



WELCOME TO OUR *Newsletter*



Greetings from the Summer 2025 edition of the TASNA newsletter. I hope everyone has enjoyed the warm weather as we leave the winter and spring months behind us!

TANA attended the AANA's Mid Year Assembly and got the word out on pro-CRNA legislation with United States Senators and Representatives from Tennessee. It's so important to take the time and put the effort in to meet with our politicians and help them understand our perspective.

As always, enjoy this newsletter update, and feel free to reach out if you ever need anything!

Katy Chmelicek, TASNA President
Erin Newberry, TASNA President-Elect

↓ In this newsletter you will find:
AANA legislative priority updates, SRNAs at MYA, and Tennessee SRNA highlights!



TANA TAKES MYA

Mid-Year Assembly is an annual conference hosted by the AANA which focuses on the legislative priorities of the AANA. It allows SRNAs and CRNAs around the country to network, forge connections, receive mentorship, and learn about the political and legislative agenda of the AANA. Mid-Year Assembly also provides classes and resources to learn about talking to legislators before sending us out there to do that!



H.R. 1317/S. 575 ICAN ACT

The Improving Care and Access to Nurses (ICAN) Act is a federal bill that seeks to remove outdated barriers to practice for advanced practice registered nurses, including Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). The act would eliminate federal supervision requirements and allow CRNAs to practice to the full extent of their education and training, particularly in Medicare and Medicaid programs. By doing so, the ICAN Act aims to expand access to high-quality, cost-effective anesthesia care—especially in rural and underserved areas—while streamlining healthcare delivery and addressing provider shortages.



H.R. 2234 ENSURING VETERANS TIMELY ACCESS TO ANESTHESIA CARE ACT

This legislation aims to grant Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) full practice authority in the VHA, aligning its policies with those of the Defense Health Agency, where CRNAs and physician anesthesiologists provide anesthesia care autonomously. By eliminating outdated supervision requirements, the act seeks to address inefficiencies that have led to increased costs, longer wait times, and delays in care for veterans. Empowering CRNAs to practice independently is expected to enhance access to timely, high-quality anesthesia care, particularly in rural and underserved areas, ensuring that veterans receive the prompt medical attention they deserve.



Title VIII Funding CARE CAN'T WAIT. INVEST IN THE NATIONS'S NURSING WORKFORCE

The American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA) is actively advocating for robust federal investment in the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs through its "Care Can't Wait" campaign. These programs are the primary federal funding source dedicated to nursing education, offering scholarships, loan repayment assistance, and grants for advanced education, faculty development, and workforce diversity. In the face of a growing national nursing shortage, particularly in rural and underserved areas, AANA emphasizes that maintaining and increasing Title VIII funding is essential to ensure a well-prepared nursing workforce capable of meeting the country's healthcare demands. The campaign urges Congress to protect and expand these vital programs, highlighting their critical role in sustaining high-quality, accessible care for all communities.

MYA FUN



SRNAS TAKE MYA

WORK HARD, PLAY HARD
EXPLORE D.C.

My time at Mid-Year Assembly (MYA) allowed me to gain perspective about aspects of our profession that can impact the future of our career. Mid-Year Assembly not only provides the opportunity to meet anesthesia providers across the country, but also highlights the different ways anesthesia can be performed. It also allows CRNAs and SRNAs a chance to meet with their representatives in Washington, D.C. and advocate. There is so much work that goes into becoming a CRNA and developing practice; however, if we cannot effectively communicate to those in decision-making positions about our potential, much of our effort can be in vain. Talking to legislators and their staff about the issues that impact healthcare, anesthesia, CRNAs and patients is empowering because they also want to make people's lives better, they are willing to listen, and sometimes CRNAs are the answer to an issue that legislators might be facing. MYA was an experience that allowed me to grow more professionally and broaden my horizons about what is possible in our profession. The world of Nurse Anesthesiology is truly unlimited!

Tim Lott, SRNA at University of Tennessee - Chattanooga (UTC)





Candid around D.C.

