

# NEWS: *people*



## Greetings from the 2008-2009 Board of Directors



**Jenna Sanders**  
*President*

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Mackenzie, 8, and Jack, 5). Since then, I have been involved at the school SNA level as treasurer, president of the Indiana Association of Nursing Students, and vice president of NSNA. My long term goals include becoming

**G**reetings fellow NSNA members! I am honored to serve as your 2008-09 President. For those I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, please allow me to tell you a bit about myself. I am a senior at the University of Saint Francis, in Fort Wayne, IN. I grew up in the Washington, DC area and moved to Indiana three years ago with my husband of 10 years, and my three children (Owen, 9,

a Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) and Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), and likely some teaching along the way.

I have learned a great deal during my time with NSNA, and am incredibly appreciative for the opportunity to continue to serve this organization. Mahatma Gandhi once said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." This thought has always resonated with me, and I believe it played a large role in my becoming involved with NSNA. I was once told by a past ANA president that professional nursing organizations find themselves quite jealous of all that NSNA is able to accomplish in such a short window of time. This is something I am incredibly proud of. It speaks both to our motivation, and our realization that our time window is not long as students. I believe it also demonstrates the passion of nursing students for changing the future of health care and the nursing profession. It will be a significant part of my work as president to ensure that the professional nursing organizations understand the valuable resource inherent in our membership. Through mentoring

programs and taking on roles as active and supportive faculty, current RNs are able to encourage the passion and determination I've seen in so many of our students.

This year's board of directors has already blown me away with their creativity and dedication. We are hard at work putting together a fabulous MidYear Conference in Reno, NV, and an incredible Annual Convention in Nashville, TN. I certainly hope to see all of you there! Keep an eye on *Imprint* and your e-mail for information on committee activities such as a Get Out the Vote Campaign, Disaster Preparedness Initiatives, the Project InTouch recruiter challenge, Making-It-Fit information, Breakthrough to Nursing programs, and much more. It is sure to be an incredible year for the organization as we work diligently to follow through with the resolutions passed in the 2008 House of Delegates and earlier.

Simply by being an NSNA member, you have shown your passion and dedication to the nursing profession. I ask you to enhance your membership experience by becoming involved. Be involved at the school, state, or national levels through volunteering, writing a resolution, and convention attendance. We are the future of nursing – let's show the professional nursing organizations our vision for the future.

Communication is a priority this year for the board of directors and me, and we want to be sure that you know that we are merely an e-mail away. We've signed on to work for you for the next year, so please do not hesitate to contact us. I can be reached anytime at [president@nsna.org](mailto:president@nsna.org). Best wishes for the coming school year!



**Laura Chapman**  
Vice-President

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**B**lessings to all! What a fabulous convention NSNA had in Grapevine, TX! I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to all of you for allowing me to serve another year on the Board of Directors. It is an honor and privilege to have the opportunity to represent NSNA as its vice president. I have enjoyed getting to know many of you and sharing your stories of successes and challenges and our combined passion for NSNA and the nursing profession.

For those of you who do not know me, I want to take the time to introduce myself. I have been married to Clint for fourteen years and we have four children: Laurance is 19, Erik, 13, Andrew, 12 and Emily, 11. My family is a huge supporter of NSNA and is very excited that I am able to continue the work of the Board. I will graduate in May of '09

from the University of Alabama in Huntsville with my Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN). I plan to continue my education after graduating and working at a local hospital in my home town.

My journey in nursing began almost seventeen years ago. My sister was in a near fatal car accident and was unable to walk. I took care of her for a year after she came home from the hospital. It was the encouragement of my family that led me to a career in nursing. It has been a long road to fulfilling my dream of being a nurse. I understand the hurdles that nurses face and I know that I have been prepared for such a challenge. It is important to me to continue in my education and become a nurse educator. I know that the leadership skills that I have learned, my passion to teach others, and my participation in Legislation/Education are all contributions I can continue to give to the nursing profession. I have served as vice president and president of my local chapter and have also served on numerous committees with my state. Serving as your Director South last year, I had the opportunity to chair the Bylaws and Policies committee. I also served on the Disaster and the Legislation/Education committees. I look forward to working very hard on the Board this year and accomplishing much. I want to encourage each and every one of you to get involved in your local and state chapters.

I hope to see everyone November 13-16 at the MidYear Conference in Reno, NV. I know that it will be an exciting event! **Please don't hesitate to contact me at [vicepresident@nsna.org](mailto:vicepresident@nsna.org).** I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in Reno.



