

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT – LSA 2015: Proud to be a Member!

2015 was a turning point for the Louisiana Society of Anesthesiologists. New leadership, a new brand, and an increase in membership contributed to the success of our organization. Here are a few highlights:

- 1) A new Board of Directors was introduced. Many were highlighted in this very newsletter. Visit the web site for the complete list of LSA leaders, [click here](#).
- 2) In January 2015, the LSA was very involved in the first Physician Anesthesiologist Week. We were one of only a handful of state societies that obtained a gubernatorial proclamation acknowledging the importance of physician anesthesiologists.

As part of the celebration of this week, several of our members, including this author, were able to get interviews with local television, radio and publications to educate the public on our important role in their healthcare. Additionally, we met with several state and federal legislators as part of this weeklong event to discuss issues that are important for our patients.

- 3) In 2015 we increased LSA's membership by 25%. We accomplished this unifying our dues with ASA allowing you to make one payment for both of your memberships.
- 4) In spring we had several successes. The LSA was well represented at the ASA Legislative Conference in

Washington, D.C. Our delegation participated in the educational and informative ASA program, which included Senator Bill Cassidy as a guest speaker. On the final day of the conference our members had several meetings with our Louisiana legislators and their staff on Capitol Hill.

The purpose of these meetings is to educate our Louisiana senators and congressmen on the issues facing our patients and our practice, with emphasis on anesthesiology-specific issues. These meetings also establish or support an ongoing relationship, allowing the LSA to serve as a resource for our legislators. Your LSA members are very effective in these meetings.

- 5) LSA participated in the ASAPAC "March Mayhem" which was a competition designed to get ASA resident members involved in the ASAPAC. Thanks to the efforts of LSA Director-at-Large and ASAPAC representative, Joseph Koveleskie, M.D., LSA had a 100% participation from both the residents and the faculty of all four residency programs. This tremendous accomplishment by Dr. Koveleskie and was recognized at the LSA Annual Meeting.
- 6) In 2015, LSA introduced a new logo, redesigned web site, and created a quarterly electronic newsletter. It is our commitment to keep members informed and up-to-date – we want to make sure the content is

2016 LSA Goals and How You Can Help Accomplish Them

INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

There are still physician anesthesiologists who are not members of ASA or LSA. Urge your colleagues to join.

To **join**, [click here](#)

To **renew** your dues, [click here](#)

CONTRIBUTE TO THE ASAPAC and LSA PAC

In 2015, despite tremendous effort, less than 46% of LSA members contributed to the ASAPAC. In 2016 we'd like to increase that number to 60%. To contribute to the ASAPAC - [click here](#).

In 2015, only 15% of LSA members contributed to the LSA PAC. We would like to reach at least 30%. To contribute to the LSA PAC go to Isahq.org/Isa-pac/

INCREASE PARTICIPATION

There are several ways to get involved in LSA.... join a committee, become a LSA Ambassador, write an article for the newsletter, and/or attend the LSA Annual Meeting. Contact the LSA Office at janna@lsa-online.org for additional information.

Stay Connected!

*We're on the Web! LSAQH.org
Follow us on Twitter [@LSA_HQ!](https://twitter.com/LSA_HQ!)
Like us on Facebook [/LSAQH!](https://www.facebook.com/LSAQH!)*

Put in your 2 cents!

Have any events to add? Interested in submitting an article for this newsletter? Want to get more involved with the LSA? Contact Janna at janna@lsa-online.org.

LSA Board Members

Kraig de Lanzac, MD
President/ ASA Alternate
Director- LA

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Joseph Koveleskie, MD
Member-At-Large

David Broussard, MD
ASA Director - LA

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT – LSA 2015: Proud to be a Member! *Continued.*

relevant and meaningful to you! Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter (check the last page of the newsletter on how to Stay Connected to LSA).

- 7) The LSA Annual Meeting was held in November and was a tremendous success. The meeting was well attended and had remarkable speakers from across the country as well as speakers from the ASA. The afternoon sessions included hands on workshops as well as the 2nd Annual Jeopardy Bowl.
- 8) LSA kicked off its first annual Week of PAC Contribution called Krewe of LSA-PAC. We are proud to report we surpassed our \$10,000 contribution goal and received 100% PAC contributions from the LSA Board of Directors. We will hold two LSA-PAC drives in 2016. Visit the LSA-PAC page today to make your donation – you can now make an automatic monthly payment to the LSA-PAC.

