



# ORANA

OREGON ASSOCIATION of  
NURSE ANESTHETISTS

# ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Volume 11, July 2018

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**Dustin Degman**  
CRNA

## Letter from the President

Fellow CRNAs,

In October 2017, ORANA had the opportunity to have a board retreat which encompassed the board of directors, committee chairs, and our student representative from OHSU. There were many ideas gained with this meeting, but there was an overwhelming sense to become an engaged board and show value to the membership. The association had a very successful annual meeting at the Nines Hotel in Portland, have stayed engaged on issues that affect our practice, have had the opportunity for professional development for new board members, and our membership numbers are increasing with time. This board is vigilant and provide the ideas needed to drive the membership forwarding a strong direction. We do not take any of this for granted and are thankful for your membership. We simply cannot function as an association if it wasn't for CRNAs paying their dues to the AANA, so thank you!

In moving forward, I would like to ask every CRNA to do one simple favor. Please sign up for an electronic newsletter from your legislators. The process is very simple. Go to Google, in the search bar, type in your legislators name. You will have to do this twice, once for your state senator, then again for your state representative. Chose the website that is from [www.oregonlegislature.gov](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov), and on every legislators website you can sign up for their newsletter. That is it. By doing this, you will be engaged to issues happening in your district and to the state. You can see when town hall events are scheduled, and if you like what your legislator is doing for you, volunteer. Being engaged brings worth to your family, your community, your legislators, and your association. Thank you again for being a member of the AANA.

Kindest regards,  
*Dustin Degman, CRNA*  
President

*Thank you  
for being a  
member of  
the AANA*



**William Prosser**  
CRNA, MSN

# Letter from the Incoming President

As incoming president of ORANA, I want to extend my thanks for trusting me to serve as president the upcoming year. It has been a busy year and Dustin Degman is certainly a tough act to follow. Your ORANA board has accomplished quite a bit this past year. We are closer than ever to having language codified related to CRNA use of fluoroscopy, have substantially improved the financial health of ORANA and are working to expand prescriptive privileges. In addition, ORANA is engaged in a substantive dialog with the leadership of the other APRN groups in Oregon to form a legislative and functional partnership, which will serve us all well.

Throughout this past year, I have been in awe of Dustin’s personal energy, motivation and commitment to CRNAs of Oregon. I am truly humbled to have received your trust to continue the progress we have made.

In the upcoming year, there will be some challenges to be completed and new one to be recognized. ORANA has a

talented and dedicated board to address these and resolve them for the CRNAs of Oregon. The issues of opioid reduction through the use of opioid sparing anesthetic strategies, enhanced recovery after surgery, value-based anesthesia care and removal of practice barriers for CRNAs in Oregon are all issues for us to focus on and be mindful of in the year ahead.

Oregon has been a national leader in CRNA practice since the early 1900s and will continue to do so in the future. I’m asking all of you to consider for a minute how much being a CRNA has done for you and your families and consider helping your state association to better serve to people of Oregon and its communities. Also, reach out to the ORANA board so we can better understand how we can serve and engage you as members.

I thank you for your trust and look forward to serving you.

*Bill Prosser*

## 2017 Donors

Please stop by the PAC table at our annual fall conference. If you are interested in helping collect donations for the PAC at this year’s annual conference please contact Linda Kallery

### PLATINUM

Alex Bahrke  
Diane Knapp  
Dustin Degman  
Heather Burch  
Brad Burch  
Laura Sterner  
Stephanie Robinson  
Todd Meyer  
Emerald Anesthesia  
Bill Prosser  
Silver Falls Anesthesia  
Benvenuti  
Jeff Kopecky

### GOLD

Ann Palenshus  
David Andrews  
Jessica Kubisch  
Katey Piscitello  
Tiffany Bui  
Tim Gerke  
Colin Doyle  
Josh Dillard

### SILVER

Ahmed Alshaarawi  
Alex Cohen  
Bradley Johnson  
Brian Ryder  
Charles Luke Roesel  
Chris Baylis  
Christy Cowgill  
David Bobiak  
David Nibler  
Emily Goerke  
Jim Wilkinson  
Joel Swift  
Kathy Cook  
Keith Jensen  
Kristen Stephenson

### BRONZE

Lauryn Dunham  
Lea See  
Leah Morris  
Lisa Frank  
Lisa Osborne Smith  
Lisa Rogien  
Megan Hedden  
Nicholas Hedden  
Patrick Langan  
Scott Rigon  
Shialah Frias  
Stephanie Albero  
Todd Hixson  
Jeff Lockwood  
Marisa Budds

# Committee Updates

## NOMINATIONS

*Jeff Kopecky, CRNA, MAE,  
Immediate Past President & Current Nominations Chair*

Every year at this time, like clockwork, ORANA requires new members for the board of directors. This year is no different. This year, ORANA bylaws REQUIRE three new board of directors and a president-elect to help guide ORANA into the future. I encourage each and every one of ORANA's members to put their name in for one of these positions. I especially encourage those who have yet to become actively involved with ORANA at the board or committee level. ORANA can only continue to provide support to members if members care enough to become involved.

