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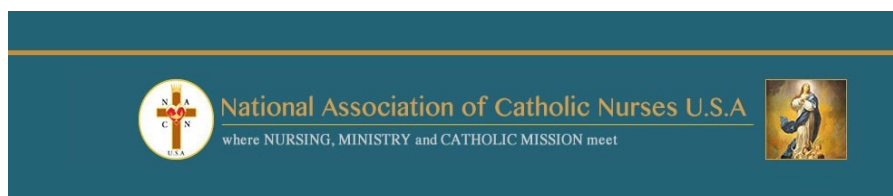
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Regional Directors are Executive
Board Members.

See listing on pages 12-13



President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

The summer is moving along at a fast pace, with tensions related to the upcoming US Presidential Election, the continuing threats to Religious Liberty, the threat of international terrorism. However we can trust MARY to lead us to God's Will.

We know that the prayers of US Catholics have been answered in the recent reprieve achieved by the Little Sisters of the Poor and the work of many US Congresswomen to support pro-life legislation in their respective states.

The current Opioid addiction epidemic in the US is alarming. The Center for Disease Control provides guidelines for dealing with this health issues as well as the International Nursing Society on Addictions, www.intNSA.org. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing has taken the leadership role in promoting nursing education to address this national tragedy. Catholic Nursing must lead the fight against substance abuse across the lifespan.

NACN is proud to announce that Alma Abuelouf, Marie Hilliard, Marian Nowak and Patricia Sayers hope to assume leadership roles in CICIAMS in the next biennium. Marylee Meehan continues to be involved in CICIAMS. These Catholic nurses are good examples of professional nurses committed to promoting nursing within the Catholic context.

Our conference, Family Nursing through the Life Span: A Catholic Perspective co-sponsored with the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing at Loyola University Chicago took place June 23- 26, 2016. It was a spirit filled and enlightening conference. I'm sure all in attendance were uplifted and with more tools to minister doing His work.

It has been an honor to serve NACN during the last two years. I know our new Board led by Jane Cardea, PhD, RN will continue to move NACN forward to make significant contributions to nursing and healthcare.

Peace,
Diana

Diana M. L. Newman, EDD, RN
Immediate Past President NACN-USA



EVENTS



Upcoming Events 2016

July 24-July 30 NFP Awareness Week For more information go to: <http://usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/awareness-week/index.cfm>

July 26-31, 2016 - World Youth Day, Krakow, Poland

September 2016 – UN Visit

UN Tour in New York City. Our UN Nurse Delegates' will be attending a sessions at the UN this fall. If you are available any time in September and would like a UN tour, kindly contact Dr. Marian Nowak at nowak@rowan.edu.

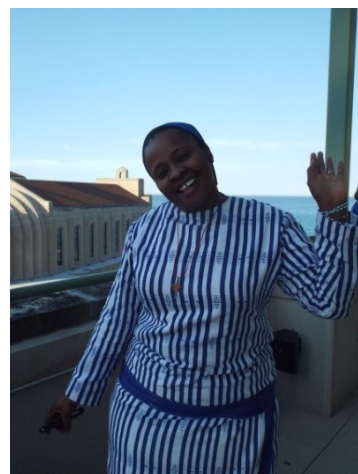
October 2017

National Conference in Cape Cod. More information to follow. Internationally features leaders include: Nursing Theorist Sister Callista Roy a Marylee Meehan, Vatican Representative for Nursing on Health Care Synod and other notable speakers.

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CHICAGO, CHICAGO!

By: Diana Newman

We arrived in Chicago either by air or road travel, some from the local area and some as far away as Nigeria! A real treat to socialize with old and new friends as we dialoged about issues related to Family Nursing within a Roman Catholic context. The conference was enriching and spirit filled.

During the Pre-conference session, Marylee Barron, PhD, APRN, FNA-BC, FAANP updated us on the latest science related to Natural Family Planning (NFP) and helped us understand how this fits into a nursing paradigm to help couples who choose to use this method. Dr. Barron presented information that demonstrated the effectiveness of NFP to enhance women's' health and promote stable marriages. Dean Vickie Keough, Dean Marcella Niehoff SON, Loyola University Chicago www.luc.edu, explained the history of the University, founded in 1870. Loyola has campuses in Illinois, Rome and other cities throughout the world. Dr. Keough's Keynote presentation focused on Pope Francis's Encyclical *Laudato Si*, Dean Keough explained how the inclusive perspective of *Laudato Si* can help nurses interact with individuals, families, communities and environmental stressors (positive and negative). This perspective invites nurses to engage and dialogue with persons and environments that present alternative views that are different from those commonly held by nursing or Catholics.

Dr. Marie Hilliard expanded our knowledge about nursing issues that may be legal but compromise our ethical nursing practice. Dr. Lindsey Gordon updated our knowledge about Safe Haven Laws so that nurses can be more aware of Places where a person can place a newborn baby when he/she feels he cannot care for the child. Fr. Tom Nairn highlighted the family in the Catholic context, noting its importance to human development. He noted how nursing interventions promote family health which benefits societal health.

