

Bios of candidates for MNA office, 2010

Editor's note: These bios were provided by the candidates and appear exactly as submitted.

Vice President

Karen Coughlin, RN, BC

Mansfield, MA

Employment: Department of Mental Health, Taunton State Hospital

Education: Associates, Massasoit Community College, 1984

Present/Past MNA Activities: MNA BOD: Vice President Nov '09-present, MNA BOD: Directors Oct '05-Nov '09, Unit 7 Executive Board; Vice President, Taunton State Hospital-Vice Chair, MNA Stat Team, MNA finance committee, MNA PAC, Recipient of MNA Elaine Cooney Labor Relations Award 1995.

Candidate Statement: This is what we have been seeing in our workplaces: Profits before patients, greed before need, and working conditions that place your professional license at risk and endanger the health and safety of not only your patient, but frequently, that of you and your colleagues. These are the issues that we see not only across our state but across our nation. As a RN of 26yrs, I continue to be an active MNA member. I have stood with you on your picket lines, repeatedly testified and lobbied on your behalf at the State House. I have worked extensively on and will continue to actively pursue solutions to the escalating problem of workplace violence, whether it is at the local unit level, through the media, the court system or our legislature. I am proud of our MNA, the work that we have done, and as your Vice President, will continue to address your issues as we move forward. I respect you and the work that you do. I know that in supporting each other, we can still face whatever challenges may lie ahead of us. I am inspired by the MNA members who seek and work for change collectively not only at their own facility but in collaboration with others within our Union, across the state and this nation. Together we can change our present conditions and create a better future for those who are just coming into our honored profession. I respectfully request your vote. Thank you.

Barbara Norton, RN

Portsmouth, RI

Employment: Brigham & Women's

Education: Associate, Laboure Jr College, 1983

Present/Past MNA Activities: Chairperson, BWH, BOD 2000-2008

Candidate Statement: Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout

our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.

Treasurer

Ann Marie McDonagh, RN

Canton, MA

Employment: Tufts Medical Center

Education: BSN, Northeastern University, 1996

Present/Past MNA Activities: MNA BOD, Treasurer 2008-present, Finance Committee, Chair 2008-present, Finance Committee, member 2005-2008, Region 5, Treasurer 2006-present, Region 5, Director at Large 2004-present, NNU 2010 Organizing Institute, Graduate, NNU founding convention, Delegate, MNA Labor School, Graduate.

Candidate Statement: I have been a member of the MNA since 1997 when I began working at Morton Hospital and Medical Center. In 2001, I moved to Tufts Medical Center. I attended my first MNA convention in 2004. My experience at that convention opened me up to a world of activism both in my profession and in the larger labor movement that I have eagerly remained committed to.

My first leadership role was serving on the Region 5 council as a Director-at-Large. I then became treasurer of Region 5 Council. As treasurer of the MNA Board, I have worked with the MNA Finance Department and board to maintain the fiscal health of our organization so we can continue to be the voice of nursing and healthcare in our Commonwealth.

As hospitals and healthcare institutions continue to push towards corporate based agendas, it is more important than ever that we as an organization remain united, not only within MNA but with direct care nurses across the country. As a participant in the early negotiations to found our national union, I felt an urgency to successfully complete our task. We needed to empower the collective voice nurses present and future to combat the industry.

In partnership with our brothers and sisters in the NNU, I believe that we can effect real change that that will allow us to provide safe care to our patients, defend our collective bargaining rights and bring the benefits of union membership to the unorganized in our Commonwealth and beyond.

Director, Labor

Region 1

Sandra Hottin, RN, MS

Agawam, MA

Employment: Mercy Medical Center

Education: MS, UMass Amherst, 2005; BS, American International College, 1997; Diploma, Baystate Medical Center, 1973

Present/Past MNA Activities: Congress on Health Care Policy & Legislative, BOD, Co-chair Legislation Committee, Regional 1 Council

Candidate Statement: First I would like to say thank you for electing me to the Board of directors, two years ago. It is a very exciting time to be on the Board and I appreciate the opportunity to represent my region, Region one, as well as the rest of the state.

