



<https://hpnafw.nursingnetwork.com>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hpnafw>

## OFFICERS

**President:** Laurie Smith, RN

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**President Elect:** Vacant

**Secretary:** Tammie Guinn, RN, BA, BSN, CHPN

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**Treasurer:** Sue Collins, RN

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**Membership Chair:** Judith Goldthorp, RN

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## ABOUT OUR CHAPTER

The Fort Worth Regional Chapter of HPNA was chartered in 1996 and is the oldest chapter in HPNA. The Sunflower is our chapter icon.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hey HPNA Team!

Hope you all are enjoying the cooler weather, and some sports team fun!! My teams are the Iowa Hawkeyes, UT Longhorns and the Texas Rangers and I am a happy camper. Let's go Rangers!! Hope your teams are doing well too! Whether your teams are little league, college or professional, we all know you have another team too: **HPNA!**

As providers in this profession we are the team that :

- \* Manages the person's pain and symptoms;
- \* Provides emotional support;
- \* Provides needed medications, medical supplies, and equipment;
- \* Coaches loved ones on how to care for the person;
- \* Delivers special services like speech and physical therapy when needed;
- \* Makes short-term inpatient care available when pain or symptoms become too difficult to manage at home, or the caregiver needs respite time; and
- \* Helps the families with advance directives and advanced care planning

\* Provides guidance with navigation through the health care system and other social services.

\* Provides grief support to surviving loved ones and friends.

If you are reading this you are also a part of our Fort Worth Chapter of HPNA team.

Our group was formed nearly 20 years ago, to provide a way for hospice workers to meet and support each other, be able to network, meet our educational requirements and learn from each other. Today we are still going strong but your presence on our team is needed more than ever! We want to keep going another 20 years!

I'd like you all to take note of how you benefit from our meetings. Sometimes it might be food, sometimes you get to talk to just the right person. Sometimes you learn just the thing you needed to for taking care of a difficult patient or something you did not understand well. You might only get the CE required for certification. You might win a cool door prize or get a hug from someone you have not seen in awhile. You might even get a new job. Employers like to see professional organizations on the resume! You might learn about being a treasurer or learn how to network or learn more about leadership. You might get a free trip to Leadership weekend in Pittsburgh. You might get to serve on a National HPNA committee. There are tons of opportunities and benefits. (continued on next page)

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Now think about what others do for us to help us have these meetings. We all pay dues, so we get support from each one of you every time you renew your membership and come to a meeting. We need you to keep coming! We have room sponsors such as Baylor, who provide us with a meeting place. We have a wonderful liaison, Karen Pettersson, who volunteers to find food sponsors each month. We have people who donate door prizes. We have Nancy Ritts, who for years has volunteered her time every month to make our CE's happen. We have Judy Goldthorp, who coordinates membership and has for years! We have Sue Collins who helps us keep track of our money for our National HPNA report and goes to the bank for us. We have even more opportunities for educational events but we need manpower to help us make them happen. Now think about your talent and how much better our team would be with more players!

We are so blessed to have our wonderful team but there is always room for more and new positions! Sue and Karen are moving on and we have other openings, too, such as President Elect! Contact me if you want to be more involved. We'll find just the position for you! A few hours of commitment will go a long way! GO TEAM! See you all soon,

*Laurie*

## CHAPTER ELECTIONS COMING IN NOVEMBER

In November, all RN members of the Fort Worth Chapter HPNA will receive (via email) a link to an on line ballot. We will be electing a new Treasurer, a new President Elect, . . . and a President? We also need a Sponsor Liason (an appointed position). See details below.

### **Food Sponsor Liaison**

Karen Pettersson has been our liaison and kept us all fed for the last four years. We thank her so much for her fabulous service but we need someone to take the reins. She has a list of resources she pulls from each month and she contacts them by phone and email to arrange to feed us. If you are interested in serving our chapter this way, please contact Laurie Smith at [smith.laurie@gmail.com](mailto:smith.laurie@gmail.com) or 817-313-0490 for more information. More information is posted on our website. This is an appointed position. You don't have to be an RN.

### **Treasurer**

We also want to thank Sue Collins for her service. She has been our treasurer for almost 2 years and her term will end at the end of this year. We will need to vote for another treasurer soon so please consider this important role and know you would not be alone. We work together! Please email Laurie Smith at [smith.laurie@gmail.com](mailto:smith.laurie@gmail.com) or call 817-313-0490 if you are interested.

### **President-Elect**

The President-Elect serves the first year, learning from the current President, then assumes the position of President the second year, and then helps train the next President-Elect.

You must be an RN member of both National HPNA and the Fort Worth Chapter HPNA to be an elected officer.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING RECAP

Our September meeting started with a delicious dinner provided by Texas Health Care Pharmacy. President Laurie Smith who welcomed all present and explained that this is our "kickoff" meeting for the fall season. She explained the benefits of being a member and that members can join or renew their membership on the chapter website at <https://hpnafw.nursingnetwork.com/>. She introduced Nancy Ritts who discussed future presentations and introduced tonight's speaker.