Dr. Beverly Whelton presented the Philosophical and Conceptual basis of Professional nursing, reinforcing the importance of knowledge development in nursing if we are to survive as a discipline. Sr. Vicki Indyk, PHD, RN demonstrated nursing interventions with vulnerable families in Haiti. This presentation highlighted nurses expanding their boundaries and exhibiting inclusivity. Adebisi Olaniyan from Nigeria presented the opportunities and challenges to providing Healthcare to Families in SW Nigeria. Maria Arvonio, Dr. Marian Nowak and Dr. Patricia Sayers demonstrated their active participation at the UN. They verbally contributed information promoting Family Health consistent with Catholic values. Representing CICIAMS at the UN is a unique honor for nursing! Benedicta Ajayi presented the work of Nora Anyanwu from Yorubaland, Nigeria. Although the people of Yorubaland value the family, some health challenges faced by this group include polygamy, Tribal Marking Processes, HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Maternal and Child Mortality, Hypertension, Mental Health. Judie Boyle reminded us of the complexities involved in caring for patients and families who chose to be an organ donor. Dr. Nancy Cresse highlighted the importance of family inclusion when assessing patients for the possibility of pneumonia. Maria Arvonio highlighted the importance of prayer when intervening with patients who have chronic pain. Fr. Edward Cronin, Sr. Paulina Sterling and Dr. Thomas Zabiega presented the positive outcomes when redemptive suffering is practiced and supported.

Dr. Marcia Stout, Ann Munana and Reverend Diane Darden reinforced the importance of intergenerational nursing in promoting faith practices that facilitate health. Suzanne Spence presented implementation of fertility literacy, that is helping women to understand their fertility cycle. Ingrid Tegtman stressed the importance of prayer throughout the day as one practices nursing. Alma Abuelouf, Jane Cardea and Diana Newman presented their views on the past, present and future of NACN. The Poster presentations were very informative, Nanci Reiland presented work on promoting health in Catholic Schools; Diana Ruzicka presented poster on Redemptive Suffering and the Lourdes Volunteers, Maria Steel presented work on end of Life simulations and Dr. Cheryl Hettman presented her poster on the history of NACN from beginning to present.

Mass was available at St Ignatius RC Church on Glenwood Avenue on Friday afternoon and at Madonna del Strada Chapel at the Loyola Campus on Sunday Morning. The majority of attendees stayed at Regis Hall Dorms (we easily slipped back to college mode) and enjoyed meals at the Damen Dining Center. The banquet at the Palm Court provided a spectacular view of the Campus and Lake Michigan. Overall we will hold the memories of a beautiful campus with traditional and modern architecture, bustling with activity, even in the summer! The shores of Lake Michigan invite reflection and speculation as to how we can fulfill our mission as Catholic Nurses to nursing and society.

For more information about the conference go to: <https://nacn-usa.org/2016-nacn-usa-conference-chicago/>
You will be able to view presentation abstracts, handouts, slides and posters.

Parents Prayer for Vocations

Almighty and eternal God,
in your unfailing love you provide
ministers for your Church.
We pray for those whom you call
to serve the Church of _____
as priests or religious.
Inspire in them a generous response.
Grant them courage and vision to
serve your people.
May their lives and service call your
people to respond to the presence of
your Spirit among us that,
faithful to the Gospel and hope of
Jesus the Christ, we may
announce glad tidings to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives,
set prisoners free and
renew the face of the earth.

(Retrieved from: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayers-for-vocations.cfm>)

MINISTRIES



Authentic Freedom

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week is a national educational campaign. The Natural Family Planning Program of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops develops a poster each year with basic supportive materials. It is the individual dioceses however, that offer a variety of educational formats in the local church to focus attention on Natural Family Planning methods and Church teachings which support their use in marriage.

The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week highlight the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (July 25) which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. The dates also mark the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the parents of the Blessed Mother. For further information, contact nfp@usccb.org.



FREE CONSULTATION ON BIOETHICAL ISSUES

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER (NCBC) offers a free consultation service, by a credentialed bioethicist. Assistance for addressing an ethical dilemma involving health care or the life sciences. If you have a specific time-sensitive question concerning such a matter that cannot wait until regular business hours, please call: (215) 877-2660, 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

Follow the prompts to leave a message and an ethicist will be paged and respond to your call as soon as possible.

Consultation at:

<http://www.ncbcenter.org/page.aspx?pid=1174>

PRAYER



AND CARE

Ministry on a Boat

As many of you may know we never know when God will call us to minister and use the gifts he has given us at any time. While attending the conference in Chicago, 14 nurses decided to have a night out and went took a tour boat ride. While in attendance a tourist suffered a cardiac arrest. Our nurses delivered CPR, prayed, attended to the victims children, and calmed the tourist in attendance. As one patron describes the event "it was as if a calm came over the boat" amidst the chaos. Unfortunately the man did not make it; however having our nurses there to offer their talents enabled all to make the best of a difficult situation. All of our nursing skills were challenged, as stewards of these gifts our nurses were able to help those in need. Another example of how God uses us to minister to others.