**David Horner**  
Secretary/Treasurer

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**H**ello fellow NSNA members! I am honored to serve as your Secretary/Treasurer for 2008-09. I would like to tell you a little bit about myself. I am the sixth of eight children who grew up in Honolulu, HI. I currently attend school at Golden West College in Huntington Beach, CA, and have a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Seattle University in Seattle, WA. I also work part-time as a contractor for AT&T in Anaheim, CA.

I have learned many things from my parents and family. I want to become a caring nurse just like my mother. I intend to manage the resources of the NSNA responsibly, and I know that I do not know everything that there is to know, so I am here to listen and to employ the best ideas possible.

My vision for this year is to continue sharing the experience and resources that NSNA has to offer to state and school secretaries and treasurers. I can best accomplish this by building relationships and sharing what I learn to help each autonomous state chapter adopt sound financial reporting systems and sound accounting principals. I also intend to maintain strong relationships with the other members of the NSNA board to make decisions with the benefit of many view points. Through these measures, my hope is that NSNA and the state chapters will continue to make sound fiscally responsible decisions for their members.

As Secretary/Treasurer, I want to keep participation in NSNA affordable so that we can continue to grow this organization in the future. I look forward to working with you this year. Please feel free to contact me by email. I look forward to seeing you at the MidYear Conference in Reno, NV, and the Annual Convention in Nashville, TN. Aloha and God Bless you!



**Lauren Brewer**  
Imprint Editor

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**O**ur journey together has just begun my friends! I am thrilled to be a part of the nursing profession with you and I want to thank you for your support and trust to work with NSNA at this level. I would have never gotten here without you!

A little bit more about me: I was born in North Carolina, but I have lived in New Jersey (where I lost my southern accent) and South Carolina. Family is very important to me and is one

of major influences for my choice of the nursing profession. My grandmother was a nurse, my mother is a nurse, both my aunts are nurses and two of my cousins are nurses, so you might say we have the genes for it! However it's not just genes that have shown me how wonderful this career is. It was the variety of nursing that I saw, the ability to care for others, and the cool uniforms, of course! In fact I regularly borrow my mother's old pants for clinical!

On a more serious note though, I have had the opportunity to help plan a great year for NSNA. As *Imprint* editor I plan to educate and entertain your minds as well as offer a forum for members' voices to be heard. In addition, I am working on adding some new features to *Imprint*, especially a humor section which will rely heavily on your funny anecdotes – we've all had crazy things happen in clinical at one point or another. Share them!

I am also the chair of the Image of Nursing Committee. Our theme this year is "Nursing: A Diamond in the Rough" and as part of that we are launching a

"Polish Yourself" campaign, focusing on ways for you to improve yourself and thus improve the image of nursing. Each and every one of you represents nursing and it's up to you and me to make sure that image is diamond quality! Don't forget to plan an Image project this year and submit it for an award!

I thank you once again for your support and I hope you catch on to all the excitement the NSNA board has planned for the year. We are expecting great things! See you at MidYear (but please feel free to email me before that!)

Plus, see my editorial on page 6.



**Kenya Haney**  
Breakthrough to Nursing®  
Director

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**G**reetings NSNA members! It is my pleasure to serve on the NSNA Board of Directors as the newly elected Breakthrough to Nursing Director. It was such a wonderful experience to meet so many new people at the Annual Convention in Grapevine, TX. I have formed many new friendships that I will forever cherish. I also had the opportunity of reuniting with many fellow NSNA members and friends whom I had the pleasure of meeting during my term of

office with the NSNA Nominations and Election Committee 2006-07.

I am a new registered nurse (RN). I graduated from St. Louis Community College with an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Nursing in May 2007. I am now currently enrolled in the RN to BSN program at University of Missouri in St. Louis, MO.

While I officially have one year working as a RN under my belt, I will tell anyone that I am still a novice working in a world of great nursing experts. I am currently employed at Christian Hospital in St. Louis as a day shift Emergency Department nurse. I have a great supportive husband, Rico, to whom I have been married for 11 years, and two wonderful children: Rico, 9 and Shayla, 6.

I have a passion for nursing education: it is my desire to become a nurse educator! So I plan to continue my education until I have obtained my PhD in nursing. I love to mentor students to see that they are able to reach their full potential. Mentors have played a positive role in my life and I am always open to finding and cultivating new mentors for myself and other nursing students. Thank you to Nancy Pea, MSN, RN, who first showed me in a positive way how to be a nurse leader, nurse educator, and supportive mentor, even from a distance. I would also

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like to thank Desma Reno, MSN, RN, APRN and the Missouri Nursing Students' Association who have supported me so graciously. I would be remiss if I didn't mention my aunt Pamela Singer, RN, who raised me to be the nurse I am today.

