

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: 2007**

### **Kathleen C. Rose, MHA RN NCSN**

2007 was a year of beginnings with the induction of seven new officers charged with the task of leading the Florida Association of School Nurses. Your trust in your officers has been well-placed. We have accomplished much this year. We look forward to continuing our progress in 2008. We are becoming **the** premier organization exclusively serving school nurses statewide!

Each year the National Association of School Nurses asks each state for a list of its accomplishments and concerns. Listed below are the accomplishments and concerns that were submitted to Charlotte Barry, our NASN Director, for use in her report. (She had the wonderful problem of deciding the final list!)

Speaking of problems, your FASN officers are looking closely at our list of issues. In our efforts to better serve the school nurses in Florida, we have discovered some barriers. We are thankful that you care enough for your professional organization to communicate your concerns to us. We will be working hard to address and, if possible, remove the barriers that keep us from serving you.

As your president, I am not offended when someone has a concern or complaint and I promise you, they are not ignored! You may always contact me, [flschoolrn@embarqmail.com](mailto:flschoolrn@embarqmail.com), with any concerns (or congratulations!) It is my fervent goal to be an organization that "serves school nurses statewide."

#### **Major Activities**

1. Development of Task Forces to write policies and procedures on: Awards, Elections, Regional Activities and Scholarships.
2. Expansion of our website to include a monthly President's letter and regular additions to the Photo Gallery
3. The newsletter has expanded to include articles from our scholarship winners and outside organizations and it is now posted on our website.
4. We continue to recruit Regional Representatives and County Liaisons to facilitate communication to and from FASN across a large geographic area.
5. By using the resource, "Managing Chapter Funds", which was provided by NASN, we are improving and formalizing our financial responsibilities.
6. We are expanding our outreach to other organizations by means of a display board, "FASN: Serving School Nurses Statewide", as well as the development of a flyer, "We are school nurses and we help students learn!" and two pamphlets: "School Nurses Promoting Safe Schools" and "School Nurses . . . the link between attendance and positive engagement."
7. Conducted our state conference in January, 2007, with large participation and Keynote by Janice Selekmán.
8. Offered Leadership Preconference, for the second year with active participation of regional reps and county liaisons.
9. Our state conference, February 8-9, 2008, will for the third year have a pre-conference leadership session for Officers, Regional Representatives, County Liaisons and School Nurses of the Year, past and present.
10. As a result of our expanded relationship with the state AHEC's , we will have 100 scholarships to the state conference.
11. Continued development of the Florida School Nurse Research Initiative (FSNRI), the first in the country.
12. Collaborated with state organizations to promote school health services.
13. Developed a legislative partnership with the Florida School Health Association (FSHA) and the Florida Association of

Physical & Health Education, Recreation, Dance & Sports (FAPHERDS) to halt cuts to the state school health program.

14. The president of FASN was invited to audit the interviews of the final candidates for the new Education Commissioner for Florida.

### **Issues**

1. Membership: we have concerns about expired membership notification, possibly losing members and the cost of

membership. When will the divided dues payment begin? We are actively recruiting new and expired members.

2. Communication: how can we improve our communication, become a resource and reach more school nurses?

3. Research: Research is important to validate the worth of our profession and is even a criterium for the SNOY. How does the

average school nurse become involved in research? Can someone take the research criteria of SNOY and explain it and

give examples so more school nurses can become actively involved in research? Expand research activities and provide

support for research activities through the FSNRI.