Catholic Nurses Resources

Resources on various topics of interest to the Catholic Nurses can be found at the following web location:

<https://www.chausa.org/nursing/nursing-overview/resources/parish-nursing-resources>



Pictured is Alicia Adajar-Duante, a Catholic missionary nurse in Cameroon Africa

Opportunities for Compassion and Prayer

By Sarah Scpio

Last summer, nurse Alicia Adajar-Duante began serving a three-year term with Lay Mission-Helpers caring for pediatric open-heart surgery patients in Cameroon. When she left, she said she hoped she would become a more compassionate person through this experience. “In the past, I have been selective with my compassion. Being a mission nurse will teach me to be compassionate to everyone!” she said.

This year, Alicia has witnessed some miraculous recoveries. Suh, a four-year-old boy, was diagnosed with a congenital heart defect called Tetralogy of Fallot at the age of 11 months. Suh was one of Alicia’s first patients when she began working at St. Elizabeth Catholic Hospital in Cameroon. His doctor notified his mother that the boy would need open-heart surgery, rare in Sub-Saharan Africa, but the hospital has a cardiac center. A short-term mission doctor had arrived and could perform the necessary corrective surgery. With Alicia at his side, Suh’s operation was a success and he is expected to have a fully active, energetic childhood. His mother was overjoyed. Suh and other Shisong patients are blessed that Alicia did not take the expected path of a retiree. Certainly, after serving as a nurse for 42 years in the United States, she could have slowed down, relaxed at home, and taken vacations. For Alicia, born in Batangas, Philippines, going to Africa was the fulfillment of a dream she had ever since she was a child: to be a missionary.

It is not easy being a nurse in a country with limited resources where the needs are so great. Not every story is a success. Alicia draws strength from her prayer life, especially knowing that so many are praying for her. “I feel as if I am getting spiritual nourishment that is available anytime. It energizes me and gives me peace of mind,” she said.



The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few...Matthew 9:37

Demand is great for Catholic nurses abroad, especially in Africa. **Consider joining us!** Lay Mission-Helpers accepts applications from nurses year-round. There is upcoming weekend discernment in September. For those not able to go — **you can help make it possible for another nurse to serve.** Only \$5.00 per day represents the stipend provided to a nurse by LMH. Visit our site at www.laymissionhelpers.org or contact: **Chad Ribordy**, Executive Director, Lay Mission-Helpers; 3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1940; Los Angeles, CA 90010; (213) 368-1870.



Pictured here: Cheryl Hettman with those attending the mission.

Come & See...Answering the Call to be Missionary

By Cheryl Hettman, PhD, RN; Judie Boyle, MSN, RN; & Judy Murphy, PhD, RN

“COME & SEE...At the Mission, Christ Has No Body But Yours...No Hands But Yours” – this was the headline of the advertisement that went out to all members of NACN-USA in October 2015 just in time for World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis had just issued the statement that “Those who follow Christ cannot fail to be missionaries...” and he said that we need to get out of the house...and go to the margins...and that “mission is a passion for Jesus and at the same time a passion for his people.” And so it was...

In response to this call - while many inquired about the mission trip to Mustard Seed Communities in Kingston, Jamaica in February, 2016 - as always, only those who God intends to go on the trip somehow do so. And this time we ended up being a rather small but mighty group of NACN members, consisting of Cheryl Hettman, of Pennsylvania (group leader/organizer; NACN-chair of Archives/History Committee and past-president), Judie Boyle, MSN, RN of Maryland (NACN SE Region Representative, and President, Baltimore Council of the NACN), and Judy Murphy, PhD, RN, of Rhode Island (NACN member). Judy M. brought along her adult daughter, Alicyn (below, a wonderfully talented artist), for what would be a wonderful mother-daughter experience! It so happens that all three of us NACN members are nursing educators, which was certainly handy as there were many opportunities to teach at the mission – including with the lay caregivers, the residents, the staff, and others such as the older adults from the surrounding community. Since there were only a few of us NACN members able to go on the trip for this first time offering, we were also joined by nine nursing students from Rutgers University who were doing a clinical immersion for their *Community Health and Global Health Nursing* course under the supervision of Dr. Hettman. So, we ended up being a nice-sized group of 13. Some of our least brothers and sisters in Christ make their home at Mustard Seed Communities in Jamaica. The mission is home to over 500 hundred residents – from newborn to the early 40s - who are vulnerable and marginalized – who have been abandoned by society, despite it being a predominantly Christian culture (with churches almost everywhere you look – Catholics are a little less than 3% of the population). There is a social stigma about persons with disabilities, and especially HIV/AIDs, and also the burdens of poverty disallow those who might not discriminate from being able to care for a child with special needs because of a lack of funds. Mustard Seed Communities (MSC) residents have various disabilities and conditions, some of which include profound birth defects, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus, cystic fibrosis, HIV, mental and behavioral health disorders, along with pregnant teen girls who have been victimized. It was our great privilege and honor to “be at home” with these residents from February 27 – March 5, 2016. We visited several of the different MSC facilities, called apostolate.



