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★ September 2006 ★

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## President's Message

by **Mary Ellen Stolecki**

The school year is upon us again, so that means EMNAPNAP is gearing up for another eventful year. I hope everyone has enjoyed being a member of EMNAPNAP this past year. It has been a wonderful first year for me as your president. I would just like to highlight our chapter activities from this past year.

Last September, our chapter year began with an immediate and generous response to the Hurricane Katrina disaster. Our members helped staff health screenings and immunizations for children at the Otis Air Force Base evacuation site on Cape Cod. EMNAPNAP also made a monetary donation to the American Red Cross and the Louisiana School Nurses Association to help fund rebuilding efforts.

Our chapter website and email list have been great public relation tools. Our website generates many queries throughout the year regarding what PNPs do in Massachusetts and we always have members willing to clarify our role in pediatric health care. Our members helped a nursing instructor from southeastern Massachusetts, by offering to precept her students during the semester. Our email list recently elicited help from chapter members for a member who needed advice for an upcoming trial. We also have many job postings communicated to members by our email system. If you have any information that needs to be disseminated to the chapter, please email a board member and we can email it to members if appropriate.

A current legislative project is the endorsement and agreement to provide testimony if needed, for a bill concerning the "Act to Improve Quality Physical Education" with the Mass. Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MAHPED) and the Mass. Coalition on Obesity Prevention (MA COPE). This bill hopes to maintain the minimum time requirement for physical education in schools.

A wonderful (global) community project our chapter participates in annually, is providing health care delivery to a region in the Dominican Republic. This spring members Linda Malone, Ann Powers, and Barbara Kelley joined other Northeastern University students spend 1-2 weeks delivering health care to upwards of 300 people a day along the Haiti border. As you are well aware, we request toiletry items and medicines at the Spring Symposium. These donations go directly to the people of the Dominican by our members. We hope to strengthen our role in this annual event, please look forward to some new updates on this project.

Many members attended the national NAPNAP conference in Washington, D.C. this past spring. It was my first national conference and it was wonderful to feel the energy of the membership and meet the national board members and office staff and our national lobbyists. You should be very proud to be a member of this organization. The event "NAPNAP on Capital Hill" day was an absolutely wonderful experience. Each chapter was able to meet their state's respective senator and representatives. We realized we were very fortunate to be from Massachusetts where the most powerful members of Congress are great advocates for children and very attentive to nursing issues. We let Senators Kerry and Kennedy know that our organization was available to provide any information or insight for issues affecting child health and pediatric nurse practitioners.

(A synopsis of this article was published in National's The Pediatric Nurse Practitioner July/August issue. Please check it out.)

All in all, it was another eventful year with our wonderful chapter member's energy, ideas and commitment to helping eastern Massachusetts' pediatric nurse practitioners. Our chapter is excited for another upcoming year of activities, education and networking. Please email me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you Mary Ellen Stolecki, President  
mary.stolecki@verizon.net.

## EMNAPNAP Program Synopsis of 2005-2006

As most of you know, our chapter is vibrant because of our enthusiastic volunteers. Please thank any committee member you meet for their recent help with program, newsletter, membership or website.

Our chapter is only as strong, as our members are active. We need your help to keep activities available throughout the year. We have a great need for help with the program committee. This committee helps to design and implement the chapter meetings, as well as the Spring Symposium. Let me remind you of the various and informative meeting we had this past year.

Our first chapter meeting of the year started with Dr. Colin Marchant of the Pediatric Infectious Disease department at Boston Medical Center. **Dr. Marchant spoke about Tdap and influenza** at Legal Seafoods in Chestnut Hill. It was a very informative program.

**In November**, at the Dedham Medical Associates lounge, we had epidemiologists from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Nancy Harrington, RN, BA and Ed Corken, MD, MPH. The topic was timely and extremely informative: avian influenza. Ed and Nancy were very gracious in answering many of our tough questions regarding this rapidly involving virus.

**February** found us at the wonderful Café Escadrille in Burlington, where “Super Drugs for Super Bugs” was the topic. The dynamic speaker, Stephen Brecher, PhD. Director of Microbiology for the Boston VA, helped us understand the trends in microbial resistance and drug development.

