



GANS Blast E-Mail, June 2008

Barry Jones, GANS EKG Co-Chair

Convention Update, Layne Mankowski, 1st Vice President

First, I want to extend a huge "Thank you!" to those of you who were able to fill out the Focus Session Survey! Your input was tremendous and has definitely shaped the focus session list to include your most popular choices. If you still haven't had a chance to fill it out, we have a few topics that are still tied. There is still some time left to make sure your opinion is heard! Just follow the link to the Focus Session Survey

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm= 2b1Ri6uFnKGO8kfJDZ4Sh5w 3d 3d>

Just a quick reminder about your **2008 GANS Convention...**

Theme: New Directions in Nursing: Oh the places you'll go!

When: October 16th -18th, 2008

Where: Columbus Georgia at the Historical Iron Works Trade Center; a beautiful location right on the river in downtown Columbus, GA.

Accommodations: Hotel rooms have been blocked at the Columbus Marriott for a GANS special rate of \$130/night for multiple occupancy rooms. The contact information for the Marriott can be found below. The schedule for your 2008 convention is still a work in progress, but includes things such as:

- Welcome ceremony with keynote speaker Susan S. Gunby, RN, PhD, Dean and professor for Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, Mercer University. Those who have heard her speak know how motivational and inspiring her presentations are. Don't miss this incredible keynote speaker!
- Our first annual GANS Idol - come show us your karaoke skills and puts the likes of William Hung to shame (or maybe you will make him look like Clay Aiken), our 3 "famous" judges will be there to help decide!
- Celebrate the decades past by coming to our Celebrate the Years party dressed in the fashions of your favorite decade!
- Banner-making will be back this year, so conjuring up your ideas to help your school win the banner parade!
- The NCLEX review is back too, but with a different presenter. We received plenty of feedback concerning last year's review, and are currently working with Kaplan to do this year's NCLEX review!

- We will be having a Cosmo Soirée on Friday night, so come dressed in your futuristic best!

Thus far, we have focus sessions lined up that include topics such as:

- o You've Passed the Boards Now What: Surviving your first year as a nurse
- o Spinal Cord/Brain Injury Nursing
- o Bringing Babies into this World: Midwifery, L&D, NICU
- o Pharmacology Made Insanely Easy

Focus sessions that we are working on confirming:

- o Flight Nursing
- o ABG's and EKG's
- o ER Nursing
- o Oncology Nursing
- o And several more!

Newest Announcements

- o We are in the process of finalizing an incredible endnote speaker and will announce who it is in the next BLAST after we confirm their availability.
- o We are also working in conjunction with The Red Cross to do another blood drive as well as a possible Disaster Relief Training Session/Experience!

****Wouldn't you like to see your school, fellow classmate, or advisor recognized at convention?? Please check your Chapter Resource Book for the list of awards and applications for the 2008 GANS Convention. The application deadline is in early September, so please take note and start thinking about them now. The link for the Chapter Resource Book and Award Applications will be on the GANS website soon!****
I hope to see you all at our 2008 GANS Convention in Columbus! Any questions, please contact Layne Mankowski at 1stvp@ganursingstudents.org

HOTEL INFO.

Columbus Marriott
800 Front Avenue
Columbus, GA 31901
Tel 706-324-1800

~Be sure to mention you are attending the GANS Convention in order to get the discounted rate!

Legislative Update, Kristin Borgia, GANS Legislative Director

Hello fellow nursing students! It was great to see many of you at the COSL retreat in May! I hope everyone is having a great summer! I will be hosting several Resolution Writing Workshops in the fall so keep your eyes open for future information about those events. I hope to see many resolutions submitted by the deadline in September for our GANS Convention in October!

There are still opportunities to get involved with HealthSTAT events. There are ongoing activities with HealthSTAT's Childhood Obesity Prevention Program. You can

get more information about all HealthSTAT events at:

<http://www.healthstatgeorgia.org>.

If you have any questions about events or resolution writing please feel free to contact the GANS Legislative Director, Kristin Borgia, at legislative@ganursingstudents.org.

