“IT’S A NEW DAY”
ANNUAL CONFERENCE REALLY WAS!

“GREAT CONFERENCE!!” “EXCELLENT!!” “A WONDERFUL DAY!!” “THIS IS THE BEST PRESENTATION I HAVE ATTENDED IN YEARS.” These comments and more are on the Program Evaluations collected at the end of the August 7, 2010, FAPHN conference held at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida. The setting contributed to a relaxing and intimate environment enhanced by the professional and friendly services provided from Local Coffee + Tea caterers Michael Duranko and Abby Bieker and their marvelously attentive staff. Michael and Abby believe in health and promote only the healthiest of food. The FAPHN Board and Program Committee focused on these qualities in hopes FAPHN members could and would relax on this special day and, while an actual spa was not provided, the warm fuzzy caresses felt while in this environment and eating the great food nourished each and everyone physically and emotionally.

[continued on page 2]

NETWORKING
Dear Colleagues,

Salutations! It was indeed “A New Day” as I rejoiced and reflected on the success of our Conference held August 7, 2010 at the Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida. Everything and everyone were amazing. Our colleagues raved about our organized conference, supportive sponsors, dynamic speakers, scrumptious food presented by the caterers, the majestic Gardens with its awesome bay inlet views and our first Silent Auction; all were exceptional.

Most beneficial was our gift to our membership; members attended the conference absolutely free of charge, including the registration, food, fun, networking and CEUs. WOW! That’s what I call...all inclusive!! Members who excel in their varied fields of specialties received recognition and mini-grants and scholarships were awarded to deserving nursing students. The only missing part were those of you we did not see.

It is with great excitement and pride that I greet you as your new FAPHN President. Words of thanks cannot adequately convey my sincerity. I am honored to lead an organization of Nursing professionals so dedicated to serving and making a difference in the lives of those citizens in their respective counties within the state of Florida. I am fortunate to be in a position where I can benefit from the legacy and knowledge of FAPHN’s past presidents and chairpersons. They paved the way by championing core activities via FAPHN’s goals and objectives. FAPHN continues to strive for excellence in delivery of quality nursing practices and professionalism.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome our new Board members, as we start our journey together. I especially wish to thank outgoing President Cindy Whetsell for a job well done, our outgoing Directors for their diligent leadership, and extend a welcome to those on the board continuing their terms. I especially thank Amalia Kane-Crawford, our Treasurer, for the many hats she wears in helping all of us stay afloat and soar like eagles! Amalia is adamant about us being business savvy and keeping abreast with the ever changing world of technology. At the end of Cindy’s presidential term, she proudly referenced we succeeded in meeting FAPHN’s goals this year. This up-coming year we aim to surpass our highest standards of excellence again! Thank you all for being an integral part of FAPHN and, special thanks to those who were involved in making this year’s conference a successful one!

My personal leadership theme for FAPHN in 2010-2011 is, “Our Mission, Your Voice and Visibility: Leading and Leaving a Legacy”. My vision is for FAPHN to be a leader in Nursing Advocacy and the essential voice of empowering lives, influencing education within our Public Health Communities, and impacting the well-being of our citizens.

We are indebted to you, our members as you are the lifeblood of FAPHN. Vince Lombardi said, “The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.” I hope you will extend invitations to your friends and/or colleagues to join FAPHN. We welcome your participation on committees and the Board as your skills and talents will help the 2010-2011 Board lead FAPHN in the planned direction mentioned earlier. Explore the FAPHN website: http://www.faphn.org as you will find valuable information about FAPHN, links to other organizations, educational offerings, the criteria and applications for scholarships and Mini-Grants. Call me anytime (954) 658-8413 or e-mail me: Naomi-Benton-Brown@doh.state.fl.us or Msbenton@msn.com. The website lists all the Board members for your convenience.

