

PRESIDENTS OF NACN-USA & BRIEF HISTORY

1909		Guild of St. Radegone for Nurses (for students & graduates of recognized schools of nursing in Boston.
1924		International Catholic Guild of Nurses (ICGN) founded in June 1924 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Spiritual Director, Fr. Edward J. Garesche, S.J.
1933		1st International Committee of Catholic Nurses (now CICIAMS) met in Lourdes, France
1933		In the United States, a new constitution & bylaws of a “national character” were adopted by ICGN & the name changed to the “National Federation of Catholic Nurses.”
1935		2 nd International Congress of Catholic Nurses (now CICIAMS) held in Rome Pope Pius XI address, “After describing the important work of the Nurse, her lofty vocation and the preparation so necessary for the successful execution of her mission to the sick, His Holiness Pope Pius XI told the assembly that <i>it was the duty of every Catholic nurse to belong to Catholic associations of nurses and to promote them in every way possible</i> (excerpt from G. Cardinal Pizzardo’s 1937 letter to bishops).
1937		Excerpt from the Address of Pope Pius XI to the 3 rd International Congress of Catholic Nurses: <i>“...The exercise of the profession of nurse is surely one of those which offer the greatest possibility for the apostolate, but we must not forget that the nurse, in the exercise of her profession, has to employ all sorts of technical means, and lives in a materialistic atmosphere, exposed to the danger of a limited interior piety only, dissociated from the profession and exterior practices enjoined by the Church. Furthermore, modern theories seek to penetrate the minds of Catholic nurses and to make them become unconsciously strong agents for the propagation of eugenics and neo-malthusianism. It is necessary, then, to protect them by means of Catholic Action, which has for one of its duties to sustain and fortify them in their professional and Christian formation.”</i> (Reference p25 Conference Report – Excerpt from Pope Pius XI address).
1937		3 rd International Congress of Catholic Nurses (now CICIAMS) held in London.
1938		G. Cardinal Pizzardo shared the report from the 3 rd International Congress of Catholic Nurses (now CICIAMS) and wrote each bishop expressing His Holiness Pope Pius XI’s desire <i>“that ways and means be found to emphasize the necessity of bringing all Catholic nurses within the influence of Catholic Association of Nurses”</i> and requested <i>“In accordance with this wish of the Holy Father, It is most desirable, Your Excellency, that the Catholic nurses of the United States be gathered into one national association under the direction of the respective Ordinaries of the Hierarchy.”</i> ...”In keeping with the wish manifested in the words of His Holiness, that the Archbishops and Bishops should organize local associations of Catholic nurses according to the needs of their respective diocese, which in due time, under the guidance of the Hierarchy, might be united to create a National Federation of Catholic Nurses.”
		Officers of the National Council of Catholic Nurses (NCCN) Years/Name/Diocese/Office
1940-1942	#1	Mary Kelly, Diocese of Detroit, President Mary Gillen, New Orleans Diocese, 1 st VP Gertrude Meyer, Baltimore, 2 nd V.P. Jane O’Rourke, Milwaukee, Secretary Anne Houck, Toledo, Treasurer
1942-1944	#2	Mary Kelly, Diocese of Detroit, President Mary Gillen, New Orleans Diocese, 1 st VP Gertrude Meyer, Baltimore, 2 nd V.P. Jane O’Rourke, Milwaukee, Secretary Anne Houck, Toledo, Treasurer
1944-1946	#3	Anne V. Houck, Toledo, President Gertrude Meyer, Baltimore, 1 st V.P. Estella Mann, Los Angeles, 2 nd V.P. Jane O’Rourke, Milwaukee, Secretary Clare Casey, New York, Treasurer
May 20, 1946		Albany Diocese Council of Catholic Nurses forms under the auspices of Bishop Edmond F. Gibbons (260 members from 3 area deaneries)
1946-1948	#4	Anne V. Houck, Toledo, President (resigned 1947)

		Estella Mann, Los Angeles, 1 st V.P. (Appointed President 1947) Rose Mary Maley Rochester, 2 nd V.P. Anne Dugan, Indianapolis, Secretary Gertrude Meyer, Baltimore, Treasurer
1948-1950	#5	Estella Mann, Los Angeles, President Rose Mary Maley, Rochester, 1 st V.P. Mary Baker, Denver, 2 nd V.P. Mary Knopp, Cleveland, Secretary (completed unexpired term of Anna Burns) Gertrude Meyer, Baltimore, Treasurer
1950-1952	#6	Estella Mann, Los Angeles, President Catherine Dempsey, Boston, 1 st V.P. Mary Kelly, Detroit, 2 nd V.P. Mary Knopp, Cleveland, Secretary Clare Casey, New York, Treasurer
1952-1954	#7	Catherine Dempsey, Boston, President Mary Sweeney, Washington, 1 st V.P. Adeline Braun, Louisville, 2 nd V.P. Helen Carroll, St. Paul, Secretary Helen Coleman, Brooklyn, Treasurer
July 26, 1954		Cardinal Stritch launched the new Chicago local council: CCNAC-Council of Catholic Nurses Archdiocese of Chicago, combining three separate Catholic Nurses groups that existed in Chicago.