Often we hear "I don't have enough time for that" as a reason. Board members can realistically be expected to be on conference call one hour per month for ten months of the year. Board members may also prepare for about 30 minutes prior to each conference call. There are two face-to-face meetings that take approximately two hours each; one at the annual conference and one during the spring education offering. So you can see the time commitment averages less than two hours a month (Less time than we all spend waiting in traffic or for surgeons each month). Board members are assisted by the executive assistant (Evelyn Bloomhart), and a wide array of subject matter experts across the state on almost any topic you can think of.

These elected positions are responsible for their day-to-day maintenance and health of ORANA and the CRNA practice in Oregon. They also help guide ORANA when issues may affect the membership.

Please don't just consider, but take the challenge and run for any of the three board of director positions or the president-elect. You will learn TONS of stuff not usually in your wheelhouse, and it will help you professionally when engaging with administrators, physicians and other CRNA's.

Again, I encourage and challenge each and every ORANA member to become more involved in the organization that is our professional voice in Oregon by running for any one of the three board of director positions or the president-elect of ORANA!!

## Volunteer for the ORANA Board!

**ORANA is seeking nurse anesthetists for BOD positions beginning November 15, 2018.**

Board meetings occur by conference call each month, and face-to-face quarterly. They involve strategic implementation of the issues presented by the constituency. Terms are two years in length, at which point the board member can opt for re-election. To be eligible for a BOD position, you need to be a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist in the state of Oregon. You do not have to be an experienced provider; you just need to bring your enthusiasm and ideas! ORANA is seeking nominations for President-Elect and three board positions.

To have your name placed on the ballot, please contact a member of the committee. To be eligible for a BOD position, you must be a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist in the state of Oregon and pay your dues to the AANA.

**ORANA Nominations Committee:**  
Jeff Kopecky [jeffk@gorge.net](mailto:jeffk@gorge.net)  
Dustin Degman [djdegman@gmail.com](mailto:djdegman@gmail.com)

## ORANA Peer Assistance Committee

Peer Assistance Committee is committed to promoting awareness on our potentially catastrophic occupational risk, substance use disorders (SUD) among CRNAs/SRNAs as well as to provide compassionate support for those who suffer from SUD towards their successful long-term recovery. Kaori Donohue, CRNA, an Oregon State Peer Advisor (SPA) who is a dedicated point-of-contact person on the issues on SUD among the Oregon nurse anesthesia community, is volunteering in the committee. Most recently, a second volunteer, Lauryn Dunham, CRNA has joined the committee to bring about health and wellness educational opportunities for ORANA membership.

The peer assistance information booth at the 2017 ORANA annual meeting provided an opportunity for ORANA membership to meet with Kaori to ask her questions. The information booth offered free materials covering SUD in nursing, AANA peer assistance, the Oregon Health

Authority's Health Professional's Service Program (HPSP), an alternative-to-discipline program for Oregon nurses, as well as wellness activities suggestions for busy CRNAs/SRNAs.