I am looking forward to a productive year as your BTN director and I am looking forward to year of outstanding BTN projects. I also have the incredible opportunity to serve on the Convention Planning Committee and the Image of Nursing Committee. I look forward to meeting everyone at the MidYear Conference in Reno, NV, and at the next Annual Convention in Nashville, TN.

I am here for all NSNA members so please contact me whenever you need. Together we will make this an active and productive year with NSNA.



**Marie Cassels**  
Director

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**W**ow, what a journey! My name is Marie Cassels and I hail from Yonkers, NY. It has been an amazing year thanks to the National Student Nurses' Association as well as the many members that have supported me at the school, state, and national levels. I congratulate NSNA's members for embarking on the journey of nursing!

Last November I attended the Midyear Convention in Kansas City, MO, and it

opened my eyes to a whole other world within this profession. Within my school chapter, I was elected Legislative Director so I understood what NSNA's mission was but didn't understand the impact that this association had on students from around the country. The Nursing Students' Association of New York State welcomed me with open arms and I was appointed 2nd Vice-President. We went through a lot as a board and organization but thrived and now consider each other "family." A family sticks together through tough times, considers each member's opinions and thoughts, and never leaves anyone behind. We held our annual convention the first week of March and I was elected president of NSANYS. Two weeks later, in Grapevine, TX, I was elected director (East) on the Board of Directors of NSNA.

Now I have the pleasure to call thousands of people my "family" and I couldn't ask for a better one! Being exposed to the national level gives me the opportunity to represent over 50,000 members and enhance NSNA's mission. We are all in this together and I can't wait to see and talk to everyone in Reno, NV.



**Bonnie Kluttz**  
Director

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**H**ello NSNA members! My name is Bonnie Kathleen Kluttz and I am currently a junior at Cabarrus College of Health Sciences in Concord, NC, pursuing my BSN. I also have a BA in Romance Languages from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. My future goal in nursing is to work in critical care and become a nurse practitioner. I am passionate about the role of nursing in our society and the impact that national policies and laws have on our

profession. I chose to become a nurse after listening to my grandmother – a nurse for 40 years and one of the first five in North Carolina – to become specialized in geriatrics, tell stories of the changes she had made in her patients' lives. I also was drawn into health care because it is an evolving, exciting, and flexible career with many different avenues to pursue.

I served as the North Carolina Association of Nursing Students (NCANS) Legislative Director from 2007-08 and met with ten legislators on Capitol Hill when I participated in the Nurse in Washington Internship 2008. I have also worked as a Spanish interpreter in the Emergency Room in Concord, and will be working in Renal Pulmonary Step-Down at the Intensive Care Unit at Duke University.

I look forward to an active and productive year at NSNA. I am serving as chair of the Legislation/Education Committee and one of my goals is to increase participation and political awareness among our members about policies that can impact health care professionals and their patients. I hope you embrace the opportunity to get active in your chapters and that you're also looking forward to a great year!

## NSNA Members

Don't miss out on any *Imprint* issues or other announcements. Update your data online at [www.nsna.org](http://www.nsna.org) under Member Services.



**Grant Tyler**  
Director

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**G**reetings fellow NSNA members! I am very excited to have the opportunity to work for you on this year's Board of Directors. This year I will chair the Membership Committee and will work hard to increase awareness of member benefits, the Project InTouch recruiter program, and the Leadership University website. Membership to an organization such as the NSNA, so early in our careers, teaches each of us much about the profession and leadership in general. The

experiences and knowledge we gain in this organization enhances our journey as nursing students, and will impact our careers in nursing.

A career in health care has always been something I wanted, but I grew up with the same stereotype most others have: boys cannot be nurses. It was not until my freshman year in college when my nephew was born with some complications that I realized nursing was for me. After requiring exploratory surgery at only days old, he was placed in the NICU at a local hospital. It was there that I met a nurse who showed me that the wonderful career of nursing does not need to be "feminized." It was amazing to see the way this man so gently cared for my new nephew. There are a variety of nurses, men being part of that variety. After this realization, I enrolled in nursing school the very next semester.