Tonight's speaker was Shawnta Pittman-Hobbs, MD, who spoke about The Role of the Palliative Care Physician. Her objectives were to:

[1] Describe the role of the palliative care consult, [2] List three main areas of focus of supportive and palliative care, [3] Compare and contrast palliative care vs hospice, [4] Describe key components in palliative care billing.

### 1. What palliative care does:

maximizes quality of life	manages pain and symptoms
promotes communication among physicians	coordinates medical and supportive services
assists with patient decision making about care	provides support for caregivers

### 2. The National Consensus Project on Quality Palliative Care:

Structures and processes of care	Physical aspects of care
Psychological, spiritual, social, and cultural aspects of care	Ethical and legal aspects of care

### 3. The Target Population:

Patients and families facing serious illness, with most patients having a life limiting illness. Those illnesses include chronic conditions tracked by Dartmouth Atlas including: CHF, COPD, ESRD, ASPVD, DM, Dementia, chronic liver disease, along with a host of others, including post cardiac arrest, patients/families with complex decision making, bedbound patients with complex disease.

**4. Case studies** with specific descriptions of issues, and pertinent questions concerning each study. (E.g. "What is the most appropriate time to consult palliative care?" Answer: Palliative care is offered simultaneously with all other appropriate medical treatments at any age and any stage, or may replace treatments no longer benefiting the patient).

**5. Billing** in palliative care, which a physician will code for each patient encounter in two parts:

- 1) a procedure/service code
- 2) a diagnosis code

6. She closed by noting that improved communication, enhanced decision making, and respect and dignity occur as a result of the palliative care consult.

A lovely chocolate cake decorated for the "Kickoff" season was served to all 8:15pm Following the presentation and cake the meeting adjourned with reminders of next month's meeting and program "Opioid Conversion" (speaker Linda McMahan). October's meeting will be held at Baylor All Saints.

[Thanks to Nancy Ritts & Cheryl Pritchett for providing details about September meeting.]

#### October

Domestic Violence Awareness Month  
Breast Cancer Awareness Month  
Bullying Prevention Month  
Physical Therapy Month  
Down Syndrome Awareness Month

#### November

National Hospice & Palliative Care Month  
Family Caregivers Month  
Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month  
Lung Cancer Awareness Month  
Stomach Cancer Awareness Month

## **Education**

### **Texas Board of Nursing Webinars**

<https://www.bon.texas.gov/catalog/>

### **New Hospice Foundation of America Program Focuses on Alzheimer's Disease and Hospice Care**

<http://www.hospicefoundation.org/hic-alzheimers>

### **NHPCO Virtual Conference**

#### **Clinical Advances in the Art & Science of Care**

<http://www.nhpco.org/2015virtualconference>

### **Clinical Practice Forum**

October 23 - 24, 2015

Pittsburgh, PA

<http://hpna.advancingexpertcare.org/education/clinical-practice-forum/>

### **NHPCO 16th Clinical Team Conference and Pediatric Intensive:**

Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center,  
Grapevine, Texas

October 13 - 17, 2015

<http://nhpco.confex.com/nhpco/CTC16/cfp.cgi>

### **Texas New Mexico Hospice Organization Annual Conference**

2016 February 26-28 Santa Fe, NM

[www.txnmhospice.org](http://www.txnmhospice.org)

### **AHPM / HPNA Annual Assembly**

2016 March 9-12 – Chicago, IL

## **Future Programs**

November 17 – Demystifying The Funeral Experience: The Role of the Funeral in the Grief Process

Speaker: Jonathan Chance

Note: Attendance at this program is limited to 12.

December 1 – Yoga: a Tool For Grief Relief Speaker: Lorna Bell, RN, CHPN

January 19 -- Hoarding Speaker: Terry Sutton

Don't forget to RSVP through our website at <https://hpnafw.nursingnetwork.com>

## **From the Internet**

### **The Error in "There's Nothing More We Can Do"**

[http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/07/15/the-error-in-theres-nothing-more-we-can-do/?\\_r=0](http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/07/15/the-error-in-theres-nothing-more-we-can-do/?_r=0)

*How many times have you heard your patients tell you this is what they heard from their physician?*

### **Social Model Hospice Homes May Revolutionize End-of-Life Care in the U.S.**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/karen-m-wyatt-md/social-model-hospice\\_b\\_7641916.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/karen-m-wyatt-md/social-model-hospice_b_7641916.html)

### **Listening to love: Doctor uses seniors' stories to improve care**

[http://articles.philly.com/2015-06-15/news/63415070\\_1\\_love-stories-patients-best-medicine](http://articles.philly.com/2015-06-15/news/63415070_1_love-stories-patients-best-medicine)

### **Is Dying Easier for the Faithful?**

<http://www.crossroadshospice.com/family-caregivers-blog/2015/june/08/is-dying-easier-for-the-faithful/>

### **Measuring What Matters (MWM)**

*If we are going to measure various indicators, let's make sure that what we are measuring is important to the patients and their families.*

<http://aahpm.org/quality/measuring-what-matters>