Warmest Regards,
Naomi Benton-Brown, BSN, R.N.
FAPHN President 2010-2011
OUTSTANDING PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE LEADERSHIP AWARD 2010 was announced by committee chair Diana Coyle. This nurse identified a situation, planned an intervention, developed the necessary tools and executed the solution independently. Sherrie Arnwine-McGowan was employed at the Hillsborough CHD as a Registered Nurse Case Manager at the time of her actions mentioned above. The publication/educational flyer developed by Sherrie is used today by the Hillsborough CHD Tuberculosis Clinic. Congratulations, Sherrie.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE OF THE YEAR is awarded to two recipients. This is the first time FAPHN has issued a dual award. The award is shared by Carol Cummins and Teresa Waterman who are both employed by Pasco CHD as Nursing Directors. Ms Cummins (on the right) and Ms. Waterman (on the left) coordinated and implemented their plans of the H1N1 school-located vaccination project from November 5, 2009 through December 17, 2009. The resulting statistics are amazing considering the volume of vaccinations given and the brief amount of time in which to accomplish this feat. Over 10,695 elementary students with over 6,625 students at the secondary level and 3,620 staff members received the vaccination. This feat is indicative of an efficient and effective management by these two public health nurses as they sought to avoid pandemic situations.

R.N to BSN SCHOLARSHIP in the amount of $1,000 is awarded this year to Avie Rose Parker, Assistant Director of Nursing at the Indian River CHD. Rose is enrolled in the Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences and anticipates graduation in May 2012. Share your congratulations when you meet or speak with Rose. “Thank you again for the honor of being the recipient of the RN-BSN Scholarship. I am enjoying being back in school and am now in my second semester. It is a lot of work managing work, family and school but so far it is going well. The scholarship will definitely help!”

THE ADVANCED PRACTICE SCHOLARSHIP in the amount of $1,000 is awarded to Julie Byczek, Senior CHN Supervisor in Brevard CHD. Julie is enrolled in the University of Central Florida and anticipates graduation in May 2012. Share your congratulations when you meet or speak with Julie. NOTE: Julie’s comments are on page 7.

Special appreciation goes to Diana Coyle who has faithfully discharged the duties and shouldered the responsibility as Chair of the Awards and Scholarship Committee. Diana toils faithfully for FAPHN assisting wherever the demands may be. If you want to receive great experience and good mentoring, call Diana to serve on her committee. Dcoyle_se1@comcast.net (904) 794-7624
Dr. Kim Curry was the Program Chairwoman leading the FAPHN 2009-2010 Board of Directors through the conference planning process. Dr. Curry sought speakers for the various programs presented and assisted the speakers through the CE development process and producing the handouts to participants.

Dr. Curry writes, “Public health nurses from across the state came together for the annual conference on August 7th, when an unexpected change in plans resulted in something even better. FAPHN officers were anticipating our usual conference in conjunction with the Florida Public Health Association, but unfortunately their conference was cancelled again this year due to state funding concerns.

Under President Cindy Whetsell’s leadership, FAPHN planners forged ahead and brainstormed options. We decided to stay in Sarasota and looked for an attractive and fun venue for our members. Selby Botanical Gardens offered us their ‘Classroom By The Sea’, and it was perfect! Great view, great food, great everything! We are so glad this worked out for our members!

We had a full agenda with speakers on electronic medical records, legal issues, delegation at work and in schools, public health nursing history, and motivation in the workplace. The speakers were extremely well received and we had several requests in our participant evaluations for similar programs.

We welcome your suggestions and input for next year’s program. We’ll be starting the planning soon so let us know what you’d like. You can reach us through the FAPHN website or e-mail me at kcurry@ut.edu”

Dr. Kim Curry  
1st Vice President

FAPHN CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE SPECIAL TREAT

MEET ETHEL! Ms. Ethel M. Myers is 97 years old and, was hired as one of the first public health nutritionists in the State of Florida. Ms. Ethel spoke to us at the conference about the challenges she faced working in her assigned region which included Brevard, Orange, Seminole, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. A 1935 graduate from Cornell University in New York during “the real depression”, Ms. Ethel went on to
obtain her Masters from Columbia University. Ms. Ethel attended her 75th year class reunion in July 2010. Imagine!! Ms Ethel worked over 15 years in New York as a registered Public Health Nutritionist covering 10 counties "in rain, sleet, snow and sun" and she served as an instructor to LPNs while working at the Florida Regional Hospital which was run by the 7 Day Adventists. Ms. Ethel also worked as Director of Nutrition with the Canteen Volunteers of the American Red Cross and she was a 4 H Club Homemaker Agent in New York State.