To start, we stayed in the volunteer quarters at *Sophie's Place*, which was located in a rural outskirt, in the foothills of the beautiful Jamaican Blue Mountains (which is where some of the best coffee in the world comes from!). It is home to about 30 younger residents who have a variety of conditions such as cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, cystic fibrosis, and other birth defects. Likewise, these same conditions were present, along with cases of autism, in the residents of *My Father's House*, located in the heart of the impoverished area of the inner city of Kingston. This is the organization's headquarters and also the office of Monsignor Gregory Ramkissoon, MSC's founder who has been with the mission since it began in 1978. Similar residents may be found at the largest apostolate, *Jerusalem*, (located about an hour away in Spanish Town) along with persons with mental and behavioral health issues, and a large number of residents with HIV. In fact, MSC is one of only a few facilities that takes in children with HIV in the Caribbean. There are four separate housing areas at Jerusalem: The Children's Home (for a variety of children with disabilities), The Village (a group-home concept for teens who have some daily functional abilities), and two separate areas for residents with HIV. One of these is dedicated to teen girls and the other to younger children with HIV (called *Dare to Care* and *Martha's House*, respectively). The remainder of the grounds at Jerusalem are used for producing some of the food for the residents and to help generate revenue through the sales of eggs, tilapia, and vegetables all raised at MSC. Another apostolate located back in the city of Kingston is for teen boys with HIV is called *Matthew 25:40*. And finally, *Mary's Child* is a lovely home in a residential area an hour in the opposite direction from Kingston, in a nice rural location. Here is where we encountered teen girls who have become pregnant, usually as victims of rape and incest. They are given a safe haven and helped to travel the journey of pregnancy with caring staff, and then taught to care for their newborn, or supported when making the decision to place the child for adoption. Although we were only in the Kingston region, MSC also has apostolates outside of both Ocho Rios and Montego Bay in Jamaica, as well as in the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and Zimbabwe. New facilities are currently being planned for Guatemala and in Africa.

Each day we were able to participate in the direct care and daily living activities of the residents (as shown here with Judie M.). The morning routine included, but was not limited to, the not so simple task of feeding the residents – many of whom had swallowing disorders, and positioning their twisted bodies to prevent aspiration was challenging for even us seasoned nurses! After breakfast was a period of devotion in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help chapel on site (as shown), led by the caregivers, who respected and fulfilled what was expected of them in their work in a Catholic organization even though most were of other Christian denominations. The readings and prayer time was followed by “circle time” – when everyone – caregivers, staff, and residents alike, played a few instruments sang a joyful song to the Lord, indeed – with whatever broken voices there were and through the eyes of their hearts! The better part of each day was spent at one of the other apostolates conducting health clinics for the “golden agers” from the community and the MSC staff, teaching the lay caregivers and the pregnant teens, providing health assessments for the residents, and attending to any specific health care needs that were encountered (Judie B. here assessing a resident).

We were also excited to visit small church (St. Martin De Porres) in the little mountain town where we stayed at the mission. The parishioners were friendly and the music was joyous (a lively Jamaican drum beat and guitars made it very uplifting – and believe it or not – everyone sang, young and old alike!). Another day we went to one of the local universities - the University of Technology (UTech) – where we saw a joint Mustard Seed Communities-UTech rehabilitation center (actually named after Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, an Olympic gold medal winner from the university), where residents of MSC are able to go and receive interactive rehabilitative services offered by the faculty, staff, and students at UTech as part of their community service requirement. As well, we were greeted by a couple of the university deans

and the Head of Nursing, along with a class of nursing students. After touring their facilities, we also went to the largest hospital in the region, the University Hospital of the West Indies. It was amazing to see the similarities with U.S. hospitals, along with the differences – many of which were structural and semantics (e.g., they had wards instead of units; the “operating theater” versus the O.R.; the Department of Child Health instead of Pediatrics, etc.).

Coming away from the experience and looking back, it was quite obvious from all of our time with the caregivers, that they were very caring, compassionate, and were very hungry to learn from us. They were grateful to be empowered with new knowledge any time we would share ours with them. The residents were amazingly well cared for despite the lack of resources that we take for granted in our country. And the biggest eye opener was how readily they accepted us, though strangers, and more than that – how much we found Christ in each of their faces and their imperfect and twisted bodies. There was true joy in their hearts that radiated without hesitation at the simplest touch or even just when we came into sight. We truly were the greatest beneficiaries of the services we were able to provide as missionaries and each day that the Lord guided us on this journey...

