, please contact Mariela Nava at [Mariela.C.Nava@kp.org](mailto:Mariela.C.Nava@kp.org).

**Social/Awards Dinner:** The annual awards luncheon will be held at the Ayres Hotel in Hawthorne, California on Saturday May 31st. We will be saying goodbye to the outgoing board and welcoming the incoming board. We will also be presenting the Pal of the Year and One of Our Own as well as honoring 3 student scholarships.

**Community Outreach:** We will be voting at the next board meeting where to donate our annual \$1000 and where to donate the donated books to NAPNAP-LA. We earned \$97.92 from book sales at the spring conference and are donating it to Reach Out and Read.

**Scholarship:** Please contact Myra with any questions and for more information at [miracleary@yahoo.com](mailto:miracleary@yahoo.com).

### **Treasurer:**

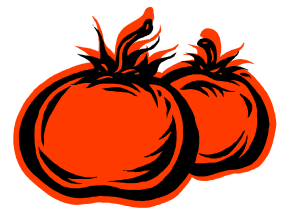
As of March 24, 2008:

Interest Checking: \$17, 267.71

Certificate of Deposit #1: \$14,060.55

Certificate of Deposit #2: \$ 11,924.08

For more information, please contact Mimie Lorca at [mlorca@earthlink.net](mailto:mlorca@earthlink.net).



*Mail to:*

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We're on the web!!!

[www.lanapnap.org](http://www.lanapnap.org)

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**Our Mission** is directed toward the future in caring for the health and wellness of our children and providing support for the dedicated Pediatric Nurse Practitioners who care for children in a variety of settings.

**Goals:**

- *Provide leadership at the local level to promote professional development and respond to the needs of our membership*
- *Provide a forum for clinically relevant continuing education programs*
- *Facilitate a proactive voice and representation in legislative and health policy issues affecting Pediatric Nurse Practitioners*
- *Promote collaboration with other professional nursing and health care organizations to address critical practice issues*
- *Encourage and support Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students through scholarship, research grants and mentorship*