We joined National Nurses united, which made us a stronger organization and will continue to make us strong and benefit our members. Being a member of the NNU has given us a national voice. We, staff nurses, will have input into the national debate on healthcare and staffing issues. Having the Massachusetts Nurses Association be part of this national discussion is an absolute necessity in today's healthcare environment.

Partnering with NNU is the fulfillment of a request from the membership. With that partnering we have not lost our own identity as MNA. We are just as strong and powerful as always. We continue to negotiate, implement, and monitor individual contracts. MNA has negotiated good contracts in spite of difficult economic times. The Workplace Violence Prevention Bill has just passed thanks to Congress on Health and Safety with the support of our Legislative Department.

We are also continuing in our commitment to Single Payer Health Care in Massachusetts and on the national level with NNU.

With your vote I hope to continue to work for our members, look for ways to involve more members and listen to concerns of the whole organization.

Region 2

Ellen Smith, RN

Douglas, MA

Employment: UMass Memorial-University

Education: ADN, Cape Cod community College, 1994

Present/Past MNA Activities: Board of Directors 2008-2010, VP of Region Council 2, Awards Committee 2009, Region Council BOD since 2000, Negotiating Team (UMass University), Grievance Co-chair-UMass University.

Candidate Statement: There are many challenges in healthcare in nursing today. Many of these are affecting our patients in Massachusetts and in the United States. Patients deserve better quality of care than what they are receiving with all the cutbacks that have been done.

As an RN working in a hospital in Worcester, MA I feel that nurses need to get back to more patient care and less paperwork. The bedside nurses are getting more work put on them and less staff to help take care of our patients in our hospitals.

There are many current issues that are affecting the nurses in Massachusetts and in the United States. We face challenges on a daily basis on how our patients are going to get the best quality of care and how to do it safely and effectively with what the hospitals give us to work with.

If re-elected to this position on the MNA Board of Directors I will continue to fight for patients rights to quality care. I will also continue to fight to help the nurses in Massachusetts and the united States so they can provide safe quality patient care.

Region 3

Donna Dudik, RN, BSN

Weymouth, MA

Employment: Boston Medical Center

Education: BSN, Thomas Edison State College, 2010; Diploma, St. Peter's School of Nursing

Present/Past MNA Activities: Congress on Health Care Policy & Leg; PAC- STAT TEAM; BOD Director at Large

Candidate Statement: I am running again with the attitude of no, no to unsafe staffing for our patients, no to the adding of technology without adding some one there to use it, no to work place violence, no to unsafe patient lifting, and no to take aways. No when nurses are losing their jobs and administrators are getting bonuses. No to hospitals, who are making profits, and then try to open contracts and freeze wages or cut pensions. I have walked pickets at various hospitals with the understanding that to fight for one is to fight for all.

This year has brought personal and professional accomplishments. I have completed my BSN and working along with the staff of MNA and nurses from around the state for the three bills in the violence protection package, our efforts were rewarded with the passage of one of the bills. With great excitement, I witnessed the founding of the NNU in Arizona. Seeing bedside nurses come together gives me hope as a front line nurse that this collective body of nurses will be able to influence health care policy nationally.

I will continue work hard for MNA nurses and our issues. The mission of the leadership of the MNA is and always will be the members. I ask for your vote. I urge you to vote for those who are doing likewise, for it is through collective action that we meet the needs of our nurse members and the patients that they serve.

Michael Savoy, RN, BSN

Dartmouth, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital

Education: BSN, University of Massachusetts Boston, 1996

Present/Past MNA Activities: Brigham Negotiating Committee at Large 2003-Present, MNA Diversity Committee.

Candidate Statement: Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.