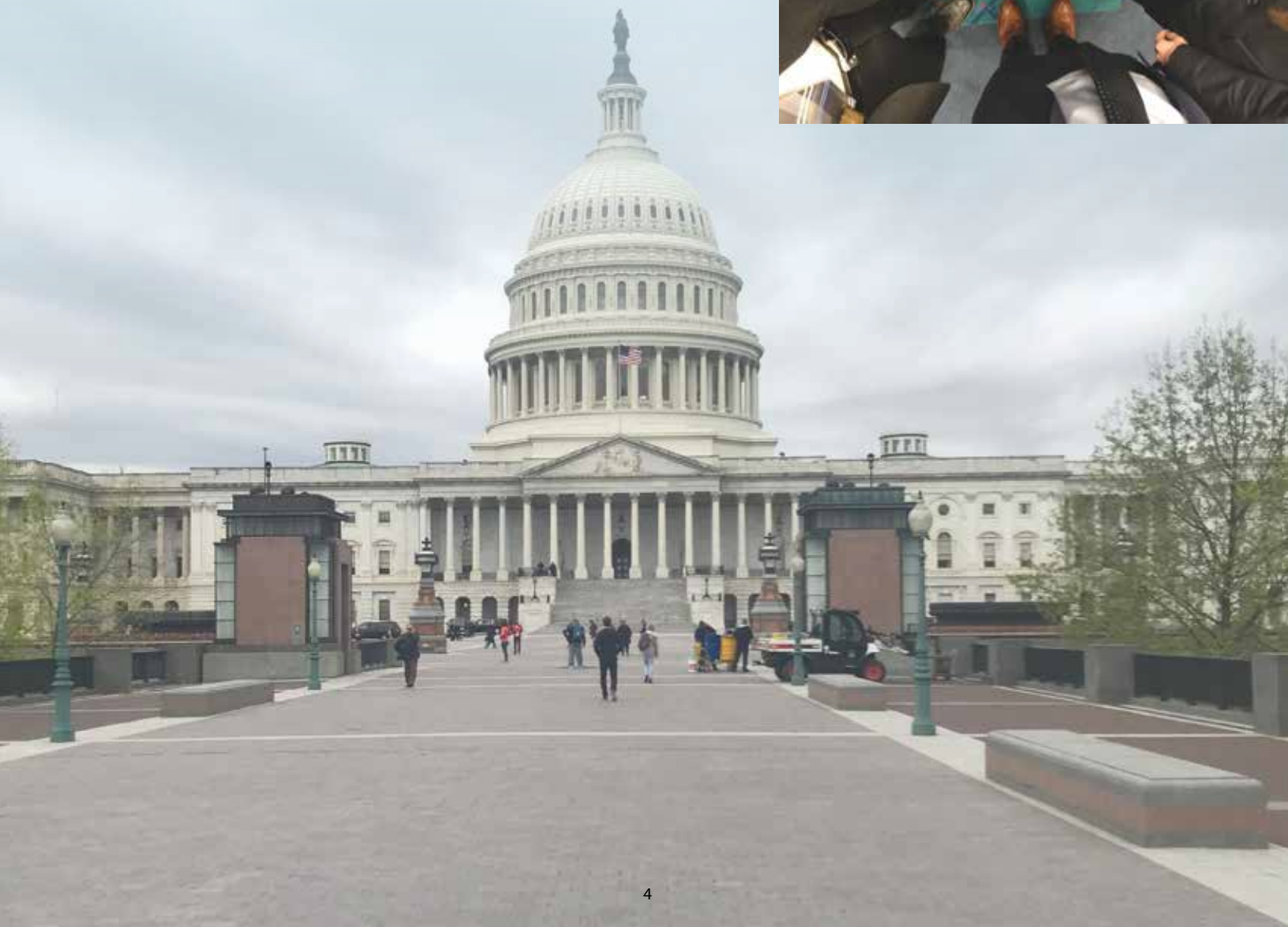
In November and May, Peer Assistance Committee provided the updates on SUD in nurse anesthesia in the U.S., Oregon HPSP participation by CRNAs, and the information on "What could happen to CRNAs/SRNAs upon the discovery of their use?" to the ORANA Board of Directors.

Peer Assistance Committee is actively seeking volunteers with personal experiences with SUD, either as the persons in recovery or their support system (family, friend, teacher, or peer). If you are interested, please contact Kaori ([sean1126kaori@hotmail.com](mailto:sean1126kaori@hotmail.com)) or Lauryn ([lauryn.dunham@gmail.com](mailto:lauryn.dunham@gmail.com)). Also, if you have any question on issues related to peer assistance, please feel free to contact us.



# AANA Mid Year Assembly

This year at MidYear Assembly in Washington D.C., CRNAs had the opportunity to visit our federal legislators to discuss past decisions and future issues that affect CRNAs. Making the visits were CRNAs from the state of Oregon and SRNAs that will be moving to Oregon upon graduation. Overall there were seven issues addressed with our legislators. Content involved practice restrictions with the VA, programs to continue such as Medicare Part A for CRNA "on-call" services in rural hospitals, and opposition to Medicare Access to Rural Anesthesiology Act which offered funding to anesthesiologists to serve in rural areas. By making this visit to Washington D.C., it gave ORANA a familiar voice to our legislators and their healthcare legislative assistant when discussing our concerns to future practice bills. We would like to thank Michael Wray for the arduous work he made in scheduling the appointments so each person had the opportunity to visit our legislators while in Washington D.C.