One final note and personal reflection by Judy M. - I so appreciate the opportunity afforded me by being a member of NACN. When I went in to nursing my plan was just to be a bedside nurse. God had other plans for me. I've been a nurse educator for 35 years now and lately have duties as a nurse researcher. Although I love my job I miss the patient connection. Caring for these beautiful children was so fulfilling. I left a part of my heart with each of these children. I will definitely be going back in the future. An added bonus was being able to bring my artistic daughter Alicyn with me. Watching her connect with the children and showing them her love and talent helped me to see that despite her not practicing her Catholic faith, Jesus still lives in her. I firmly believe that giving oneself to others and putting others first is the change that needs to happen to bring peace to our world. Helping out at a Mustard Seed Community is one way to experience the joy of the gospel. Hum...might this sound familiar? Perhaps if you think about what it can mean to be missionary based on our particular experience – and reflect on the words of Pope Francis below - you may hear the call and say “yes” to getting out of your comfort zone and joining us in Jamaica the next time!

“The Holy Spirit makes us look to the horizon and drives us to the very outskirts of existence in order to proclaim life in Jesus Christ. Let us ask ourselves: Do we tend to stay closed in on ourselves, on our group, or do we let the Holy Spirit open us to mission?”

****If you are interested in learning more about the possibility of joining a group of missionaries to Mustard Seed Communities in the future, please contact Cheryl Hettman: hettmanca@hotmail.com**



NACN Committee Contact Information

Many thanks to those who have generously volunteered for NACN committees as listed below. Our organization could not exist if not for the spiritual led commitment of these outstanding leaders.

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Volunteer to serve on a committee at
<https://nacn-usa.org/about-us/standing-committees/>

REGIONAL & LOCAL COUNCILS



We have Councils throughout the U.S.A.
Resources for starting a local council are at www.nacn-usa.org
under: "About Us" / Local Councils

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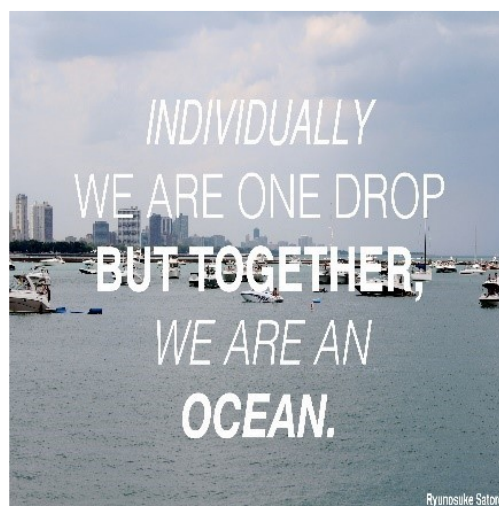
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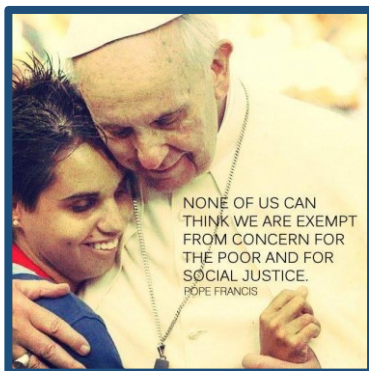
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Membership 2016

You Can Help Grow Our NACN Membership. The person to recruits the greatest number of new members will get one free year NACN-USA membership. New members – indicate who referred you in the online application. Help spread the Catholic Nurse Voice by downloading, printing and sharing our new membership flyer at <https://nacn-usa.org>

Issues & Trends



Americans share many blessings and strengths, including a tradition of religious freedom and political participation. However, as a people, we face serious challenges that are clearly political and also profoundly moral in nature.

We are a nation founded on "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," but the right to life itself is not fully protected, especially for unborn children, the most vulnerable members of the American family. We are called to be peacemakers in a nation at war. We are a country pledged to pursue "liberty and justice for all," but we are too often divided across lines of race, ethnicity, and economic inequality.

We are a nation of immigrants, struggling to address the challenges of many new immigrants in our midst. We are a society built on the strength of our families, called to defend marriage and offer moral and economic supports for family life. We are a powerful nation in a violent world, confronting terror and trying to build a safer, more just, more peaceful world. We are an affluent society where too many live in poverty and lack health care and other necessities of life. We are part of a global community facing urgent threats to the environment that must sustain us.

These challenges are at the heart of public life and at the center of the pursuit of the common good. As Catholics, we are part of a community with a rich heritage that helps us consider the challenges in public life and contribute to greater justice and peace for all people. As Catholics, we are part of a community with a rich heritage that helps us consider the challenges in public life and contribute to greater justice and peace for all people.

Part of that rich heritage on faithful citizenship is the teaching of Vatican Council II's *Declaration on Religious Liberty (Dignitatis Humanae)*. It says that "society itself may enjoy the benefits of justice and peace, which result from [people's] faithfulness to God and his holy will" (no. 6). The work for justice requires that the mind and the heart of Catholics be educated and formed to know and practice the whole faith.