SRNAs from all over Tennessee experiencing Mid Year Assembly. Having fun while making a difference for the future of nurse anesthesia!



TASNA TAKEAWAYS

MID-YEAR ASSEMBLY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. – **ADVOCACY IN ACTION!**

Spending time in our nation's capital for AANA's Mid-Year Assembly was an unforgettable and empowering experience. From meeting with lawmakers on Capitol Hill to sharing our stories as student and practicing nurse anesthetists, the trip reminded us just how powerful our voices can be.

Advocating for the CRNA profession isn't just important—**it's essential**. The policies being shaped today directly impact our future scope of practice, patient access to care, and the advancement of our profession. Being in Washington, D.C., surrounded by passionate peers and dedicated leaders, showed us the real impact we can make when we stand up and speak out.

Your voice matters—and we need **YOU** next year! Let's keep the momentum going. Join us at next year's Mid-Year Assembly and be part of the movement to protect and promote nurse anesthesia on the national stage. The more voices we bring, the stronger our message becomes!!

 **Save the date for next year!**

 **April 24-April 29, 2026**

Washington, D.C

 <https://www.aana.com/meetings/mya>

ADVOCACY STARTS WITH SHOWING UP. LET'S MAKE NEXT YEAR EVEN BIGGER, BOLDER, AND LOUDER—FOR OUR PROFESSION AND OUR PATIENTS.
SEE YOU ON THE HILL!

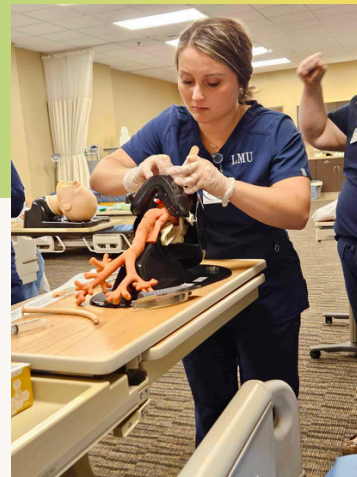


Tennessee Association of Student Nurse Anesthetists

WWW.TNCRNA.COM/TASNA/

Behind the Mask

SRNAS ACROSS TENNESSEE



Student Spotlight

KELLY MCREYNOLDS
SRNA AT LINCOLN MEMORIAL
UNIVERSITY

Hometown: I grew up in Greeneville, TN but I have lived in Knoxville, TN for 7 years.

Favorite case: I've recently been doing more open heart cases and have enjoyed doing those!

Go to study snack: Pita chips and tzatziki dip with an Alani or coffee to drink.

Most surprising part of CRNA school: Three years seemed like so far away but now graduation is right around the corner! The days are long but the months are short. It goes by faster than you think if you stay focused on the goal and take in everyday as a learning opportunity.

Dream job after graduation: My dream job would be one where the staff are welcoming and excited for new CRNAs. The culture of a place is so important!

MTSA students participated in the Run Nashville Relay. It was a relay race covering 50km (31 miles) that covered downtown Nashville and surrounding areas! A fun way to keep up with wellness between studying for exams and clinical!



SRNA Snapshot



SYDNEY NASEMAN
SRNA AT UNION UNIVERSITY



What inspired you to pursue a future career as a CRNA?

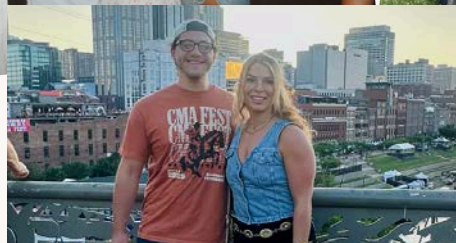
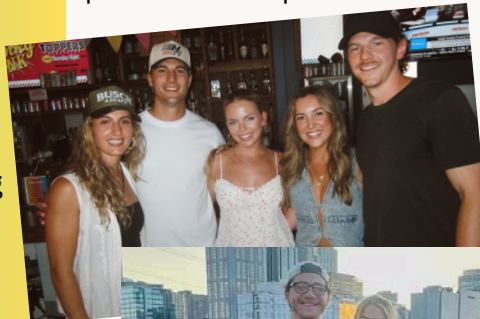
The CRNA role offers a unique opportunity to combine advanced clinical expertise with meaningful patient interaction and the chance to work more independently. It also provides the opportunity for a better work-life balance.