I am now a senior BSN student at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, IN. I graduate in December to begin a nursing career at a local trauma center. I have enjoyed the experience that I have had over the last five years in emergency rooms where I've worked as a technician, disaster co-coordinator, and recently, as a student nurse tech.

I have had many experiences with NSNA at the school, state, and national levels. It is exciting to network with so many students and faculty from across the country through this organization. I am looking forward to seeing the work and goals of the board become tangible accomplishments for NSNA's members. I am always happy to answer questions or listen to comments, so feel free to contact me over the next year!



**Candace Biberston**  
Director

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**H**ello NSNA members! I hope everyone is feeling rejuvenated after the summer. I am honored to be serving as a director on the 2008-09 Board of Directors. I look forward to the coming months and the experiences we will share at the MidYear Conference in Reno, NV, and the Annual Convention in Nashville, TN. I hope you are all ready for the good times ahead!

I am starting my fifth and final year at Brigham Young University in Provo, UT. I decided to become a nurse when I took a volunteer position at the Children's Hospital in San Diego, CA. I loved the interaction the nurses had with their patients and the idea that we can be part of the healing process. I knew I wanted to be a part of this great profession. When I was accepted into the nursing program at BYU, I decided to become as involved in student leadership activities as possible. That decision has given me some of the best experiences of my life! I encourage all of you to become involved in whatever way you can. I served on the Utah Student Nurses Association board and now I am excited to bring that energy and excitement to the NSNA board and membership.

I am serving as the chair for the Community Health Committee and serve on the Convention and Membership committees. We have come up with some great ideas for the year and I am excited to share those with you. Our goal is to promote health in the individual, community, and environment. We will be posting articles on our section of the website about these various topics along with projects you can use. We will also be starting an NSNA fitness program whereby your team can compete to lose weight and keep healthy. We hope you will use the website to keep updated on the latest happenings and share your experiences with us.

I look forward to meeting you in Reno and Nashville and I hope that you will email me with any questions or comments you might have. Remember, I am here to serve you! I wish you all the best as we embark on a new and exciting school year!



## Heather Hyatt Dolan

*Ex-officio Director, Chair Council of State Presidents Planning Committee*

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Hello and greetings from the beautiful state of South Carolina! I am truly honored to be serving as the Council of State Presidents (COSP) chair for 2008-09. In case I did not get the opportunity to meet you in Grapevine, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I am pursuing my BSN from the University of South Carolina-Aiken, completed my Associates Degree in Nursing (ADN) in December 2007 and currently serve as the president of the Student Nurses Association of South Carolina. I live on the sunny coast of South Carolina and work as an RN in the pediatric cardiology unit at the Medical University of South Carolina. I am originally from North Carolina and firmly believe that “Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina.” I have been married to my husband, Joe, for six years and we have a sweet chocolate cocker spaniel named Beignet. My future plans include obtaining my masters in nursing education and administration and doctorate in nursing. It is my desire to teach our future nurses and share my experiences with the community.

My journey in nursing began when I was seven years old – I have never wanted to be or do anything else. While the journey was not easy, I did not travel alone. Thanks to the support and encouragement from my parents, husband, and friends, I am realizing my dream. I am forever grateful to the wonderful nursing students of South Carolina, my nursing instructors, and to my role model, Muriel Horton, for being pillars of strength and wisdom. Nursing students are truly the strongest most dedicated individuals I know! I wish all of you the best as you realize your own dreams!

The 2008 House of Delegates elected a fantastic board to serve you and I am so excited to be a part of it! In addition to serving as your COSP chair, I also serve on the Bylaws and Policies Committee and the Community Health committee. I am ready to get to work and work hard to continue to make this your NSNA. I welcome your ideas and comments; together we will accomplish great things! Remember to mark your calendars for the MidYear Conference in Reno, NV, and the Annual Convention in Nashville, TN. Bring your faculty and fellow nursing students; you don't want to miss it!

Again, I feel so blessed and honored to have been given this opportunity to represent you on the NSNA

Board of Directors. You may contact me at any time. I would love to hear your questions, ideas and concerns. Together we can achieve goals that we could not achieve on our own. I wish all of you a successful year. Remember to take a few minutes to break away from the nursing books and take some time for yourself; caring for yourself is the most important thing you can do! Thank you again, God bless you on your journey. I will see you in Reno and Nashville!

## Nominating and Elections Committee



## Gerardo Melendez-Torres

*Chair and Eastern Election Area Representative*

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Hello, NSNA members! I am still experiencing the excitement of the 2008 convention, and I'm sure that all of you who attended are too. After a lively campaign, I was thrilled to represent the Eastern Election Region on the Nominating and Elections Committee and then to be elected as your NEC Chair!

