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NEWS RELEASE



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AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION RE-ELECTS PATTON

ANA delegates elect officers, board members and other leaders at House of Delegates meeting

SILVER SPRING, MD – Delegates of the American Nurses Association (ANA) elected Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR, of Lakewood, OH, to serve a second consecutive two-year term as president of the nation's leading professional nursing organization representing the major health policy, practice and workplace issues of registered nurses (RNs) in the United States. A slate of 30 candidates vied for leadership positions during ANA's 2008 elections. Patton and other nurse leaders were elected during the ANA House of Delegates biennial meeting which occurred on June 25-27, in Washington, DC.

A nurse since 1980, Patton has extensive inpatient and outpatient experience and has been responsible for the start up and ongoing operations of ambulatory surgery centers, and of an inpatient acute and a skilled nursing facility. Currently, Patton is on leave from her position as the director of Perioperative Services for EMH Regional Healthcare System in Elyria, OH. Previously, she served as director of Nursing, director of Surgical Services and director of Ambulatory Operations for hospitals in the University Hospitals Health System.

Patton has a Bachelors of Science in nursing from Kent State University and a Masters of Nursing from Case Western Reserve University. She has held numerous ANA positions including treasurer (1998-2002), Board of Directors member (1994-1998), and delegate to the ANA House of Delegates (2003-2005). In addition she has served in several Ohio Nurses Association (ONA) positions, including ONA first vice president (1990-1992), ONA delegate (2005-2006), ONA finance committee member (2003-2005), and on an Association of PeriOperative Registered Nurses task force on competencies (1999-2000.)

Elected to serve two-year terms as officers of the board were Debbie Hatmaker, PhD, RN, SANE-A, chief programs officer, Georgia Nurses Association, resident of Bishop, GA, elected as first vice president; Coleene "Kim" Armstrong, BSN, RNC, staff nurse, Tacoma General Hospital, resident of Olalla, WA, elected second vice president; Susan Foley Pierce, PhD, RN, acting dean at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, resident of Oak Island, NC, elected secretary; and Marilyn Sullivan, DSN, RN, LNC, CPE, staff nurse, Northshore Regional Medical Center, resident of Slidell, LA, elected treasurer. Both Hatmaker and Foley Pierce were elected to serve a second consecutive term.

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The director-at-large board members elected include Florence Jones-Clarke, MS, RN, clinical instructor, Virginia State University, resident of Colonial Heights, VA; Karen Daley, MS, MPH, RN, FAAN, PhD candidate, Boston College, resident of Stoughton, MA; and Carrie Houser James, MSN, RN, CNA,BC, CCE, health educator, Brooks Health Center, resident of Orangeburg, SC.

The director-at-large staff nurse members include Linda Gural, RN, CCRN, staff nurse/intensive care unit, Community Medical Center, resident of Toms River, NJ; and Julie Shuff, RN, CCRN, staff nurse, Bay Area Hospital, resident of Coos Bay, OR.

The five nurses elected to the Congress of Nursing Practice and Economics include Marilyn Douglass, ARNP-C, ADM, family nurse practitioner, St. Catherine Hospital, resident of Garden City, KS; Sara McCumber, RN, CNP, CNS, nurse practitioner/care coordinator, Duluth Clinic-Elder Care, resident of Superior, WI; Mary Callan, MS, RN, FNP, BC, family nurse practitioner, Highland Family Medicine, resident of Webster, NY; Thomas Stenvig, PhD, MPH, RN, CNA,BC, associate professor, South Dakota State University College of Nursing, resident of Nunda, SD; and Linda Olson, PhD, RN, CNA,BC, dean and professor of nursing, North Park University, resident of Chicago, IL.

Four nurses were elected to the Nominating Committee: Ernest Grant, MSN, RN, nursing education clinician – burn outreach, UNC HealthCare, resident of Chapel Hill, NC; Alice Wyatt, MSN, APRN-BC, nurse practitioner, Kulbersh Women’s Center, resident of West Columbia, SC; Barbara Vogel, BSN, RN-BC, GNP, nursing supervisor, Monroe Community Hospital, resident of Rochester, NY; and Desma Reno, MSN, RN, CS, assistant professor of nursing, Southeast Missouri State University, resident of Jackson, MO.

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The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses through its 54 constituent member nurses associations. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.