Region 4

Tiffany Diaz Bercy, RN, MSN

Lynn, MA

Employment: North Shore Medical Center

Education: MSN, University of Phoenix, 2005; BSN, Salem State College, 2000

Present/Past MNA Activities: Bargaining unit Secretary

Candidate Statement: I am running for a seat on the Board of Directors because I believe in the profession of nursing and as a young, energetic RN of 10yrs, I feel I can reach out to the younger nurses and help them to get involved and become excited about the future of nursing. Nursing as a profession is still evolving and I want myself and other nurses like me to be an active part of that evolution. I believe all nurses have a voice and some may just need a hand in getting that voice heard. Nursing is such a great and respected profession; it is flexible, independent, and incredibly necessary to health care and the changes it will see in the near future. As an educator I pride myself in teaching student nurses that there is so much more to nursing than vital signs and administering medications, it's a sisterhood and brotherhood of amazing people from many backgrounds from which you can learn. The MNA is a great and strong organization that gives a voice to nursing and I am proud to be a part of that organization. I want to be a part of that voice for nursing. As a member of the Board of Directors I hope to learn from other board members as well as offer fresh, new points of view and hopefully serve the members of MNA to the best of my ability.

Region 5

Barbara S Tiller, RN, BSN

Wrentham, MA

Employment: Tufts Medical Center

Education: BSN, Alfred University, 1986

Present/Past MNA Activities: Board of Director 08-10

Candidate Statement: I am running for the

MNA Board of directors, having served my first term as a director and having been active in my local bargaining unit for several years, currently as Chair at Tufts Medical Center. I would like to continue to work for nurses in our local bargaining units, across our state and nation for better working conditions and a stronger voice in health care. Nurses need to have a voice in how patients are cared for, and as a director on the Board I will continue to work hard to support and empower nurses at every level to work towards better working conditions and contracts that reflect protections and compensation for the hard work that they do every day. Nurses, standing together, at the local, state and national level, can make this happen. MNA, having been a significant part of the formation of National Nurses United (NNU), has been completely empowering for me and the nurses who have attended our first nurses Rally in Washington, D.C. I have attended many different functions and met many different nurses from across this state and this country. Times in healthcare are tough, sharing and utilizing what has been successful in other places and standing together, we can only be stronger than we have ever been here in Massachusetts and abroad for our patients and ourselves.

Michael Robinson

Dorchester, MA

Employment: BWH

Education: Diploma, Brockton Hospital School of Nursing, 1982

Present/Past MNA Activities: Vice-chair BWH committee

Candidate Statement: Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.

Director At-Large, Labor

Mary Lou Stock, RN

Pembroke, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's

Education: Associates Science Nursing, Massasoit Community College, 1992; Whitman-Hanson Regional High School; Indian Head/Hanson

Candidate Statement: Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.

Beth Amsler, RN*Ashland, MA***Employment:** Newton-Wellesley Hospital**Education:** Diploma, The Jewish Hospital of St. Louis School of Nursing, 1969**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Congress on Nursing Practice 200-2009, Mass Nurses PAC-Board of Directors-2003-present, MNA board of Directors 2008-present.**Candidate Statement:** I am a staff nurse in the special Care Nursery at Newton Wellesley Hospital. I have been a nurse for over forty years and a member of MNA since 1982. For the last ten years I have been actively involved in MNA in various capacities, both local and statewide. I represent the Special Care Nursery Unit for our local bargaining unit, member board of directors for the Massachusetts Nurses PAC, and for eight years I was on the Congress for Nursing Practice. I'm currently completing my first term as a member of the Board of directors. It has been my privilege to work with nurses from across the state. It is clear that we face similar issues and demands although we work for different types of institutions. MNA's role as a founding member of National Nurses united has made this challenging and exciting for me. We need to stand together and speak with a united voice. When elected I will continue to work passionately to improve working conditions. Your vote would be greatly appreciated.**Marie Ritacco, RN***Auburn, MA***Employment:** St. Vincent's Hospital**Education:** ADN, Q.C.C., 1983**Present/Past MNA Activities:** BOD, At-Large, Labor 2008-2010, Negotiating Team, SVH(x3), Past Grievance Chair (6yrs)**Candidate Statement:** It has been an honor for me to serve as a board member for the MNA since October, 2008. I seek a second term because I believe I can help to advance the work that has been started on the state and national level. Nurses have much to add to the debate over how best to care for our patients and I am passionate about being part of the voice for bedside nursing, not only in Massachusetts, but in Washington and beyond.