# BYLAWS:

Bylaws changes were voted and adopted by membership in November 2017. One highlight this year will be student voting in the annual election.

## GR

The ORANA Government Relations committee has been involved with and working on several important issues that impact Oregonians access to care. Also the committee has been working to ensure that CRNAs have the ability to practice to the fullest scope of their training. A recent example of this can be seen with the addition of the office based care standards added to Division 52 to the Oregon State Board of Nursing.

This year the Oregon legislature was in a short session limiting the number of bills that can be introduced. In February, several CRNAs did make it down for a Capital Day event in Salem. At this event, CRNAs in attendance were able to meet

with various legislators from across the state and help cultivate and establish relationships. The event was brief but successful. The legislators were able to discuss issues without specifically being asked to vote on a particular bill this year. Although there was no bill to be discussed during the session, being present showed the legislators our commitment and dedication to the profession. The CRNAs were also able to help educate the representatives about who we are, what we do, and our importance to the citizens of Oregon. This event is held annually, so please consider attending the Capital Day event in the future.

## PR

*Robert Bland, CRNA PR Chair*

What is PR? One definition: If a young man tells his date how handsome, smart and successful he is – that’s advertising. If the young man tells his date she’s intelligent, looks lovely, and is a great conversationalist, he’s saying the right things to the right person and that’s marketing. If someone else tells the young woman how handsome, smart and successful her date is – that’s PR.” – S. H. Simmons

So, let me tell you about ORANA and the great CRNAs we have in Oregon!

For the 2018 National CRNA Week Pioneer Square Brick Buy - Kristin Bowden, Bryan J. Read, David Bullock, Jake McLain, David Andrews, Sara Davis, Brad Burch, Heather Burch, Charles McDannald, Dustin Degman reported their contribution for the week. If anyone is missing here, please let me know.

For the 2018 National CRNA Week, ORANA members raised \$1020.00 for Fisher House.

Oregon CRNAs were shadowed by several Critical Care RNs - ORANA facilitated connection and visits with metropolitan and rural CRNA practices

for those RNs interested in nurse anesthesia practice over past 10 months.

Two Oregon CRNAs are part of the NBCRNA’s Emerging Leadership Fellowship program.

“The NBCRNA is pleased to announce that **Jessica Kubisch, DNAP, MSN, CRNA**, was elected as an Emerging Leader Fellow on the NBCRNA Board of Directors. Jessica works for Peace Harbor Medical Group in Florence, Oregon and serves as a Director on the Oregon Association of Nurse Anesthetists (ORANA) Board. She joins the Board’s other Emerging Leader Fellow, **Rishelle Zhou, MS, LLB, CRNA**, (who works at the Portland VA Medical Center) who accepted re-appointment to a new term. Jessica and Rishelle will begin their terms in September 2018.”

Please keep the public relations committee informed of the accomplishments Oregon CRNAs have done for the state so that it can be recognized by the association.

Nurse Anesthetists have been practicing the science of anesthesia since 1909 in Oregon. It is OUR practice, let make sure we are the ones who define it! - “If you don’t tell your story, someone else will.”

### PAC

*Linda Kallery, CRNA Political Action Committee Chair*

2017 was an incredible year for the PAC. First of all we had a wonderful spring fundraiser held at the Duck Pond Winery and the Annual Conference at the Nines also brought a lot of donations. Special thanks to Lee Fortier and Northwest Anesthesia for providing the raffle items at the fall conference that ranged from vintage Marchesi wine to a one night stay at a Hood River Hotel and a whitewater rafting trip. I also want to thank Patrick Langan and Tim Gerke for helping collect donations during the conference.

On another note, 2018 is off to a great start! The ORANA education committee organized another great PAC Fundraiser Event at the Duck Pond Winery. Attendance and donations were up from the year prior! Thank you to Heather Burch who organized a limo to encourage members to attend the event from Portland. I also appreciate Evelyn Bloomhart and Diane Knapp who collected donations for the PAC. If you donated at the Spring event please be sure to stop by the PAC booth in the fall to collect your donor ribbon!

We are lucky that Oregon CRNAs are passionate about the importance of a strong Political Action Committee. ORANA PAC contributions help ensure a stronger future for our profession in the state of Oregon. In 2018 donations were distributed to four candidates who support CRNAs in the state of Oregon. PAC donations will be essential in supporting several issues affecting CRNA scope of practice. Thank you for your continued support and don't forget we accept donations year-round on the ORANA website.