1954-1956	#8	Catherine Dempsey, Boston, President Mary Knopp, Washington, 1 st V.P. Adeline Braun, Cleveland, 2 nd V.P. Helen Murphy, Detroit, Secretary (Resigned 1955) Alyce Rooney, Syracuse, Treasurer
1956-1958	#9	Mary Knopp, Washington, President Marie Costello, Chicago, 1 st V.P. Mary Delehanty, Brooklyn, 2 nd V.P. Myrtle Cavanaugh, San Francisco, Secretary Alyce Rooney, Syracuse, Treasurer
1960-1962	#10	Marie Costello, Chicago, President Mary Delehanty, Brooklyn, 1 st V.P. Helen Reetz, Dubuque, 2 nd V.P. Katherine Fitzgerald, Milwaukee, Secretary Irene Duffy, Baltimore, Treasurer
1962-1964	#11	Marie Costello, Chicago, President Mary Delehanty, Brooklyn, 1 st V.P. Mary McClanahan, Covington, 2 nd V.P. Vera Mellor, Washington, Secretary Irene Duffy, Baltimore, Treasurer
1964-1966	#12	Mary Delehanty, Brooklyn, President Helen Reetz, Dubuque, 1 st V.P. Ruth Vanisky, Los Angeles, 2 nd V.P. Vera Mellor, Washington, Secretary Helen Baggot, St. Paul, Treasurer
1966-1969	#13	Mary Delehanty, Brooklyn, President
1969-1970	#14	Mary Anita McHugh, President NCCN, USA
1970	---	NCCN-USA disbanded
1970-1993	---	Local Councils continue to flourish in Albany, NY; Chicago, Illinois & other locations in the U.S.A.
1993	---	National Association of Catholic Nurses, U.S.A. formed & Incorporated in the Diocese of Joliet as a 501c3
1993-1996	#1	Eula Sforza, RN, President, Illinois (1993-1996) Marylee Meehan, Vice President, West Yarmouth, MA (1993-1996) Mary Pelizzari, Secretary/Treasurer, Illinois (1993-1996)
1996-1998	#2	Marylee Meehan, President
1998-2000	#3	Marlene Rasmussen, RN BSN, President Diana Newman, EdD, RN, Vice President Helen Bills RN, Treasurer

		Janet Salihar RN CCM, Corresponding Secretary, Joliet, IL Sookie Dominguez-Escandon, PhD., RN, Recording Secretary
2000-2002	#4	Diana Newman, EdD, RN; President
2001		Formation of the MidSouth Area Association of Catholic Nurses (MSAACN), Diocese of Memphis
2002-2004	#5	Sookie Domingues-Escadon, RN, President
2004-2006	#6	Thomas W. Connelly, Jr., Ph.D, RN, President until July 2005 Amy M. Hickman, RN, BSN – Assumed Presidency July 2005 Patricia Christensen, RN, Treasurer Erin Kennedy, RN, MSN, Recording Secretary Marie Sloan, RN MSN Corresponding Secretary
2006-2008	#7	Amy Hickman, RN, President (2006-2008) Kathy Kirkpatrick, RN, President-Elect, Woburn, MA (2006-2008)