It is my sincere desire to help this organization build its membership and embrace all points of view, as each of us has something of value to add to the discussion. I believe a board member is a guardian of the welfare of an organization as a whole. If elected, I will continue to fight for safe and appropriate staffing in all of our facilities. Patients and nurses everywhere deserve this. We must also continue to focus on our membership and its ability to effectively negotiate con-

tracts that ensure that our working lives are enhanced by fair and equitable agreements, including the provision of adequate and sustainable retirement benefits that other larger unions have enjoyed.

We are all the beneficiaries of a professional organization that has a dynamic and respected presence in the state of Massachusetts, and beyond. We must now embrace our national identity. I hope to have the opportunity to serve our membership again.

In Solidarity,

Marie Ritacco, RN

MNA Board of Directors, (At-Large-Labor) 2008-2010

Jean G. Cabral, RN, BSN*Belmont, MA***Employment:** Brigham & Women's Hospital**Education:** BSN, University of Massachusetts/ Boston, 2002; Diploma Peter Bent Brigham School of Nursing, 1976**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Brigham & Women's Bargaining Committee 2006-2010**Candidate Statement:** Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.**Paula Ascii, RN***Plympton, MA***Employment:** Brigham & Women's**Education:** Associate, Massasoit Community College, 1976**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Chair Good Samaritan Hospital**Diane Michael***Springfield, MA***Employment:** SPBHS**Education:** Diploma, Children's Hospital School of Nursing, 1974**Present/Past MNA Activities:** BOD-Region 1, BOD at Large Labor, Board Policy Committee, Treasurer Region 1, BOD Region 1**Director At-Large, General****Fabiano Bueno, RN***South Boston, MA***Employment:** Boston Medical Center**Education:** Lawrence Memorial/Regis College, 2001**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Director At-Large, Chair Regional Council 5**Candidate Statement:** Fabiano Bueno, R.N. Lawrence Memorial /Regis College. I have been a Registered Nurse at Boston Medical Center since graduating in 2001. I have also worked at TUFTS Medical Center in Boston. Staff nurse assignments have included the Step-Down, Emergency Care and Critical

Care areas. An active member of MNA since graduation, I started by participating on the STAT-TEAM, picketing lines and state house events in solidarity. These early assignments with the MNA helped me understand both loyalty to my nursing colleagues and the MNA organization's mission. This inspiration led to my involvement in the Regional Council 5 as a designee of Boston Medical Center's negotiation committee. At the Regional Council meetings, I learned how both the officers and the structure of organization benefit all MNA nurses. I was elected to the Board of Directors at MNA as Director-at-Large where I have been active in complex discussions and decision making for the members. My major accomplishments after election included taking part in the editorial board for the Nurse Advocate and, most recently, becoming chair of Regional Council 5-Greater Boston. I have represented the interest of all nurses at the bed side to provide safer care and protection for not only today's, but also for future nursing practices. I am running for re-election of Director-at-Large and I am seeking your vote. I am also asking you to elect from the group of candidates the ones that have a positive direction for your practices and the future of the MNA.

Deborah Donahue, RN*Newton, MA***Employment:** Brigham & Women's Hospital**Education:** BSN, Emmanuel College, currently enrolled; Diploma, Newton-Wellesley Hospital, 1976**Present/Past MNA Activities:** BWH Negotiating Committee 97-05**Candidate Statement:** Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.**Thomas M Adams, RN***Marshfield Hills, MA***Employment:** BWH**Education:** AD, Massasoit Community College, 1984**Candidate Statement:** Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.**Katie Murphy RN, BSN, CCRN, CNRN***Framingham, MA***Employment:** Brigham & Women's Hospital

Education: BSN, Boston University, 1985; ASN, Vermont College, 1975

Candidate Statement: The years I have spent at the bedside have given me a tremendous respect for my colleagues at that bedside. Throughout my entire career, it has been clear to me that the entire focus needs to be on the patient and the nurse is the crucial member of that team.

The issues that we face today could not make that message more profound: our patients are sicker and families are more involved and require more support than ever before. The information and technology available to us today make us constantly aware that ours is an art and science. We are called on, every day, every shift, to utilize all the science at our disposal, while the art of compassion and humanity are more critical than ever.

With historic changes to health care happening every day, it is vital that our voices, speaking for our patients and our profession, are heard at every level. We need to speak up at the bedside, in the nursing councils at our institutions, to our local legislatures and in the hall of Congress.