NEC News, Rosalie Medina, New NEC Chair, NEC East

Attending COSL was a wonderful experience for the Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC). This event not only provided an excellent opportunity to spend time with our fellow Georgia nursing students but also to explore the leadership skills within us all. As future nurses, we are leaders and the future of healthcare. The NEC would like to encourage all nursing students to take advantage of their unique leadership skills and grasp the valuable experience that comes with running for a GANS executive board position. The NEC is looking for excited, enthusiastic and qualified nursing students to run for the following positions:

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|--------------------------|--|
| 1. President | 7. Public Relations Director |
| 2. First Vice President | 8. Breakthrough to Nursing Director |
| 3. Second Vice President | 9. Community Service Director |
| 4. Secretary | 10. Director of EKG |
| 5. Treasurer | 11. District Director (North, South, East, and West) |
| 6. Legislative Director | 12. NEC (North, East, South, West) |

If you are interested in running for office, visit

www.ganursingstudents.org/office.html for detailed instructions and application materials. Also we encourage you to contact the NEC:

Sabrina Thomas (NEC West)

gansnecwest2@yahoo.com

Nancy Jean (NEC North)

gansnecnorth2@yahoo.com

Rosalie Medina (NEC East/Chair)

gansneceast2@yahoo.com

Vacant—NEC South

Contact Rosalie Medina until filled

Deadline for pre-slating is September 8th, 2008. Please send all completed application material to:

Nominations and Elections Committee
c/o Rosalie Medina, NEC East/ NEC Chair
110 International Drive
Apt. 166
Athens, GA 30518
(Phone) 770) 539-3596

Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday to the following Executive Board members!!!

19 April 2008—Barry Jones, EKG Co-Chair

27 May 2008—Becky Carbley, President

24 May 2008—Lauren Walter, District Director, South

4 May 2008—K. Nilis Jarrett, EKG Co-Chair

School Updates

Valdosta State University, College of Nursing,

Barry Jones, VANS Website/Newsletter Director, GANS EKG Co-Chair

New Website Launched

Lauren Walter, VANS President and GANS District Director South and the rest of the Executive Board for the Valdosta Association of Nursing Students (VANS) would like to announce the launching of our new website <http://www.valdosta.edu/vans>. Please take time to visit and submit comments for improvement to bjones@valdosta.edu. Any input would be greatly appreciated and welcomed. Barry Jones, the GANS EKG Co-Chair designed the website. If anyone would like ideas on how to develop websites, please contact Niles Jarrett (gansekg@yahoo.com) or Barry Jones (gansekgochair@yahoo.com).

Nursing Student Now Army Strong

Barry Jones was sworn in as a second lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps on Friday May 30, 2008. Dr. Anita Hufft, Dean of the College of Nursing and retired Captain in the Army Nurse Corps administered the US Army Officer's Oath to Barry as well as pinned his bar on his collar of his Valdosta State University Student Nurse Uniform. Those in attendance were Barry's family, SFC Ian Francis, his recruiter, as well as Dr. Maura Schlairet, Professor for the College of Nursing. Dr. Louis Levy, Vice President of Academic Affairs and another former military officer, was also able to attend the event. Barry Jones, 26, is the son of Robert and Terrie Jones of Ray City and the oldest of seven children. Barry's father, Robert is a retired Air Force Master Sergeant and has a graduate degree in Public Administration and a graduate certification in Human Resource Management. Robert is currently an instructor at Park University on Moody Air Force Base and is the owner of GC Restaurant in Ray City. His mother, Terrie has two graduate degrees, one in Business Administration and Human Resource Management. Terrie is currently employed by Sanderson Farms, Inc. as a feed mill distribution supervisor. Barry is set to graduate Valdosta State University with a baccalaureate degree of science in nursing and will attend Officer Basic Leadership School sometime afterwards. Barry will pursue a career in critical care nursing upon entering the Army and looks forward to completing a graduate degree in nurse anesthesia. Barry currently serves as secretary for the Valdosta Association of Nursing Students, as EKG (Exciting News about GANS) Co-Chair for the Georgia Association of Nursing Students and he is a member of the National Student Nurse Association. The College of Nursing, VANS, and GANS congratulates Barry on a job well done.

Georgia State University, B.F. Lewis School of Nursing,

K. Niles Jarrett, GANS EKG

Georgia State University is very saddened by the loss of one of our classmates, Jacalyn "Jackie" M. Schremmer. Jackie, who would have graduated from the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing in August, was an accomplished and patented research chemist before deciding to change

careers and become a nurse. Jackie had diabetes and aspired to become a Diabetic Nurse Educator so that she could help others to manage their diabetes as she did. Passionate about both nature and exercise, she enjoyed hiking and sought to preserve the environment by volunteering her time and efforts to The Nature Conservatory. Jackie was an incredibly inquisitive person and sought to truly understand and absorb all she could in nursing school. She will be greatly missed.