



La Crosse District Nurses' Association

Annual Report for 2006 – 2007

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## **Mission Statement**

The La Crosse District Nurses' Association is an organization of nurses caring for the nurse and nursing by preserving, supporting and advancing the profession of nursing.

**La Crosse District Nurses' Association**  
**La Crosse, WI 54601**  
**Officers and Board of Directors**  
**Fall 2006**

Title	Name	Term	Email	Phone
President	Rose Presser	2005-2007	<a href="mailto:rspresse@gundluth.org">rspresse@gundluth.org</a>	483-2775(H) 775-2287(W)
President Elect	Judy Talbott	2006-2007	<a href="mailto:jrtalbott@viterbo.edu">jrtalbott@viterbo.edu</a>	787-0263(H) 796-3697(W)
Vice President	Heidi Hackbarth	2006-2008	<a href="mailto:Hackbarth.heidi@mayo.edu">Hackbarth.heidi@mayo.edu</a>	781-2662(H)
Secretary	Lois Sanwick	2006-2008	<a href="mailto:loissanwick@centurytel.net">loissanwick@centurytel.net</a>	788-5443(H)
Treasurer	Barb Nickelotti	2005-2007	<a href="mailto:barbjim@mwt.net">barbjim@mwt.net</a>	648-3754(H)
Director: Activities Com.	Sandy Schlichenmeyer	2005-2007	<a href="mailto:smschlic@gunluth.org">smschlic@gunluth.org</a>	781-2816(H)
Director: Publications Com.	Wendy Noble	2006-2008	<a href="mailto:wnoble619@msn.com">wnoble619@msn.com</a>	782-1209(H)
Director: Public Relations Com.	Janet Bahr	2006-2008	<a href="mailto:jlbahr@aol.com">jlbahr@aol.com</a>	788-8636(H)
Director: Membership Com.	Nancy Danou	2005-2007	<a href="mailto:nsdanou@viterbo.edu">nsdanou@viterbo.edu</a>	788-8500(H)
Director: Web Page	Ramona Yehle	2005-2007	<a href="mailto:yehler@westerntc.edu">yehler@westerntc.edu</a>	399-1155(H)
Director: Education Com.	Kathryn Lammers	2006-2008	<a href="mailto:klammers@winona.edu">klammers@winona.edu</a>	783-2450
Director: Nominations Com.	Karla McClintock	2006-2008	<a href="mailto:karlamclintock@yahoo.com">karlamclintock@yahoo.com</a>	784-1954(H)

### President's Report: Rose Presser

Closing the 2006-2007 year is unusual with the moving of the annual meeting to the fall, as it seems we are simultaneously ending and beginning. We sadly bid

adieu to some of our board members, but with gratitude and excitement prepare for the coming year.

Our board members were personally very busy this year with most working full time and many pursuing degrees— 2 bachelor's (Sandy Schlichenmeyer and Barb Nickelotti)—2 PhDs (Ramona Yehle and Kathryn Lammers), 2 master's (Janet Bahr and Wendy Noble) along with 1 member giving birth—Heidi Hackbarth's second baby while on the board—a record! Congratulations to those completing their degrees (Sandy, Janet and Wendy) and thank you to everyone for giving time to LDNA.

Board members leaving this term include Barb Nickelotti, Ramona Yehle, Karla McClintock, and Wendy Noble. We have appreciated Barb's conscientious work as treasurer, Ramona's innovation in bringing LDNA onto the web, Karla's enthusiasm in organizing, and Wendy's creative publications and Florence Nightingale research. The following individuals will move into new positions on the board: Judy Talbott is assuming the president's role, Sandy Schlichenmeyer will become our new treasurer and I will become past president. Elections tonight will fill our president, treasurer, activities, membership and web page director positions. At this time there is one candidate for each position and we are very grateful for everyone's efforts. Two members have moved from the area leaving their positions midterm, so we are still in need of a newsletter editor and nominations director to complete this year's term. Please let any board member know if you are interested.

Our activities this year will be summarized by each board director, but in review there were two educational offerings developed by Kathryn Lammers and one social event, Honor a Colleague, coordinated by Sandy Schlichenmeyer. Honor a Colleague has raised approximately \$1400 per year for scholarship. This year Camilla Jaekel has received the returning RN money and the remainder has been given to the nursing schools for disbursement to student recipients.