*Thank you!*



## Greetings from ORANA's Education Committee!

*Marisa Budds, CRNA*

Last year's fall conference was a huge success. We were fortunate to have a great turn out at The Nines Hotel. We worked in more networking time as requested in feedback from previous years, but also had amazing speakers and vendors. We were pleased to have quite a few last minute registrations and enjoyed a nice profit which was then put in to ORANA's general fund.

In May we enjoyed our Duck Pond Cellars Wine Event. CRNAs from around the state met in Dundee at the beautiful Duck Pond Cellars to meet, enjoy some wine and food, and earn a free CEU. Col. Chuck Darling, CRNA from Washington spoke about mass casualties from from experience in Afghanistan. He was able to relate his experiences to what we might see here in the states in the face of mass casualties we

could see such as natural disasters, mass shootings, or terrorist attacks.

Current efforts of the education committee is mainly finishing up the planning for the fall conference. We are opening registration for our 2018 conference soon, and would appreciate more early registrations this year for planning purposes. The late registrations were a nice surprise last year, but early registrations will allow us to enhance your experience, so please keep an eye out in your mail and the ORANA website for our flyer.

We need a volunteer to be education committee chair for 2019. It's a two year term, and duties would be supported by the previous chair during 2019, followed by training the next chair during 2019. Please contact me Marisa Budds for information at [marisa.budds@gmail.com](mailto:marisa.budds@gmail.com).



Enjoy a luxurious weekend in the heart of Portland while you get your CEs! **17** CEs!

# Learn in Luxury

## ORANA Annual Conference

Friday, November 16–Saturday, November 17

The Nines Hotel | 525 SW Morrison St, Portland, OR



### Conference Registration Info

- Early bird—register by August 1st & save \$100!
- Register for the 'full conference' and receive 17 CEs, including 6 online CEs

Register at: [www.oregon-crna.org/register](http://www.oregon-crna.org/register)

#### Sponsor-A-Student:

Add this to your registration package & support the future of your profession!

#### Reserve your room at The Nines Hotel

Call (888) 627-7208 or click [Here](#) to book discounted room.

Reserve by October 15th for the discounted rate!

**Valet Parking:** Special pricing for our ORANA attendees! Overnight valet parking discounted from \$47.00/night to \$37.00/night. Day valet parking is \$15.00.



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# OHSU NAP Program

Lisa Osborne-Smith, PhD, CRNA, Associate Professor

Greetings from the Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) Nurse Anesthesia Program (NAP). We have had a busy year completing our accreditation activities and planning for the transition to the DNP degree. We have submitted our application for approval for the DNP curriculum and, if approved, we will admit our first DNP cohort in the summer of 2019. DNP programs are required to be a full 36 months, so we will be changing our start date to the summer quarter. We are excited for this transition! I'll be speaking briefly about the specifics at the ORANA Conference in the Fall.

We have many clinical partners across the state of Oregon and I'd like to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who gives their time and energy to educate our students. We can't do this without your help, because as you know, things really come together in the final clinical year of instruction. Our class sizes continue to be small, which is mostly related to the availability of specialty clinical rotations. We currently have 10 senior students who will graduate in December, 9 junior students who are

doing well, and 10 students who will matriculate in September (the final Master's cohort). We receive a very large number of applications each year and I'm glad to see the interest in nurse anesthesia, and in our program.

Many of you know our Administrative Coordinator, Eric Vecchi. I'm sorry to report that Eric has taken a new position at OHSU on the Monmouth Campus. We miss him already! Best wishes to Eric and his family. We are interviewing candidates to fill this important role but, in the meantime, please contact me or Kathy Cook for any information or questions.

I'm pleased to be here as the Program Director and I've been enjoying the chance to get to know everyone. Please reach out to me if you have questions, or feedback, at [osbornes@ohsu.edu](mailto:osbornes@ohsu.edu) or 503-494-4120. Looking for Class B credits? We invite you to join us at OHSU if you're interested in participating in simulation training, serving on the admissions panel, or providing a guest lecture. As Bob Barker would famously say....come on down!

## 2017-2018 Officers and Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

**Dustin Degman**, CRNA, MSN  
President

**Jeff Kopecky**, CRNA, MAE  
Immediate Past President

**Bill Prosser**, DNAP, MSN, CRNA  
President Elect

**Josh Dillard**, CRNA  
Treasurer

### DIRECTORS

**Justin G. Marayag**, CRNA  
Senior Director

**Brandon Aven**, CRNA, MBA, MHA, MSNA  
Senior Director

**Brad Burch**, CRNA  
Senior Director

**Colin Doyle**, CRNA

**Jessica Kubisch**, DNAP, MSN, CRNA

**Alana Perley**, CRNA