In politics, LSA Board members met one-on-one with both gubernatorial candidates prior to the election. We will continue, with your help, to interact with Governor John Bel Edwards serving to inform him on healthcare issues.

- 9) We continue to work hard for the profession of Anesthesiology! LSA worked very closely with the Louisiana State Medical Society (LSMS) on two issues. The first was supporting legislation serving to improve the investigative and disciplinary process of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners. In late 2015, the LSMS worked hand-in-hand with the LSA to address a proposed rule published by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, which was very concerning to physician anesthesiologists and our patients.

The LSA and LSMS, working with the Board of Nursing and the Louisiana Society of Nurse Anesthetists (LANA), was able to craft language which would meet the stated goals of LANA, while providing for continued physician supervision of nurse anesthetists and protecting patient safety. We continue to work on this LSBN Rule at the time of this publication.



Kraig de Lanzac, MD
is President, Louisiana Society of
Anesthesiologists & Alternate Director,
ASA Board of Directors

CAPITOL VIEW: from Haynie and Associates

Governor John Bel Edwards called a Special Session from February 14th – March 9th to raise revenue to curb our over \$3-Billion-dollar budget shortfall for FY 15-16 and FY 16-17, as well as to fund Medicaid expansion. The 144 legislators, with roughly 40 new faces, arrived to Baton Rouge ready to work but philosophical differences have been evident between the Republican-controlled House, the more moderate Senate, and the Democratic administration. Most of the immediate shortfall has been filled, but there is much work to do between now and the 2017 fiscal session to get the State's fiscal affairs in order. Once the November 2015 legislative elections were completed, Democrats gained a seat in the Senate, placing the Senate with 25 Republicans and 14 Democrats, while the Republican's gained two seats in the House, with 61 Republicans, 41 Democrats and 2 Independents. Legislative leadership has been set for the term, President John Alario has retained the Senate President position, and Republican State Rep. Taylor Barras of New Iberia emerged as House Speaker, despite the Governor's backing of another candidate. As the special session ends on March 9th, there is a very small window between Regular Session, beginning on March 14th and running through June 6th, 2016. The Regular Session is when issues most important to LSA are likely

to present themselves. Senate President Alario has named Pharmacist Senator Fred Mills (R- New Iberia) as Chairman of Senate Health committee and House Speaker Barras has named State Rep. Frank Hoffman as the House Health Chairman (Rep. Hoffman has M.D. family members). The LSA Ambassadors Program members are aggressively meeting with members of both Health Committees to further educate legislators on physician-lead anesthesia care. If you would like to join the Ambassador Program, or have a close relationship with any member(s) of the legislature - please email Janna or Kraig and let us know. We are also reviewing the roughly 1,500 bills that have already been filed for the upcoming session, and we ask that you be prepared and on stand-by to take action and contact your local legislators either in support or opposition of proposed legislation.



Ryan K. Haynie
is managing partner, and co-owner of
the Baton Rouge-based lobbying firm,
Haynie and Associates.

The LSA Quarterly

WHEN SECONDS COUNT...Thomas TJ Meyer's Story

Last quarter, we featured one of two winning submissions to our "When Seconds Count" contest. Here's the second one. - Editor

I got a call from the recovery room nurse late one afternoon to treat a patient with agitation. All I was asked to do was to order a medication over the phone to treat this common problem. As a physician anesthesiologist however, I knew the importance of gathering more information about the patient before blindly just giving a drug. He had undergone a simple procedure by the interventional radiologist to biopsy his recently transplanted liver. Although the vital signs were reported as stable by our recovery nurses, he was breathing at a too rapid 36 breaths per minute. I immediately went to his bedside to evaluate him, as this respiratory rate was a "red flag." A STAT chest x-ray showed that he had bled a large amount into his chest. This patient was not stable, he was critically ill and required immediate placement of both a breathing tube to give oxygen and a

chest tube to drain 2 liters of blood from his chest. In addition, I placed large IVs, transfused blood and fluids, and returned with him to the operating room for surgical control of the bleeding. This was all done successfully in under an hour. It was training from medical school and anesthesiology residency which allowed me to recognize the "red flag," make the diagnosis, and initiate lifesaving treatments. When seconds counted, as a physician anesthesiologist, I was able to save this patient's life.