We had two newsletters produced this year by Wendy Noble with traditional hardcopy. The board has now decided to begin placing future newsletters on-line. We have sent two postcards to members listing events and asking them to update their email.

The 2006 WNA state convention held in Appleton offered numerous informational sessions with the state universal healthcare proposals being featured. Contact was made through this session to bring this program to La Crosse. We were proud of board member, Janet Bahr who was nominated and received the 2006 Nursing Practice Award at the convention for her outstanding patient advocacy and care. In order to encourage convention attendance the board voted to make \$500 available in 5- \$100 amounts to assist members to attend. Requests can be made to the board.

On a state level, the criminal prosecution of a registered nurse from the Madison area for an unintended medical error has generated a great deal of discussion and action by WNA. There will be updates at the WNA convention scheduled for October 18-20, 2007 right here in river city, La Crosse!

In closing I want to thank all our members for sending your hard earned dollars to support your nursing organization and also to thank you for your work as a nurse. We walk with our patients, clients and students touching body, mind and spirit---a path that calls us to heal others and ourselves. The greatest source of our strength and encouragement is in our togetherness.

### **Secretary's Report: Lois Sanwick**

All of the minutes of the LDNA for the 2006-2007 year were taken, approved by the LDNA board and filed. Copies of the minutes were distributed to the LDNA board members prior to scheduled meetings via email. Notices of dates and places of LDNA board meetings and other functions were noted in the minutes. In addition, all minutes were placed on the LDNA website. The annual report of LDNA for the year (2006-2007) was compiled and printed for the annual meeting which will be held in September 2007.

### **Treasurer's Report: Barb Nickelotti**

The audit of the income and expenses of the La Crosse District Nurses Association covering the period of June 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007 was completed by Marjorie Poellinger, Acct. The correct checkbook balance for 6/30/07 is \$6,751.18.

The LDNA also has a Scudder Investment account. The value of this account has increased as follows:

Q1 05--\$5747.34  
Q2 05--\$5838.91  
Q3 05--\$6006.21  
Q4 05--\$6143.92  
Q1 06--\$6244.55

The 2006 Honor a Colleague amount of \$1493.62 is available for scholarships as follows:

WTC--\$373.48  
Viterbo--\$373.48  
Returning RN--\$746.96

The 2007 Honor a Colleague profit for nursing scholarships is \$776.28.

### **Education Director's Report: Kathryn Lammers**

In the fall LDNA invited representatives from the two parties for candidates of the Governor's Race. The round table discussion allowed nurses to debate the issues at our meet and great session. The Governor's race had candidates with two very different opinions about health care in Wisconsin. Governor Doyle, democratic candidate, won the election and was endorsed by WNA for his universal health support. The republican candidate had some positive ideas for promoting care to the elderly but planned to decrease Medicaid and possibly decrease family planning funds. Nurses need to debate and vote to help shape the actions of our government.

In the spring LDNA hosted the Universal Health Care Panel with an excellent presentation on three plans for Wisconsin. The audience challenged each method for viability, effectiveness, and complications. We had newspaper articles and television coverage. WOW! The public was invited and we sought out cosponsors. This template of using cosponsors and inviting the public will be attempted again in spring 08 for Environmental Issues. The panel of presenters with different opinions was exciting.

The Wisconsin legislature has been lead by Senator Robson to debate these three universal health care plans. Senator Robson is a nurse educator from Madison. La Crosse District Nurses Association could launch local candidate(s) for office from the pool of dynamic and interested nurses.

The monthly meetings continue to be open to all members and have been useful for introducing nurses to activities of their interest. We have more social opportunities with staying after the meeting by sharing a snack or a meal at the Co-op. This friendly style has encouraged members to get to know each other and be supportive to get the workload accomplished. We have enjoyed discussing ideas to appeal to the membership. LDNA programming has been creative and interesting.

Please bring your ideas for educational activities to the meetings or by contacting us!