What a way to end my first year of school! I'm entering my second year in a dual-degree program at the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, PA. In addition to studying for my BSN, I am pursuing a degree in economics,

with a focus on health policy. My eventual goal is to create health policy with an eye towards the people that work on the frontlines of health care – that is, nurses. But for now, I'm more interested in getting through that classic nursing school course, “Anatomy and Physiology.”

Student Nurses at Penn – that is, our nursing student association here at school – first caught my eye when I arrived on campus. After going to one or two meetings, I was hooked. Our chapter president at the time encouraged me to run for office, and I did. I then became our SNA's Secretary/Treasurer. However, for our very spirited and dedicated advisor, Diane Spatz, PhD, RNC, FAAN, that was no place to stop. She told me about the opportunities on the national level. At first, I was a bit timid about the whole process. But with the support of Dr. Spatz and our chapter's delegation, I decided to run from the floor. And, of course, the national NEC was extremely helpful too.

My goal for the NEC this year is to encourage people to begin the journey to leadership, just like all of us on the NEC did. Listen to your advisors and your chapter leadership if they think that you would be a good candidate!

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Better yet, take the initiative yourself and email one of us with any questions. It is our year's work to help and guide you along the process—and if you're a bit timid, like I was, don't be surprised if we come looking for you. After all, like our theme for the year says, you really can hit a home run with NSNA office!



**Melissa R. Snow**  
*Southern Election  
Area Representative*

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**W**here do you see yourself in ten years?" asked my college advisor at the University of New Orleans in August of 1995. At that time I had a great answer: I wanted to be a businesswoman in management, make a lot of money, and most of all, I wanted to break the glass ceiling. Sure, I graduated college with two business degrees. Sure, I worked and made great money. Surely I should be happy, right? Wrong.

In August of 2005, I found myself in none of the great places I imagined myself ten years before. Instead, I was unhappy and I hated business. I knew I needed a change, but I didn't know what. I had really reached the end of my rope. Then Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans and forced change upon me. Evacuation to San Antonio, TX, gave me months to evaluate myself (mostly because there was nothing else to do). I realized I didn't know myself before. My list of likes included helping, caring, and getting to know people, problem solving, the Discovery Health® channel and, most surprising to myself, the human body and how it works. On the other hand, I found I disliked a number of things, including business strategy, outplaying the competitor, revenue goals, pushing products on customers, and long business meetings. I have really come to appreciate the opportunity for change and growth I received from experiencing an otherwise disastrous event. Analysis of my lists led to the discovery of a new path for myself in nursing.

I began my nursing career at Charity School of Nursing Delgado Community College in January 2007 with the support of my boyfriend (now fiancé), my son, and my family. I wanted to be very involved in school this time around; and I immediately joined the Charity Association of Student Nurses, the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses and the National Student Nurses' Association. These memberships have truly opened many doors and provided an enormous support system. These three memberships have allowed me to make many close

friendships as well as provided me with financial assistance through scholarships for nursing education. I am very proud and excited to have been recently elected to the Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC) for NSNA, representing the Southern area. I look forward to working with the other committee members and NSNA.

So, where do I see myself in the next ten years? I see myself as a wife, a mother, and a nurse. After graduation in December, I plan on becoming an oncology nurse at East Jefferson General Hospital in Metairie, LA. I envision myself returning to school to receive a Bachelor's degree in Nursing. I can see myself being a sustaining member of NSNA and an active member of Louisiana State Nurses Association and ANA. It seems strange to me at this point that I could have ever seen myself as anything else. Have you really thought about where you see yourself in ten years or five or even one? Think about it – I did.



**Jill E. Phillips**  
*Northern Election  
Area Representative*

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**H**ello! My name is Jill Phillips and I am a junior in the BSN program at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO. I am a non-traditional student with two young sons and have always had a passion for medicine. I originally started out my journey into healthcare as a pre-med student, wanting to become a plastic reconstructive surgeon; after having my first son, I realized that if I wanted to be the type of hands-on mom that I desired, being a surgeon wasn't in the cards. I

looked into different options, one of which was nursing, and was amazed with the amount of diversity the nursing field offered. You can change areas of expertise, go from hands-on care to supervision and further explore the different levels of nursing within specific fields. I realized that nursing married my love for medicine with my knowledge of biology and passion for people; I was hooked.