FAPHN participants at this conference were amazed and enthralled with Ms. Ethel. Some even squeezed out tears as she struggled to continue speaking even as she became tired and short of breath! Ms. Ethel received a long standing ovation and thunderous applause. Indeed! We received a very SPECIAL TREAT!!! Ms. Ethel, if you are reading this....THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!!

TO BOB, HER SON...WE THANK YOU FOR ACCOMPANYING YOUR MOTHER TO OUR CONFERENCE!

MINI-GRANTS PROGRAM BY FAPHN

Back in 2005, FAPHN member Dr. Barbara Kruger diligently developed the FAPHN Mini-Grant Program. This program was instrumental in FAPHN achieving the I.R.S. tax exempt status which means FAPHN is a public charity in the eyes of the I.R.S. Since 2005, FAPHN has financed $21,099.52. Who is FAPHN? YOU ARE!! What a great job you are doing, dear members.

The 2009-2010 Board identified and approved the following projects to receive Mini-Grant Support.

- Healthy Choices Education: An Enhancement for the Health Education Component of the Kids & K-9s for Healthy Choices Program
  Author(s): Sharon Surrency, CMS; Kathy Wright, CMS, and Ashley Leiter Brown, MPH student
  Budget: $930.00 / yr.

- College Student Outreach
  Author: Barbara Fernandez, Visiting Nurses Association of SW Florida, Inc.
  Budget: $1000.00

- To Protect Our Future-Tdap Immunization to Men:
  Author(s): Nancy Keating, POLK CHD, Sandra Johnson, POLK CHD, Catherine Harrison, POLK CHD
  Budget: $1000.00

CONGRATULATIONS!!!
Dear FAPHN Officers and Directors,

We here at the VNA would like to thank you for supporting our vaccination efforts through the FAPHN Mini-Grant.

We are honored and look forward to reporting on our program.

Barb

- Note: 2010-2011 Mini-Grant Program Recipient
- Refer to page 5

Randomly Selected members of FAPHN end up in THE SPOTLIGHT! Board member and Historian Linda Bilyeu interviewed FAPHN’s Mrs. Marjorie Kendall, RN, BS, RNS

I joined FAPHN as a new member at the Annual Conference on August 7, 2010. I am the Region 7 Special Needs Consultant and my territory is Key West to West Palm Beach. It is my responsibility to ensure that all the Health Departments and Community partners in my region are trained and ready to provide medical assistance to their Special Needs shelterers/registrants during any all-hazards activation. I enjoy working and collaborating with our partnerships on common goals.

I was pleasantly shocked when they pulled my name to be spotlighted! What impressed me most was the camaraderie amongst the nurses and the Board members. “I felt like I have known them for years as they welcomed me and made me feel special.” Naomi Benton-Brown, as President-Elect, encouraged me to join; explained the benefits and I am happy to be a member of FAPHN. I am looking forward to participating. I am a nurse 34 years, married for 19 years, and have a 17 year old daughter who plans to become a nurse!

Who would have thought! Linda Bilyeu was asked to interview new member Marjorie Kendall when her membership number was announced as the second person in the SPOTLIGHT!

Linda Bilyeu, RN, BSN

I served on the FAPHN Board from 2004-2007 and became President of FAPHN in 2005 for one year. I am proud to represent my fellow nurses now as a 2010-2012 Director-At-Large.

I graduated from the University of Miami, School of Nursing in 1976. I worked as a Nurse Educator for “HIV Infection in Children- A Program for School Nurses” and presented at the 1998 annual State School Health Conference.