### **Publications Director's Report: Wendy Noble**

The LDNA newsletter went out in two formats during the 2006-2007 year. The fall edition was a paper copy sent by mail, and the spring edition was delivered electronically on the LDNA website. The electronic edition saved a great deal of time as well as printing and mailing expense, and was made available to a larger readership than the paper copy. If the Board decides to continue to publish the

newsletter on the website, continuing to remind members through a postcard mailing would be helpful since it takes time to get used to a new format.

The newsletter continues to be a means for updating members about local activities as well as providing information about healthcare issues and ANA and WNA initiatives. More input from the general membership would be valuable for exchange of ideas and a greater sense of involvement in LDNA. Soliciting ideas and articles from the membership should be an ongoing effort, particularly if the newsletter continues to be published online.

### **Membership Director's Report: Nancy Danou**

Ideas to increase and retain membership were solicited informally from a variety of LDNA members. The commonly suggested methods included having present members invite non-members to events and encourage membership, contact new members directly with a welcome and information about LDNA, and post LDNA activities and membership information in the various health care institutions in the district. Methods suggested specifically for retaining members centered on involvement of as many members as possible in LDNA committees and work groups and offering appealing educational programs.

All new members were contacted by either email or surface mail, provided with the names and contact information for all the LDNA Board Members, given the Board meeting location and dates, informed of the most current LDNA activity, and directed to the LDNA web site.

The Membership Director attended various LDNA events which were open to non-members and made membership materials and information about the LDNA and WNA web sites available.

### **Nominations Director's Report: Karla McClintock**

The slate of candidates is drawn from the LDNA memberships who have chose to participate at the board level and/or continue in their services. Members were contacted to find candidates. All members interested on the board of directors are encouraged to fully participate. Elections are held annually at the Annual Business Meeting. Positions that are vacant due to inability to fulfill term shall be appointed by the president.

### **Web Page Director's Report: Ramona Yehle**

The LDNA website continues to do well. We receive 200-300 hits per month. Thus several people are using this as a resource to find out what is happening within the organization. On an ongoing basis several people are accessing the monthly board meeting minutes. The minutes are posted monthly.

Onalaska web continues to provide support for a fee by providing space on their server for our website. With guidance from the LDNA web director information on the web site is kept current. Updated information regarding events is posted on a regular basis. Additionally, recently several broken links were updated.

The email website has been updated with all the member names and several times throughout the year email has been sent to members. Members need to remain alert for these emails. Some of the emails are being automatically deleted; please check your junk mail settings.

### **Activities Director's Report: Sandy Schlichenmeyer**

Event: Honor a Colleague Theme: "Nursing: A Profession and a Passion.  
Date: Monday, May 7, 2007 at the City Brewing Hospitality Center. Networking started at 4:30pm – 5:30 pm.

The Celebration began at 5:30 pm with a welcome by Rose Presser, President of the La Crosse District Nurses Association. A proclamation was given by Mark Johnsrud, Mayor of La Crosse, WI. Our keynote speaker this year was Mary Lu Gerke, RN, PhD "Nursing: A Profession and a Passion." Publicity for this event was done by flyers and was distributed electronically to Franciscan Skemp and Gundersen Lutheran.

According to the American Nurses Association, "the purpose of National Nurses Week is to raise public awareness of the value of nursing and to help educate the public about the vital roles registered nurses play in meeting the health care needs of the American people. In addition, News Channel 8 covered the event.

The La Crosse district Nurses Association would like to thank 'Honor a Colleague' committee members for planning this event, Franciscan Skemp Medical Center and Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center for money and door prize donations, and Franciscan Skemp for the cake donation.

#### **2007 Honor a Colleague**

3/13/07	1011 City Brewery	Deposit	-50
5/20/07	1026 City Brewery	Balance	-18.64
4/3/07	1015 Quillins	Postcard stamps	-22.2
3/2/07	1014 Janet Bahr	stamps, supplies	-39
4/5/07	1018 EZ Print	HAC postcards	-95.37
4/21/07	1021 Stamps/postage	Quillins	-6.3
5/31/07	1020 Dibbles + Dobbs	Karla-food	-143.25