2008-2010	#8	Kathy Kirkpatrick, RN, President, Woburn, MA (2008-2010) Cheryl Hettman PhD, RN, President Elect, Washington, PA (2008-2010) Jane Oyler RN, Recording Secretary Pam Richardson RN, Corresponding Secretary Mary Pellizzari RN, Treasurer, Illinois
2010-2012	#9	Cheryl Hettman, PhD, RN, President, Washington, PA (2010-2012) Alma Abuelouf, BSN, RN, FCN, President Elect, Lakeland, TN (2010-2012) Kathy Kirkpatrick, RN, Immediate Past President, Woburn, MA (2010-2012)
2012-2014	#10	Alma Abuelouf, BSN, RN, FCN, President, Lakeland, TN (2012-2014) Diana Newman, EdD, RN, President-Elect, Plymouth, MA (2012-2014) Cheryl Hettman, PhD, RN, Immediate Past President, Washington, PA (2012-2014) Denise Quayle, MSN, RN, Treasurer, Washington, PA Jane Oyler, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Recording Secretary, Gettysburg, PA Patricia Sayers, RN, DNP, Corresponding Secretary, Bordentown, NJ Regional Representatives (5): Marie Hilliard, MS, MA, JCL, PhD, RN, Northeast, Philadelphia, PA Pat Jenkins, RN, Southeast, St. Petersburg, FL (2011-2013) Martha Baker, PhD, RN, CNE, ACNS-BC, MidWest, Republic, MO Jane Cardea, PhD, RN, Southwest, San Antonio, TX Mary Ann Haeuser, MSN, RN, FNP, Northwest, San Rafael, CA Diana Ruzicka, RN, MSN, MA, CNS-BC, COL, USA Retired; Southeast, New Market, AL (2013-2015)
2014-2016	#11	Diana Newman, EdD, RN, President; Plymouth, MA; President (2014-2016) Jane Cardea, PhD, RN; San Antonio, TX; President-Elect (2014-2016) Alma Abuelouf, BSN, RN, FCN, Immediate Past President, Lakeland, TN (2014-2016) Jeannine Gaudet, Hernando, MS, Recording Secretary (2013-2015) Patricia Sayers, DNP, RN; Corresponding Secretary, Bordentown, NJ (2014-2016) Denise Quayle, Treasurer, Washington, PA; (2013-2015) Richard Zazycki, LPN, Treasurer, Rensselaer, NY, (2015-2017) Regional Representatives (5/6): Marie T. Hilliard, MS, MA, JCL, PhD, RN, Northeast, Philadelphia, PA (2014-2016) Diana Ruzicka, RN, MSN, MA, CNS-BC, COL, USA Retired; Southeast, New Market, AL (2013-2015) Mary Lee Barron, PhD, APRN, MidWest; Fenton, MO (2013-2015) Judie Boyle, MS, RN, Southeast, Eldersburg, MD (2015-2017) Margaret (Peg) Olson, RN, BSN, CHTP/I, NorthCentral, Chicago, IL (2015-2017) Mary Lee Barron, PhD, APRN, MidWest; Fenton, MO (2015-2017) Dr. Jennifer Cook, PhD, RN, San Antonio, TX; SW Representative (2014-2016) Mary Ann Haeuser; Northwest, San Rafael, CA (2013-2015) Suzanne Summers-Spence, Northwest, Sunnyvale, CA (2015) Resigned.