In this Web site (<http://usccb.org/issues-and-action/index.cfm>) you will find information and resources that highlight the role of the Church in the formation of conscience, and the corresponding moral responsibility of each Catholic to hear, receive, and act upon the Church's teaching in the lifelong task of forming his or her own conscience. With this foundation, Catholics are better able to evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises and actions in light of the Gospel and the moral and social teaching of the Church in order to help build a better world.

---excerpted from ["Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops."](#)



THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER

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National Catholic Bioethics in Action....

Consortium of Advocates for Sound Policies Regarding Stem Cell Research Has Success Impacting ISSCR 2016 Guidelines for Stem Cell Science and Clinical Translation

By: Dr. Marie T. Hilliard, MS (Maternal Child Health Nursing), MA (Religious Studies), JCL (Canon Lawyer), PhD, RN

Six organizations joined together in a Consortium advocating for sound research policies, especially as they involve vulnerable human life. The National Catholic Bioethics Center, the National Catholic Partnership on Disability, the National Association of Catholic Nurses – U.S.A., the Catholic Medical Association, the American College of Pediatricians, and the Center for Family and Human Rights (C-Fam) provided testimony to the International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR) on their draft *2016 Guidelines for Stem Cell Science and Clinical Translation*. In May 2016 the final *2016 Guidelines* were released and two critical provisions advocated for by the Consortium were adopted:

- The Origin of Stem Cells is to be Specified in All Communications by Scientists Concerning Such Cells. The Consortium's recommended language has been incorporated into the *2016 Guidelines* verbatim: "*Due to public interest and concern in the ethics of hESC research, and in order to ensure complete transparency of research and translational activities, the origin of stem cell materials should be clearly specified in all communications.*"
- Pregnant Women are to be Excluded from Early Phase Stem Cell Research to Protect the Fetus. The Consortium recommended this new guideline which was not in either the *2006 Guidelines* or the draft *2016 Guidelines*. It is now listed in the new *ISSCR 2016 Guidelines* in Rec. # 3.3.2.5, p. 20-21 under "Early Phase Trials."

Unfortunately, the Consortium's other recommendations concerning chimera research, reinstatement of conscientious objection protections, and protections for oocyte donors were not adopted. The right to conscientious objection for researchers and staff was upheld, however, the new *2016 Guidelines* have eliminated the stronger wording used in the prior *2006 ISSCR Guidelines*, which said that such objectors should be free of retribution or undue discrimination in performance assessments.

Here are some of the other provisions of the new *2016 Guidelines*:

- 1) The 14 day limit on growing human embryos *in vitro* was upheld.

- 2) A new category of "tissue providers" was added to this section indicating that there is to be no profiting from procurement of aborted fetal tissue: *"Medical procedures must not deviate from standard of care solely to facilitate the research use of donated fetal tissues. Physicians and clinics may not profit from the procurement of fetal tissues for research."* (ISCCR 2016 Guidelines, p. 10, Rec. 2.2.6).
- 3) Payment for medical care for a woman suffering from problems directly resulting from providing oocytes for research, has been eliminated. (It was provided for in the *2006 ISCCR Guidelines*, Section 11.5b, vi, but omitted in the new *2016 Guidelines*).
- 4) The *2016 Guidelines* approved mitochondrial replacement therapy (p. 8, Rec. 2.1.4), and supported laboratory-based research using genome editing technologies (like CRISPR Cas9) but cautioned that its use in human reproduction should be prohibited (p. 8, Rec. 2.1.4).

The united efforts by each member of the Consortium demonstrated how such collective efforts can have a significant impact, even if not resulting in a total success for the vulnerable human beings, especially the embryos, whose voice the Consortium carried.



Catholic Nurses Resources

The following web location listed below contains resources that may be of interest to the Catholic Nurses. The information can be found at:

<https://www.chausa.org/nursing/nursing-overview/resources/parish-nursing-resources>

Historical Viewpoint

The NACU-USA AD Hoc Archives and History Committee. Brief #5



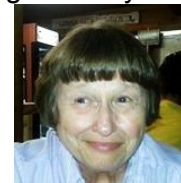
History in the Making: Ad Hoc Archives and History Committee (Brief #6) Uncovering a Long Lost Treasure: The Hidden Existence of the Albany Council of Catholic Nurses (ACCN)

By Cheryl Hettman, PhD, RN
Nursing Consultant & Educator; Chairperson, Archives/History Committee

It was in early November 2015 when word was passed along to me, as the Chair of the Archives/History Committee, that the National Association of Catholic Nurses (NACN)-USA had been contacted by someone from a Catholic nurses' council in Albany, New York. Ironically – and unbeknown to NACN - (though not totally a surprise) the person said the group had been in existence for nearly 60 years! I say "not totally a surprise," because I had previously found tidbits of information during internet searches for the archives that suggested there may still be a few councils out there that would have been left over from the days of the original National Council of Catholic Nurses (NCCN) that disbanded in 1969. In fact, after

receiving notice about the Albany Council, I distinctly recalled making a note after one of my searches a few years ago (and tucked it away to be followed-up on at a later date) that “a Catholic nurses’ group held its annual banquet at a motel in Albany, New York.”