4/14/07	1019 postcard stamps	Quillins	-9.6
5/10/07	1022 Judy Talbot	plants-door prizes	-62.5
5/7/07	1023 Festival	Food/catering	-543.24
5/7/07	1024 Ruth Berns	Buns FSH bakery	-28.85
6/11/07	1028 Diane Harding	HAC certificates	-19.77
4/5/07 Deposit	Nomination Money	Nomination Money	255
4/18/07 Deposit	Nomination Money	Nomination Money	550
4/24/07 Deposit	Nomination Money	Nomination Money	540
5/7/07 Deposit	Nomination Money	Nomination Money	170
7/7/07 Deposit	FSH Donation	HAC donation	200
7/7/07 Deposit	GL Donation	HAC donation	100
<u>2007 HAC total</u>			<u>776.28</u>

### **Public Relations Director's Report: Janet Bahr**

There were several events that were publicized during the 2006-2007 year. The first event was a meeting with representatives from candidates for the Wisconsin Governor race. This meeting was held at the People's Food Co-op. The event was publicized through electronic mailing to LDNA members and by flyers that were sent to local clinics, nursing homes and hospitals.

The next event that was publicized was the public forum on Health Care Reform held at Viterbo. This event was advertised through electronic mailings to board members, and flyers mailed to local clinics, nursing homes and hospitals. The La Crosse Tribune interviewed LDNA member Judy Talbott and the article appeared in the La Crosse Tribune. Television media also attended the event.

The last event of the year was "Honor a Colleague" The event was publicized through electronic mailings to nurses at Franciscan Skemp and Gundersen Lutheran, mailings and electronic mailings to LDNA members, mailings to local clinics, nursing homes and hospitals, and to local television media. Television media also attended the event.

All events were also posted on the LDNA web site

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## **Last Annual Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2006**

### **La Crosse District Nurses Association Annual Meeting – May 16, 2006 Hackberry's Restaurant Community Room**

**Present:** Rose Presser President LDNA, Stephanie G, Chester H, Pat W, Kathy F, Sylvania, Nancy D, Sandy Z, Barb N, Janet B, Deb K, Judy T, Ramona Y, Wendy N, Sandy S, Diane H, Cheryl J, Karla M and Shannon H.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Rose Presser and welcomed.

Review of the Year and change made last year to the by-laws of LDNA.

Individual reports by board members were presented – see annual report for complete summary of each report.

Discussion on continuing open education sessions to area members. Ideas for possible topics should be sent to Kathryn Lammers Education Chair or any LDNA board member.

LDNA now has an e-mail account through Onalaska Web our web manager. The address is [ldna@info.org](mailto:ldna@info.org).

Membership – concerns about number of nurses that are not involved in a nursing professional organization. Suggestions for recruitment to LDNA were discussed. Communication has improved with WNA and it was agreed that personal contact from LDNA member to prospective members is a positive approach to getting new members.

Florence Nightingale – thank you to Wendy Noble for sharing a historical perspective on Florence with us. Great job.

New business: all LDNA members are invited to the district president meeting in Madison in August. Contact Rose if interested.

Next LDNA meeting will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in September 2006 at 5:30 p.m. in the community room at the People's Food Coop in La Crosse. A meet and greet session with perspective legislative candidates will be set up and more information will be coming this summer.

A card was passed around for member to sign to thank Jennifer Shilling for taking time to be the key note speaker at the LDNA Honor a Colleague event for nurse's week celebration.

Out going board members were given certificates of appreciation and roses from LDNA- Diane Harding is the only board member that is not running for an office this coming term. Diane was given a necklace in thanks for her hard work on the LDNA board of directors.

**Elections:** Cheryl Jacobson shared the slate of candidates and their bios. Those running for positions on the LDNA board of directors were introduced. Motion made by Chester Hilton and seconded by Kathryn Lammers to accept the slate of candidates as presented. All were in favor. Voting was completed.

Results of the election are as follows:

President elect – Judy Talbott  
Secretary – Lois Sanwick  
Education Director – Kathryn Lammers  
Public Relations Director – Janet Bahr  
Nominations Director – Karla McClintock  
Newsletter Editor – Wendy Noble  
Vice President – Heidi Hackbarth

Voting was unanimous.

Thank you Cheryl for your work with nominations and securing candidates for the open positions on the LDNA board.

Motion made by Chester Hilton and seconded by Kathryn Lammers to accept the elections as presented. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Diane M Harding, RN BSN Secretary LDNA