The wonderful **Spring Symposium** was again packed

with brilliant speakers and timely topics. Lisa Albers, MD of the Children’s Hospital Boston started the morning with a tremendously informative session regarding international adoption. Ted Kremer, MD from UMASS Medical Center, had wonderful case studies and visual aids from his sleep medicine clinic. Our own member, Cathy Cooke, NP, introduced us to the Reach Out and Read Program, which has grown to a national organization to use literacy as a developmental screening tool as well as a prized gift for patients.

After lunch, our own member Rebecca Sherlock, PNP of Shriners Boston, presented important case studies and treatment plans for burn care. And finally to end the day, Juli-anne Evangelista, PNP of the Cardiovascular Program at Children’s Hospital Boston, provided an excellent audio presentation of heart murmurs (with EKG tracings). Members attending this Symposium were very complimentary of the depth and breath of topics and speakers.

Our final chapter meeting was held at Figs in Wellesley. Sponsored by Merck Pharmaceuticals on Human Papilloma Virus Update, and presented by Samuel Blackman, MD, of Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Boston Children’s Hospital. This discussion was extremely enlightening about another important virus and treatment.

Results of a recent survey at the Spring Symposium indicated most members attend meetings for networking, as well as continuing education offerings. That same survey helped generate many ideas, speakers and venues for the upcoming year. All we need now are a few good women (or men) to follow up on these leads.

Please email me if you have any interest in helping out on this wonderful committee.

**Mary Ellen Stolecki**  
[mary.stolecki@verizon.net](mailto:mary.stolecki@verizon.net)

Please see page 5 for your membership form.

Print it and mail it with a check made out to  
EMNAPNAP

Save the dates:  
tentative chapter meeting dates:  
Wednesday September 27 and Tuesday  
November 14.

## Gratitude

*A big thank you to all members who helped keep our chapter vibrant this year. Your personalities, opinions and humor helped my job look so easy!*

**LINDA MALONE** as past president has been great in guiding me through various national office issues. Her sense of humor and storytelling keep meetings lighthearted.

**ANN POWERS** as treasurer assumed her responsibilities without complaint. Her steady mindedness is well appreciated.

**LEANNE SIMPSON** as secretary has done another wonderful year of recordkeeping, meeting minute taking and overall organizing. Thank you Leanne and good luck.

**PATRICIA KENT** as membership chair helps to read all your handwritten hieroglyphs and make sense of that data. Thank you for your time and input.

**EMILY YOUNG** as program committee chair. She was able to multitask while pregnant! That is a true PNP. Thank you and enjoy your time with your baby girl.

**ANN HESSION** as program committee member can find those drug reps and get great dinners and informative topics all for one night!

**INGRID SCOTT** as program committee member helped lasso those drug reps for lovely dinners and timely topics. Thank you!

**LISA GROSSI** as program committee member (longest consecutive standing member?) and past president. Lisa is a tireless and quiet worker who effortlessly gets tasks finished. Thank you Lisa!

**VERONICA KANE** as newsletter editor and president elect of EMNAPNAP. Thank you for stepping up to the plate to help this organization keep up its great work. Your newsletters have been immensely invaluable to keep all our members abreast of our activities. Thank you for your attention to detail.

## EMNAPNAP Book Club Reading List

(this was intended as summer reading)

*Here are some titles, each with a health care issue and (mostly) local authors.*

***Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science***, by Atul Gawande. He was a surgical resident in Boston when he wrote this book and graduated Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health. Very interesting case studies which explore the power and the limits of medicine. Bottom line, hey those surgeons are human.

***The Shaman's Apprentice***, by Dr. Mark Plotkin. An ethnobotanist from Harvard University searches for new medicines deep in the Amazon rain forests of Suriname.

***My Sister's Keeper***, by Jody Picoult. A fantastic page turner about how a sick child exacts physical and psychic toll on a family.

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night***, by Mark Haddon. A quick read from the point of view of an autistic 15-year-old. Mark worked with special needs children in Great Britain. This is his first novel.