I relocated to the Orange CHD in 1991, worked as a nursing supervisor in Highland County for the School Health Improvement Pilot Project (SHIPP) and, doing many jobs and handling many responsibilities ended with retirement December 2009; having served DOH for 22.5 years.

I have 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren; we live 10 miles apart. I enjoy retirement, traveling, reading, family time, sewing, baking and stay “active with all the fun stuff life has to offer!”
MEMBERSHIP

August 10, 2010

To the FAPHN Board of Directors and General Membership:

Thank you very much for selecting me to receive the Advanced Practice Scholarship Award for 2010-2011. It will be a big help in offsetting the costs of obtaining my MSN in Nursing Education from the University of Central Florida. With two semesters under my belt, I am seeing the benefits of higher education as it relates to my position here at the Health Department. I anticipate continuing challenges and opportunities.

As always, the conference was a great experience in learning as well as networking with fellow Public Health enthusiasts. Thank you for all the hard work that went in to the planning and execution of the event.

I look forward to working with you on committees I signed up for this coming year. Perhaps when I obtain my degree, I will have time to commit to more with FAPHN. Thank you again.

Julie A. Byczek, RN, BSN  Assistant CHN Director
Brevard County Health Department—Viera Clinic

NEW and RENEWING FAITHFUL 3RD QUARTER MEMBERS

**LATE ENTRY
LaComb-Williams, Linda

BARRINER, CHRIS      BEARD, GAIL      BERNARD, DOMINIQUE
CAROSA, GUY      CARR, MARILYN      COYLE, DIANA
DOLLARD, DAMIAN      FEASTER, MAUREEN      GLOVER, LINDA
GORDON, DARLENE      GRAHAM, FARENTELLA      HAMMOND-EPSTEIN, HEIDI
HARRISON, CATHERINE      HINTON, SHEILA      HOBSON, RONALDA
JACKIM, PEGGY      JOHNSON, SANDRA      KENDALL, MARJorie
KIESEL, MICHELE      MASON, ANDREA      MILLER, CINDI
MYERS, ETHEL M.      NOWLIN, MARION      OPALEK, JENNIFER
PETIT-DESMANGLES, MARIE      RICHARDS, NANCY      RICHARDSON, JENETT
SLEVIN, MARILYN      SMITH, CHRISTINA      THOMPSON, DEBORAH
TOOPS, CONNIE      WANDELL, LYNN      WENNLUrnd, DROLORES
WILSON, SARA      WYNN, KEESHA      YOUNG, LINDA

The highlighted members, Ethel M. Myers and Dolores Wennlund are honored and appreciated by FAPHN with a LIFE membership to FAPHN. This is the first time FAPHN issues LIFE membership in its eight years.
Dolores Wennlund planned to speak at the conference however due to failing health, Dolores was unable to be present. Dolores, you are in our prayers! Read about Dolores on the WEB site.
CARVILLE: A TRIP BACK IN TIME

“In August, I achieved a personal goal of many years. I finally had the opportunity to visit Carville, Louisiana. Why this tiny little town on the levee? Because, just outside of town lies a historic and unique public health institution: The Gillis W. Long Center. Not ringing a bell yet? It’s the National Hansen’s Disease Museum, and the former site of the national leprosarium.

Carville, as this huge institution is more commonly and simply known, has existed since 1894. It is a place of many memories and just as many lessons. At one time, 450 patients ranging from early childhood to the elderly resided here. They weren’t welcome elsewhere, and they were quarantined for leprosy at the only treatment center in the continental United States. Even then, the community had to be tricked into letting the hospital open: they were told the old plantation was going to be used as an ostrich farm.

The first patients traveled to Carville by barge, making their way down the river to an old antebellum mansion known as Indian Camp Plantation. The original home still exists as the administration building. The story of Carville is the story of these medical outcasts, many of whom were admitted under assumed names to spare their families the shame of a disease that society feared. They were forcibly admitted, had no right to vote, no access to a telephone, and their outgoing mail was sterilized until the 1950s. Such is the stigma of Hansen’s disease.