Without hesitation, I instantly knew that I had to find out more about this council that was hidden away for so many years! With great anticipation, I sent an email to the current president of the Albany Council of Catholic Nurses, Joan Ribley-Borck, BSN, RN, (at right) who graciously responded and directed me to her predecessor, Mary Femia. Joan informed me that Mary had been the president for 33 years, and that she and Mary Lu Lubbe were the ones who had “kept the Council afloat till spring of 2014, when both had to bow out because of family illnesses.”



At 2 pm on November 19th, a delightful and exuberant Mary Femia (see photo below) was on the other end of a phone call with me and helped clear up some of the mystery of the long lost “Catholic nurses’ group” in Albany, New York! It seems that no one was aware of the existence of the current national organization until recently when Joan began researching information online when she was the Vice-President in 2014. Plus, many of the current members (around 60 total) are older (two of whom were in WWII and the Korean War), and unfortunately their organization does not have its own website – which kept them from being found out – they were “hidden,” so to speak!

It was just before Thanksgiving 2015 when I again emailed the current president, Joan, to set up time to do a phone interview with her on the heels of my conversation with Mary Femia. I told Joan that Mary had informed me of how she had passed along all the council’s documents to her. My inquiry revitalized Joan’s interest in digging into the files she had received but had not yet had time to review. So, we agreed to talk by phone after she and other members could scour all of the council documents they had in their possession. I also suggested that they check with the Albany diocese to see if by chance they had any original documents about the start-up of the organization, etc.

When I finally heard back from Joan, it was mid-December – at which time, Joan exclaimed that when she and the others searched their files, they “found 2 sentences that refer to our origin as being 1946!” If these statements were correct, that would mean they were going to soon be celebrating their 70th anniversary, not their 60th! She was still waiting to hear back from the diocesan office and hoped the archivist could shed light and some truth about this new revelation.

Then on 12/15, Joan emailed me early in the day and still no word from the diocesan archives person yet. I offered encouragement and also told her about a document I had come across in my archive files that listed the Albany Council as a voting member of the original NCCN when the vote was taken to disband the organization in late 1969. This lent support of the Albany



council’s existence for at least 47 years. The document also noted that Albany had 106 members at the time, but for whatever reason, there was no evidence of any of the five delegates from the council as having cast their votes regarding the fate of the NCCN...most interesting!

Well, as God would have it in His own time, before the end of that same day, Joan emailed me again and she was ecstatic! She had finally received a call from the archivist from the Albany diocese who let her know that the original letters written between priests, nurses, and the bishop regarding the formation of the council were found! Amen! Yet, as exciting as it was to know that these critical documents existed, even more thrilling was to learn that the Albany Council was, indeed, actually 10 years older than anyone knew! The dates of these documents indicated that the first meeting to organize a Catholic council for nurses in Albany took place on May 20, 1946. I told Joan, “It is like the past coming alive again! Your group must be jumping for joy!” And now that the date of inception is known, the ACCN may well be the longest surviving council that we are aware of so far! Only time will tell if we will uncover another “council in hiding” with even greater longevity than Albany!

MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING TO ORGANIZE THE CATHOLIC NURSES OF THE DIOCESE.

Date: Monday, May 20th, 1946, 7:30 P.M.

Place of meeting: Knights of Columbus Hall, Albany.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by His Excellency, Most Reverend Edmund F. Gibbons, D.D., Bishop of Albany, who presided. The Most Reverend Bishop named the Rev. James Pritchard chairman, and Mr. John E. Ikenhorffer secretary for this meeting.

Joan and I finally connected directly by phone on January 13, 2016, just 11 days before the council was to have a formal Mass and gathering to help launch the year-long schedule of activities to help celebrate their now “70th anniversary”- not 60th! I offered to try to locate any other information about their council that I may have in my files and to create a poster for their anniversary celebration that would be similar to one I had prepared for the 60th anniversary celebration of the Council of Catholic Nurses of the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2014 (until now, thought to be our longest existing council!). During the poster prep, I did locate a 1948 report by NCCN which supported the council’s 1946 beginning. Albany was listed as an affiliated diocesan council with 111 members! Joan was thrilled to have acquired all this new information about the council just in time for their anniversary celebration!



While the membership numbers have dropped somewhat over the many years - as has been the case with so many of the existing councils - the Albany Council of Catholic Nurses still continues to go forward, seeking new ways of attracting young, vibrant members – yet carrying on the legacy it has maintained for the past 70 years through active members such as Joan, Mary and Mary Lu, along with persons like Gracie Roznowski, age 95, who is the oldest member of the Albany Council and has been going strong since joining in about 1960.