How do you maintain balance and take care of your mental health during such a rigorous program?

Even with a busy schedule, I try to make time for things that help me decompress, such as going for walks with my husband and dog or FaceTiming with family. Ensuring I make time for myself.

What advice would you give to SRNAs just starting out?

One of the best tips I can offer new SRNAs is to find a solid study group early on. Having a group to review material with, share resources, and discuss challenging topics can make a significant difference, not just academically, but emotionally as well. Also, try not to compare yourself to others in the program. Everyone learns at their own pace, and comparing yourself only adds unnecessary stress. Focus on your progress, stay consistent, and be kind to yourself! *You're learning something incredibly challenging, and you belong here!*



SRNAs by day, country music fans by night! MTSA students taking a well deserved break to hear the sounds of good music at CMA fest in Nashville, TN!!

Help us spotlight the SRNA experience!! From study hacks to OR selfies - send us what you've got!

Send to: erin.newberry@mtsa.edu

What's happening THIS FALL



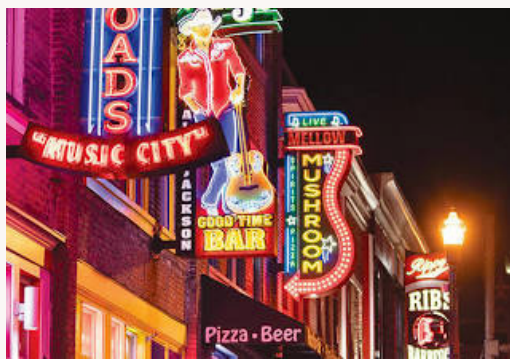
AANA NATIONAL CONGRESS

Nashville, TN - August 9-13, 2025

The Biggest CRNA Event of the Year Is Coming to Music City – Don't Miss It! 🎸

Pack your boots and your badge—AANA 2025 National Congress is heading to Nashville, Tennessee, and you're invited to be part of the excitement! Join thousands of CRNAs and SRNAs from across the country for an unforgettable weekend of education, inspiration, and connection in the heart of Music City.

This is your chance to grow professionally, get inspired, and celebrate the incredible impact of nurse anesthetists—all while enjoying one of the most vibrant cities in the country.



TANA'S 88TH ANNUAL MEETING

Franklin, TN - October 10-12, 2025

Get ready for a weekend of inspiration, innovation, and connection at the **Tennessee Association of Nurse Anesthetists' 88th Annual Meeting!** Whether you're a student, a practicing CRNA, or an anesthesia enthusiast—this is the event you don't want to miss.

- 🧠 Explore cutting-edge education from dynamic guest speakers
- 📺 Check out student research and capstone projects on display
- 👥 Network with peers, mentors, and industry leaders
- 🏢 Visit the exhibit hall to discover the latest technology, tools, and resources in anesthesia

Come celebrate the strength and future of nurse anesthesia in Tennessee. This is more than a meeting—it's a movement. Let's learn, lead, and elevate our profession together.



RUN FOR TASNA PRESIDENT-ELECT!

Are you ready to take your passion for nurse anesthesia beyond the classroom and into the world of leadership, advocacy, and impact? Here's your chance to make your voice heard and represent SRNAs across the state—**run for TASNA President-Elect!**

As President-Elect, you'll work alongside current leaders in the Tennessee Association of Nurse Anesthetists (TANA), gain insider experience in state-level policy and professional advocacy, and help shape the future of our profession—all while building lifelong connections with CRNAs and SRNAs from across Tennessee.

Whether you're passionate about policy, professional growth, or giving back to the community of nurse anesthetists that inspires you, this is your moment to lead. **Election will be held at TANA 88th Annual meeting in October. More information to follow.**