If elected, I would use my experience as a bedside critical care nurse, as well as that of an elected and appointed public official to work tirelessly on the issues of Safe Staffing, mandatory overtime, workplace violence, among others, and keep the needs of patients and nurses foremost in my mind.

I respectfully ask for your vote in the MNA General Election.

Ginny Ryan, RN
Marshfield, MA

Employment: Faulkner Hospital

Education: BSN, Simmons College, present; ADN, Mass Bay Community College, 1985

Present/Past MNA Activities: MNA BOD 2006-present, STAT team 2006-present, Convention Committee 2006-present, Regional Risk Force 2006, Region 5 Vice President 2009-present.

Candidate Statement: After 25 years in this profession, my philosophy on Nursing is still the same: I want to take great care of my patients and to be the best Nurse I can possibly be. It is a very exciting time in our profession with the development of the National Nurses Union and the presence of a national voice for the bedside nurse. I cannot wait to see what the future brings for MNA and for the NNU. I have been a member of MNA since 1985 and I believe that unity and solidarity begins at home in our bargaining units. I have been very active in mine as a co-chair, encouraging others to become more involved and by building up morale throughout the hospital. It's very

important to support your fellow coworkers as well as nurses in other bargaining units. As a member of the MNA STAT team, I have supported other bargaining units and other unions walking their picket lines and boycotting venues. I have been to the State House and have talked with my Representatives in the hopes to make a difference in the fight for safe staffing and safe working environments for the nurses of Massachusetts. I want to continue making positive changes in my profession with my contributions towards the future the MNA and the NNU.

Meredith Scannell, RN,CNM,MSN,MPH
Hudson, NH

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital
Education: MSN, University of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ, 2007; MPH, BU School Public Health, 2006; Diploma, St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of Nursing, 1995

Candidate Statement: Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.

Gary Kellenberger, RN
Blackstone, MA

Employment: Westborough State Hospital-DMH

Education: ASN, Quinsigamond Community College, 1994

Present/Past MNA Activities: Finance Committee

Candidate Statement: I am a current employee of Westborough State Hospital which will cease to exist on June 30, 2010 and I will be joining the Taunton State Hospital family of nurses. I understand the upheaval in Health-care as I am directly affected. I was part of the Department of Mental Health's downsizing initiative and closed Medfield State Hospital. Now again, we are being downsized with the closing of Westborough State Hospital. We need to keep fighting these cuts and attacks on Unit 7 of the MNA. It directly affects our patients and fellow RN's. Not only do we need to fight here locally but we need to look at the big picture nationally as well. I have proudly served on the Board of directors for the last 2 years as an At-Large Director. I would like to go back and continue to serve the membership. As a member of the BOD, I have attended the picket at Morton Hospital. I participated in round table talks regarding the National Union, voiced the memberships' wishes to our congressional delegation in Washington D.C. and Boston. I also serve as a member of the Finance Committee and Executive Board. Please vote for

me and my colleagues', on our slate. Please send them back with me to Canton to continue this strong push towards growing our membership and getting recognized on the national stage.

Trish Powers
Dorchester, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital
Education: Diploma, New England Baptist Hospital, 1985

Present/Past MNA Activities: Brigham & Women's Committee, 1995-present

Candidate Statement: Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.

At-Large Regional Region 2

Tami Hale
Worcester, MA

Employment: City of Worcester

Education: BSN, Regis College, 2010; ADN, Quinsigamond Community College, 2000

Present/Past MNA Activities: PAC member, MNA Delegate & Vice President of the Central MA AFL-CIO, Region 2 Council Delegate, Secretary for Worcester Public School Nurses bargaining unit

Candidate Statement: My name is Tami Hale. I have been a member of the MNA since 2000. I'm proud that over the past year and a half, I have functioned in various MNA activist and leadership capacities and am eager to be able to continue to do so. I am a Worcester Public School Nurse and service as Secretary of our MNA bargaining unit. I have been a member delegate of the Region 2 Council since October 2008. I am honored to serve as an MNA delegate to and am Vice President of the Central MA AFL-CIO (Labor Council) and have served in this capacity since December 2008. Because I feel that it is vital to our profession that our nurses are politically active, in October 2009, I ran for and won a seat on the MNA PAC. I work hard as a leader to build and foster relationships with other MNA members, members of other unions, political leaders and within the community. I am not afraid to stand up for what is right. I take my leadership role very seriously and am dedicated to being an advocate for nurses, our patients, and for the labor community. My involvement in the MNA is a great source of pride and I look forward to continuing this work by serving as an At-Large member of the Region 2 Council.