It’s also the story of an order of nuns, the Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent DePaul. The nuns lived with the patients, wearing wool habits with white linen nursing gowns over them. This order is also known for their striking coronette, or heavily starched headdress. If you can picture the old TV show, “The Flying Nun”, you know what these nuns looked like. How they must have labored in the southern Louisiana heat. Four of the sisters are buried “under the pecans” with the patients. Yes, Carville contains a large cemetery.

Carville has much to teach about the long road to discovery of effective antibiotic therapy to treat the mycobterium M. Leprae. It was not until the 1940’s that sulfone therapy was developed, and gradually social and medical knowledge improved to the point that eventually, around 1980, Hansen’s disease became an outpatient condition. It was finally understood how difficult it is to transmit Hansen’s disease from person to person.

There remain a number of mysteries surrounding Hansen’s disease, not the least of which is how individuals are infected. About 95% of Caucasians are genetically resistant. People of color are more susceptible. The nine-banded armadillo is the main animal vector. About 25% of these armadillos in the wild today are infected with M. Leprae. However, many cases occur with no known animal contact. It is believed that most individuals are infected in early childhood. In the United States, about 150-200 cases of Hansen’s Disease occur annually, many in Florida, Louisiana, and Texas. These happen to be states with lots of nine-banded armadillos. Patients are given triple drug therapy with medications similar to those used to treat tuberculosis. Worldwide, there are 1-2 million cases of Hansen’s Disease per year, many in Africa and India.

The Carville campus is huge, with many historic structures, and 2½ miles of enclosed walkways leading to residencies, the infirmary, the chapels, and other buildings. There are pictures in the museum of patients and medical staff riding bicycles down the long halls. One weekend a month, a few guests are allowed on a campus walking tour with the curator. I was fortunate enough to be able to make this arrangement. If you can’t attend this event, the 6000 foot museum, located in the former staff dining building, is well worth the trip. It is packed with fascinating historic and educational items. Consider this on your next trip to New Orleans, as Carville is only an hour or so west of there.

(continued on Page 9)
FAPHN LEGACY PROJECT

CARVILLE: A TRIP BACK IN TIME

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

In 1999, the federal Public Health Service turned Carville back over to the state of Louisiana. At that time, there were 150 patients residing in Carville, most because they had spent decades there and it had become their home. The patients were given options: move to a modern treatment facility established in Baton Rouge, take a $33,000 per year lifetime stipend to live in the community, or stay at Carville. Fifty stayed, and seven are alive today. All of the remaining patients are very elderly, but I was fortunate to meet and speak with one of the patients. He now works as an assistant at the museum, educating visitors about how life was and is at Carville.

As time has marched on, some of the old buildings and dormitories have fallen into disrepair and are abandoned. Parts of the Carville campus are also now in use by the state for other purposes. I sincerely hope that the state continues to allow this site to exist. It is endlessly informative in its powerful message of how hard-earned gains in our knowledge and enlightenment can transform how we treat our fellow human beings.

FAPHN THANKS UNDERWRITERS AND DONORS

GLAXOSMITHKLINE, MERCK VACCINE DIVISION, NOVARTIS VACCINES AND DIAGNOSTICS, INC. SANOFI PASTEUR, SCHOOL HEALTH CORPORATION, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY HEALTHCARE RECRUITERS.

SILENT AUCTION DONORS ARE: Jeff Mack with Vitas Innovative Hospice Care of Broward, Kim Burgess, Drowning Prevention Coordinator in the Office of Health Promotion and Social Marketing; Rebecca Miele with the Florida KidCare Outreach in the Broward CHD, and Sharmin Anderson, Asst Nursing Director of School Health with Broward CHD.

FAPHN ENCOURAGES POSTERS FOR CONFERENCE

Special appreciation to Christina Smith and Dr. Barbara Little and Paula Dorhout for receiving, reviewing, and coordinating the display of Posters. Dr. Kim Curry assisted also as Program Chairwoman.