I have served as vice president for my local SNA and as both the NEC representative and treasurer for the Missouri Nursing Students Association (MONSA) at the state level; moving onto the national level to serve through NSNA seemed the next logical step. When I decided to run for national office, my faculty advisor Desma Reno and the entire state board backed me one hundred percent and rallied behind me to help me win the position of NEC northern election area representative. I couldn't have done it without them and I thank them

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immensely for their ongoing support. I decided to run for national office in order to make a difference in nursing education, legislation, and the future of nursing. Being involved at the different levels of nursing has enriched my leadership abilities and opened my eyes to the extremely bright future that nursing possesses.

As your NEC northern election representative, I will be working hard to find qualified students to fill the candidate slots for the 2009-10 election year. My goal is to fit the right person to the right job in order to better serve nursing students everywhere. NSNA is a great networking opportunity and allows you to make life-long friends and contacts that you will have for the rest of your life. I am honored to have been elected into NSNA and look forward to meeting you at the MidYear Conference in Reno and at the Annual Convention in Nashville!



**Kimberly Root**  
Western Election Area  
Representative

Saddleback College  
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**H**ello fellow NSNA members! It is my honor to serve as your 2008-09 NEC-Western election area representative. I am coming into the nursing profession at a later stage in life after several years of medical sales and clinical research. A career in nursing had always been a dream of mine and with the support of my husband and two young children I was able to take on the challenge of making that dream a reality.

I am a fourth semester student at the Saddleback College,

CA, ADN program, eagerly anticipating graduation and moving on to a BSN program in the spring. My goal is to obtain my Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) and pursue a career in maternal child health. I have served as the Saddleback College California Nursing Student's Association Nominating and Elections Committee (NEC) representative for the past three semesters and am looking forward to serving in this capacity at the national level. I have had the opportunity to work with outstanding students and faculty during my time as the NEC official of my local chapter.

As the NEC Western election area representative I hope to be able to encourage other nursing students to take on the challenge of leadership and to seek a position on the NSNA board. I plan to be available as a resource and to help NSNA members prepare to run for a national office. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or needs you may have. I am excited to be involved with the NEC team this year and will do whatever is needed of me to make our 2009 election in Nashville a great success!

## Imprint's New Reporters



**Dinah Walsh**  
Up Close Reporter

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University  
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**I**t is with great joy that I take on the role of Up Close Reporter for *Imprint* magazine. I am a senior in the BSN program at Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, KY and I continue to build my nursing skills upon a solid base of "people" and business skills. To summarize my journey to nursing, I walked in combat boots as a soldier, battled against cancer, fired a surgeon, started two businesses (sold one and still help run

the other), gained compassion by suffering my own losses, and learned courage from my mom. I dance through this life with the love of my life, Bill, who helps me daily to reach a little higher.

I encourage NSNA's members to take a look around and find that amazing individual who stands out. The Up Close column profiles an individual NSNA member who goes above and beyond. We all know that working through nursing school successfully is, in and of itself, a huge achievement. But do you know someone who's balancing all that and more? Is it someone who volunteers at a shelter after clinicals? Is it an individual who has built or revitalized a chapter from the ground up? What makes this individual special? Please nominate an individual at nsna@nsna.org, Attn: Up Close Reporter, and let me know why this person should be profiled in *Imprint*. I look forward to speaking to many wonderful people this year. Good luck in 2008-09!



**Susan Indest**  
Happenings Reporter

Our Lady of the  
Lake College  
Baton Rouge, LA  
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**I** am excited to have this opportunity to serve as the Happenings reporter! I am a New Orleans native and a student at Our Lady of the Lake College in Baton Rouge, LA. I realized that my calling was to be a nurse when I cared for my parents. I hope that through nursing I can contribute to the healing and recovery of New Orleans. I am looking forward to hearing about your school's students and faculty. By sharing your activities and accomplishments you will

inspire other *Imprint* readers nationwide to strive for excellence and to become more involved in their communities. Plus you'll be highlighting your own chapter's accomplishments!

Please send your chapter activities – whether they are health fairs, food drives, walk-a-thons, or any other events – to me at [susanindest@ololcollege.edu](mailto:susanindest@ololcollege.edu) or to [nsna@nsna.org](mailto:nsna@nsna.org), attn: Happenings, and provide details and high resolution images. Otherwise, please feel free to send me any questions if you're unsure as to what you need to send for the column. I look forward to hearing from you and wish you a great year! ☺