Of course, the Catholic identity of the organization itself and the spiritual direction of its members could not flourish without the continuous support of the Bishop of Albany (currently, Most Reverend Edward B. Scharfenberger, D.D. – on left), and the direction of a wonderful chaplain/spiritual director (currently, Father Michael Farano – on right). In fact, when the council began in 1946, then Bishop of Albany, Most Reverend Edmund Gibbons, said (as stated in the Minutes of the meeting), “We are trying to form this council of Catholic nurses for the social betterment of its members; ethical enlightenment and professional growth.” He also said that, “In our day, a great many theories have been set forth by scientific men and women that we condemn, that we will not tolerate, that we will not make any compromise with because we know from our Church that they are wrong.” This sure sounds applicable for our current times and for our national association, does it not? How else but with strong spiritual leadership can we be strengthened and work together to be one Catholic nurse voice! And to that end, the mission of the ACCN is: “To promote, encourage and advance the spiritual and professional welfare and social contacts of Christian nurses.”



To attract and maintain active members, the existing council: 1) keeps the dues low; 2) offers two meetings/social gatherings each year at spring and Christmas banquets; 3) holds two

annual Masses for the members – one for the living and one for the deceased; and 4) promotes a bit of R&R for everyone at the summer “pot luck picnic” each August. Needless to say, in 2016 these events will be extra special as this year of celebrating the council’s 70th anniversary continues. In addition, Joan said there are plans to band together with the local Parish Nurses group very soon, and for them to come under the auspices of the ACCN, and thereby generating more members, but also for meeting one of the goals of the bishop in 1946 – to take care of the sick! According to Joan, she “gets by with a little help from her school nurse friend,” Judy DeVaney, who is the treasurer, along with Mary Femia and Mary Lu Lubbe as previously noted (both are Board Directors), the other officers/board members: VP - Karen Wajda; Secretary – Richard Zazycki; Correspondence Secretary - Claudia Toffel; and Correspondence (Cards) – Nancy VanBuren...and of course, each and every nurse who is a beloved Albany Council member and sister or brother in Christ! “It is really the people themselves that are the reason for the organization to have been able to thrive for so long.”

It has been truly amazing to learn about this newly discovered Albany council and their dedication, care and concern for continuing the mission of those founding Catholic nurses back in May of 1946. And I am greatly pleased to report that the January 24, 2016 kick-off celebration of 70 years as the Albany Council of Catholic Nurses was a great success and enjoyed by all! On behalf of the Archives & History Committee – and surely all of our national members – I wish ACCN a very happy and blessed 70th Anniversary” – and I also want to say, “Welcome Home to NACN-USA!”



The Archives & History Committee looks forward to hearing about what’s been happening with YOUR Catholic nurses’ council, or your individual experience as a member of NACN-USA. We will be contacting each council one-by-one, so start digging out your own old documents and pictures - you could be featured next!!

For further information or to share your history, contact: Cheryl Hettman, Chair, Ad Hoc Archives & History Committee at- hettmanca@hotmail.com



National Association of Catholic Nurses U.S.A

where NURSING, MINISTRY and CATHOLIC MISSION meet



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Please share this newsletter with nurses in your diocese.

Our Mission: The National Association of Catholic Nurses, USA gives nurses of different backgrounds, but with the same Roman Catholic values, the opportunity to promote moral principles within the Catholic context in nursing and stimulate desire for professional development. This approach to Roman Catholic doctrine focuses on educational programs, spiritual nourishment, patient advocacy, and integration of faith and health. As we continue to share our faith and values with each other, and with other healthcare providers, we simultaneously reach outward to the larger Church and also our communities, as we offer support to those in need.

Objectives:

- To promote education in Catholic nursing ethics.
- To nurture spiritual growth
- To provide guidance, support and networking for Catholic nurses, nursing students, as well as other healthcare workers who support the Catholic mission.
- To advocate for those in need through efforts which integrate faith and health.

NACN MEMBERSHIP

Current dues are \$50/yr, 40/yr retiree and FREE for pre-licensure students. Dues can be paid via the website at: <http://www.nacn-usa.org/> (preferred) or a check mailed to: Richard Zazycki, NACN-USA Treasurer, c/o Circles of Mercy, 11 Washington Street, Rensselaer, NY 12144
Email: circlesofmercy@nycap.rr.com; 518.462.0899

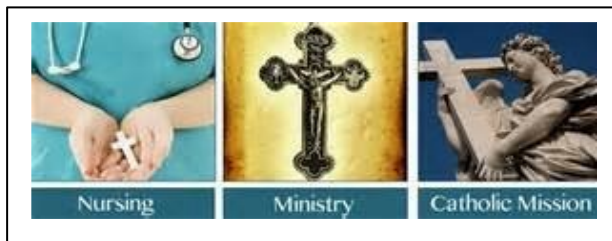
NACN EDITOR'S NOTE...

MARIAN NOWAK, DNP, MPH, RN, FCN
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ROWAN UNIVERSITY

We invite you to submit manuscripts, news briefs, prayer requests, poetry, photos, witness, and/or articles that would be of interest to Catholic nurses across the United States. Please limit articles to 1,000 words maximum.



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Articles should be received by these dates:

- Fall (Published in September): 8/18
- Winter (Published in January): 12/18
- Summer (Published in June): 5/18

+++ Blessings, Marian