2016-2017	#12	Jane Cardea, PhD, RN, President (resigned 24Feb2017) Diana Ruzicka, RN, MSN, MA, MA, CNS-BC, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired, New Market, AL, President (effective 24Feb2017-30Jun2018)

		<p>Diana Ruzicka, RN, MSN, MA, MA, CNS-BC, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired, New Market, AL, President-Elect (1Jul2016-24Feb2017)</p> <p>Marie Hilliard, MS, MA, JCL, PhD, RN, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired, Recording Secretary (2016-2017)</p> <p>Maria Steele, DNP, RN, Cullman, AL, Corresponding Secretary (2016) Resigned</p> <p>Richard Zazycki, LPN, Rensselaer, NY, Treasurer (2015-2017)</p> <p>Diana Newman, EdD, RN, Immediate Past President; Plymouth, MA; President (2016-2018)</p> <p>Regional Representatives(6):</p> <p>Maria Arvonio, BSN, MA(HCE), RN, Northeast, Mount Laurel, NJ (2016-2018)</p> <p>Judie Boyle, MS, RN, Eldersburg, MD, Southeast (2015-2017)</p> <p>Margaret (Peg) Olson, RN, BSN, CHTP, NorthCentral, Chicago, IL (2015-2017)</p> <p>Mary Lee Barron, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, Midwest; Fenton, MO (2015-2017)</p> <p>Margaret (Peggy) Humm, MSN, APRN, CNS-MCH, SW Representative, San Antonio, TX (2016-2018)</p> <p>Vacant, Northwest Regional Representative</p>	<p>Marie Hilliard, MS, MA, JCL, PhD, RN, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired, President Elect (8Mar2017-30Jun2018)</p> <p>Vacant to July 1, 2017 – Duties fulfilled by Marie Hilliard, Richard Zazycki & Jan Salihar</p> <p>Vacant – Duties fulfilled by Richard Zazycki & Diana Ruzicka</p>
2017-2018	#13	<p>Diana Ruzicka, RN, MSN, MA, MA, CNS-BC, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired, New Market, AL, President (as President-Elect assumed presidency 24Feb17)</p> <p>Marie Hilliard, MS, MA, JCL, PhD, RN, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired, President Elect, Philadelphia, PA (Appointment approved by BOD 8Mar2017)(8Mar2017-30Jun2018)</p> <p>Marie Hilliard, MS, MA, JCL, PhD, RN, Colonel, U.S. Army Retired, Recording Secretary, Philadelphia, PA (2016-2017)</p> <p>Vacant, Corresponding Secretary (2016-2017)</p> <p>Richard Zazycki, LPN, Rensselaer, NY, Treasurer (2015-2017; 2017-2019)</p> <p>Diana Newman, EdD, RN, Immediate Past President; Plymouth, MA; President (2016-2018)</p> <p>Jane Cardea, PhD, RN; San Antonio, TX; Immediate Past President (2017-2018)</p> <p>Regional Directors (6/9):</p> <p>Maria Arvonio, BSN, MA(HCE), RN, Mount Laurel, NJ, NE Regional Director (2016-2018)</p> <p>Maria Arvonio, BSN, MA(HCE), RN, Mount Laurel, NJ, LNE Regional Director (2016-2018)</p> <p>Judie Boyle, MA, RN, Eldersburg, MD, SE Regional Director (2015-2017)</p> <p><i>New Region – July 1, 2017</i></p> <p>Mary Lee Barron, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, MW Representative; Fenton, MO (2015-2017)</p> <p>Margaret (Peg) Olson, RN, BSN, CHTP, NC Representative, Chicago, IL (2015-2017)</p> <p>Margaret (Peggy) Humm, MSN, APRN, CNS-MCH, SouthCentral, San Antonio, TX (2016-2018)</p> <p><i>New Region – July 1, 2017</i></p> <p><i>New Region – July 1, 2017</i></p> <p>Vacant, Northwest Regional Director</p>	<p>Dahlia Rojas, PhD, RN, Recording Secretary, McAllen, TX (2017-2019)</p> <p>Vacant, UNE Regional Director (2017-2019)</p> <p>Alma Abuelouf, BSN, RN, FCN, Southeast, Lakeland, TN, (2017-2020)</p> <p>Janet Munday, BSN, RN, MidAtlantic, Wapakoneta, OH (2017-2019)</p> <p>Jill Zolfo, BSN, RN, NorthCentral, North Aurora, IL (2017-2019)</p> <p>Vacant, MidWest (2017-2019)</p> <p>Ingrid Tegtman, MSN, RN, Southwest (SW), Fort Collins, CO (2017-2020)</p> <p>Ellen Gianoli, BSN, PHN, RN, Pacific (PA), Palo Cedro, CA (2017-2019)</p>

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