*Left to right:
Thomas TJ Myers,
William Ericson-Neilsen,
Joseph Koveleskie*

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Nancy Dubuisson

My name is Nancy Dubuisson and I am an anesthesiologist with Lafayette General Medical Center. I went to college at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC on a college basketball scholarship and left with a wonderful education from a small Southern liberal arts college that you have to experience to understand. The friends, teammates, professors, coaches, and other contacts I made there really helped to shape who I am today. My scholarship was endowed by Jerry Richardson, owner of the Carolina Panthers. His generosity, community involvement, and commitment to giving to Wofford College (amongst other organizations) are truly inspiring.

I then attended LSU Medical School in New Orleans where Alan Kaye (rightfully) convinced me that anesthesiology was the field of medicine for me. I did my residency at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, where I met my husband, Zachary Barker, who is currently the director of the Opportunity Machine at Lafayette Economic Development Authority. We enjoy traveling the world and experiencing as many beautiful, exotic places as we can fit into our schedules. We recently have begun enjoying the other worldly experience of scuba diving, although our most memorable trip has been

rafting the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon last summer. Our next trip is to Southern Chile to an area known as Patagonia. I also really enjoy working out and playing tennis in my spare time.

I truly love working at Lafayette General and its associated facilities for the diversity of cases and settings in which we provide anesthesia. From the more complex cases at LGMC to the outpatient surgery centers and endoscopy centers that we cover, every day can be a completely different, yet rewarding experience.



*Nancy Dubuisson
is an anesthesiologist with
Lafayette General Medical Center*

The LSA Quarterly

Safe VA Care

PROTECT ★
SAFE VA CARE
VETS EARNED IT & DESERVE IT

WHAT IS THIS INITIATIVE?

The Safe VA Care initiative is designed to allow ASA members, and any citizen, to comment on the VA Office of Nursing Services proposed VA Nursing Handbook, which would remove all physician supervision of advanced practice nurses, including nurse anesthetists.

LSA INVOLVEMENT

The LSA is number three in comments submitted as a percentage of membership, and the ASA has recognized this achievement. Louisiana has recorded 600 comments so far.

Our goal is two thousand comments, which represents every active and resident member and a minimum of four family and friends.

WE NEED YOU TO GET INVOLVED – TODAY!

Please go to SafeVACare.org today to submit your comments if you have not done so already. Then get your family and friends involved after educating them on the need for physician-led care for our veterans. Please do this today.

ASA has compiled the following resources to assist as comments continue to be gathered:

- Sample social media posts
- Social media graphics
- Email template
- Safe VA Care Action Kit (for use at events)

Contact ASA Advocacy staff at grassroots@asahq.org with questions, comments or requests for a Safe VA Care Action Kit.

Sign the Petition Today....

[Protect Safe VA Care](#)

LSA Ambassador Program

We are proud to announce the LSA Ambassador Program. Just as our Board of Directors comes from representative regions across the state, so do the LSA Ambassadors. Based on the population of physician anesthesiologists across the state, we have developed a representative number of LSA Ambassadors across the state.

The LSA Ambassador program formally began with a very well attended meeting in Baton Rouge in late February. The Ambassadors were able to participate in an ASA Leadership Spokesperson Training Program, hear presentations on past and present legislative and regulatory issues facing physician anesthesiologists in Louisiana, and gain insight as to how the LSA Ambassador Program will be implemented. We also received a visit from Congressman Garrett Graves from Baton Rouge to address our Ambassadors on the importance of advocacy for physicians.

Many of these positions have already been filled, but there are still some areas that require representation. We will have approximately twenty ambassadors across the state, serving to cover the three hundred active members across the state. The Ambassadors will serve as conduits for information in both directions between membership and the Board. We believe this will allow leaders to connect with LSA members and improve the purpose of our society.

Additionally, it serves to have more leaders in the society armed with information allowing these ambassadors to be internal and external spokespersons for the organization. An added bonus is that it allows members who are looking to become more involved in LSA an avenue for leadership cultivation or enhancement.

The LSA Ambassadors are already hard at work and making a difference. This is an exciting program that will serve as the model for other state component societies.

If you are interested in serving as a LSA Ambassador, please contact Kraig de Lanzac, LSA President, at kdelanzac@gmail.com.