## Call for member involvement!

**Please consider serving Eastern Massachusetts NAP-NAP in any capacity. Why you ask? It helps keeps our chapter vibrant. You met new people who have great ideas and work well as a team. You get to enjoy a variety of wonderful, dynamic speakers and topics available in the Boston area. Below are the EMNAP-NAP committees' descriptions. These committees need your ongoing support. I would prefer a member helping throughout the year, but there are needs for just for certain projects or time periods. Please email me with any questions [mary.stolecki@verizon.net](mailto:mary.stolecki@verizon.net).**

### PROGRAM

*Chair: (one or two people needed)*

*Members: Sarah Valla, Joyce Pulcini, Mary Ellen Stolecki,*

This committee helps plan the educational offerings at our 4 chapter meetings and Spring Symposium. Most EMNAP-NAP members indicate they attend meetings for networking as well as continuing education. A recent survey at the Spring Symposium helped generate many ideas, speakers and venues for the upcoming year. All we need now are a few good women (or men) to follow up on these leads. A binder and disk, as well as files with supplies have already been organized. Past chairs are available to help with the transition. This committee is the backbone of EMNAPNAP. Please consider joining for the year, or to help facilitate speakers or venues.

**Time commitment:** planning varies for each event. The chair(s) help delegate members to contact speakers, sponsors, and venues and provide contact hour approval. The job can be adapted to fit any schedule and is a great way for you to make contact with a variety of providers in the metro Boston area.

### LEGISLATIVE

*Chair: Linda Malone, [lijmal@aol.com](mailto:lijmal@aol.com)*

*Members: needed*

This committee is be resurrected after being defunct for a few years. It is for our chapter to keep abreast of legislative issues affecting PNPs at the local and national level. We would also like to provide ongoing PNP outreach for legislators, since we established contacts at Capital Hill Day in March 2006 with Senators Kerry and Kennedy's offices as well as various US Representatives.

**Time commitment:** varies with specific goals. Occasionally attend meetings of the Mass Coalition of Nurse Practitioners.

### MEMBERSHIP

*Chair: Patricia Kent, [pkent1@partners.org](mailto:pkent1@partners.org)*

*Members: Laurel Gourville*

This committee helps compile all our membership data and demographics. A spreadsheet has already been created with FileMakerPro to help add or update members via the membership forms. Any dues collected are forwarded to the treasurer, who deposits the monies into our account.

**Time commitment:** usually busy at the beginning of the year, September through November when most of the membership forms are returned. Yet some forms trickle in during the year as well as at chapter meetings.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

*Chair: Leanne (Simpson) Flynn, [leanne.flynn@yahoo.com](mailto:leanne.flynn@yahoo.com)*

*Members: Veronica Kane, [kanenemmers@comcast.net](mailto:kanenemmers@comcast.net)*

This committee, chaired by our chapter's secretary, helps coordinate and disseminate any chapter information. This committee works with our business partner, Mainstay, to publish our newsletter and and communicate with members by an email system.

Our newsletter: needs one editor who can gather information from the board and chapter members to create a quarterly newsletter. This can be sent electronically to Mainstay, who formats it into a readable document. We are always looking for pertinent articles to include in the newsletter.

**Time commitment:** Typically it takes 6-8 hours over the course of several days before the deadline to complete the newsletter. The job can be adapted to fit any schedule and is a great way for author in you to compose timely articles. Please see our website [www.emnapnap.org](http://www.emnapnap.org) for past issues.

Our email service enables timely communication to our members on a variety of topics, such as meetings, job posting, legislative action, etc. You work closely with our secretary, who approves the postings.

**Time commitment:** the frequency varies, but with a very quick turn around time of appropriate items to be placed for all members to view.

**National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates & Practitioners  
Eastern Massachusetts Chapter**



Please print information carefully, accurately, and legibly

**Membership Renewal/Resource Directory  
September 2006 to August 2007**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's Maiden Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Employer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email (please print clearly)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Education:**

School	City, State	Degree/Certification	Year
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Professional Organizations:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Specialty/Practice Area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Interest/Knowledge Areas:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you willing to speak to:**     individuals;    small groups;    large groups;    news media

**Do you wish to become involved with one of the Chapter Committees:**  
 Membership;    Public Relations;    Newsletter;    Program Committee

**Are you a**                       Preceptor             New Member             Renewing Member             Student

**Membership Dues, please make check payable to EMNAPNAP**

Member National NAPNAP	\$30
Student	\$15

Unless otherwise notified, Eastern Mass. Chapter of NAPNAP will be sharing this information with our membership through a Resource Directory. Please indicate by checking the box if you do not wish to share this information in our directory.

MAIL FORM and CHECK TO: Patricia Kent, 18 Westvale Dr., Concord, MA 01742