Christina Smith (L)
Dr. Barbara Little *

University of Florida Poster

CMS Gainesville Poster
BEST PRACTICE BY ADMINISTRATIONS RECEIVED FAPHN CERTIFICATE

AWARDED TO:
- Collier CHD with Stephanie Vick receiving

- Miami-Dade CHD with Barbara Brathewaite receiving

Keynote Jim Sacco

Historian Linda Bilyeu
Prepared
FAPHN StoryBoard
COMMENTS FROM CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

“It was a terrific meeting and I enjoyed the presentations. I’ve come back with a desire to encourage my staff to join FAPHN!”

G. B. CHN Consultant

“A wonderful day!!! Great Conference!”
“This is the best presentation I have attended in years!”
“Really liked the panel, and loved, loved, loved Miss Ethel!”
“This has been the best public health annual conference including OLD CASE that I have attended in 19 years!”

“Suggest a more user friendly way to join directly on the web page as opposed to calling.”

Comment taken from Program Evaluation

“Why is the business meeting included for CEUs? Does not seem pertinent.”

Comment taken from Program Evaluation

“Food and location excellent, thank you!! Loved Christine's legacy comments. Ethel's presentation wonderful.”

Comment taken from Program Evaluation

“Really good conference; so glad we had “our own” conference. The menu, food, networking: excellent!”

Comment taken from Program Evaluation

BULLETIN BOARD of INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

• NEW ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION BRIEF ON SCHOOL NURSING. School nurses have been described as the nation’s “hidden system” of health care for children, handling a wide range of health issues on a daily basis. School systems are often hard-pressed to fund them. “Unlocking the Potential of School Nursing: Keeping Children Healthy, In School, and Ready to Learn,” is available for free download at http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/cnf14.pdf

  Provided by Matt Freeman of PR Solutions through Marie McMillan, FAPHN Mbr.

• Gulfcoast North AHEC, Inc is offering FREE CE program called: HEALTHCARE ACCESS for PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. This link will be on the FAPHN WEB site in a few days. FAPHN is waiting for approval from the AHEC and after that the FAPHN WEB Master will address the technical expertise needed for a working link.

• The American Nurses Association seeks nominations for the ANA IMMUNITY AWARD. A nurse will be honored monthly with the first nurse identified in September 2010, The focus is “Bringing immunity to every community project”. Nominate yourself or colleague by going to: www.anaimmunize.org

• Household Products Database created by the Health & Human Services identifies manufacturer information and safety warnings and detailed information on health effects. Householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov

TEXT MESSAGING FOR NURSES

WWW = WEIRD, WARPED, WONDERFUL
YOYO = YOU’RE ON YOUR OWN
SCBF = STILL CRAZY BUT FUNCTIONS
TSTI = TO STUPID TO LIVE
NMP = NOT MY PROBLEM
As a medical/surgical nurse and Officer on the U.S. Army Reserve Health Care Team, you can work in your community and serve when needed. You learn new skills enhancing your ability to provide the best patient care.

**Requirements:**
AS degree in nursing from accredited program by NLN or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education or accepted by the U.S. Secretary of Education.
Age: 21-42 years
43-60 healthcare professionals eligible for 2 yr service contract under the OAPP program
Current, valid unrestricted nursing license
Permanent U.S. residency
Numerous positions available worldwide.

**Benefits** include & not limited to: (each position carries different pay scale/benefits)
Special Pay of $60,000 ($20,000 per yr x 3 yrs) for nurses with BSN Up to $50,000 for nursing school loans
Paid CEs + Travel opportunities
Low Cost Dental & Life

**MISSION:** The Florida Association of Public Health Nurses, Inc. provides leadership for the nursing profession and promotes quality health care for consumers through education, advocacy and influencing public health practices in the State of Florida.

**VISION:** The Florida Association of Public Health Nurses will start a nation-wide movement to create a national Public Health Nursing Organization.

**VALUES:**
Excellence in Public Health Nursing Practice
Leadership
Mentorship/Preceptorship
Advocacy positions on issue
Advance PH Nursing through evidence-based research.

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