Cathy Watterson, RN,BSN, NCSN*Worcester, MA***Employment:** Worcester Public Schools**Education:** BSN, Worcester State College, 2002**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Region II Board Member

Candidate Statement: As an at-large candidate I would bring experience as a former chairperson for one of the largest school nursing unions in Massachusetts. As a union board member (2005-2008) I worked towards negotiating pay parity for school nurses. I have just recently been appointed the vacated position of Historian on the current union board. I am a Nationally Certified School Nurse. As a council member I would bring a voice for many hardworking school nurses in the region. The MNA School Nurse Summit has brought school nurses together to share ideas and strategies with MNA support towards achieving our contract goals and building alliances with other school nurses. As a WPS/MNA member I am proud to speak on the importance that school nurses make in the lives of children every day and work with MNA on issues affecting the region. School nurses are the frontline and safety net for many children providing nursing and referral services. School nurses coordinate care with many region nurses such as St. Vincent and UMass hospitals to provide a community healthcare resource. As an at-large candidate I would bring the passion I have for my work and my colleagues to contribute towards improving communication on issues affecting all nurses and I ask for your support in my candidacy for Region II at Large position.

Debra Holmes*Auburn, MA***Employment:** UMass Memorial**Education:** ADN, Mt Wachusett Community College, 1998**Present/Past MNA Activities:** UMMC HHH PNU-Secretary**Region 3****Peggy Kilroy, RN***Centerville, MA***Employment:** Cape Cod Healthcare**Education:** Diploma, Boston City Hospital, 1968**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Regional Council 3, Vice Chair, Regional Council 3, Former Chair, Finance Committee

Candidate Statement: As a diploma graduate from Boston city Hospital, I have spent my entire career doing various types of bedside nursing. Working in the E.R. for 18 years was both rewarding and frustrating. I currently work in the Endoscopy Dept. at Cape Cod Hospital.

I began to get involved with MNA

about 10 yrs ago when Beth Piknick managed to muster a few brave nurses to try to revive a flailing region. The group of us worked together to rebuild an organization that stands proudly today as Regional Council 3. My varied tasks have included Board member of Region 3, Secretary, Chairperson, convention Committee, and currently Vice Chair of Region 3.

Throughout my affiliation with MNA, I have supported the diligent effort to see Safe Staffing become a reality. By attending rallies and events to support MNA sponsored candidates, I have learned much about the political process. Attendance at convention always reminds me that MNA is an amazing group of tireless individuals who work toward a common goal: improving the health and safety of every person in our care.

If elected, I will continue to focus my energy on supporting Safe Staffing levels and work with Region Council 3 to inform our members about the numerous continuing educational programs available to them. I will encourage all nurses to work as a cohesive entity in striving to prevent and abolish Workplace Violence.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Kilroy, R.N.

Paula Ascii, RN*Plympton, MA***Employment:** Brigham & Women's**Education:** Associate, Massasoit Community College, 1976**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Chair Good Samaritan Hospital**Stephanie Stevens, RN, CNOR***Sandwich, MA 02563***Employment:** Jordan Hospital**Education:** Diploma, Boston City Hospital, 1971**Present/Past MNA Activities:** BOD, Region 3 Chairperson(current), Region 3 Treasurer (interim), Region 3 Vice President**Region 4****Mary Wignall, RN, BS***Peabody, MA***Employment:** NSMC Salem Hospital**Education:** BS, St Joseph's College/Maine, 1994; Diploma, Quincy City Hospital, 1958**Present/Past MNA Activities:** At-Large Regional Council**Marie Freeman, RN, CCRN, BSN***Goveland, MA***Employment:** Beverly Hospital**Education:** BSN, Salem State College, 1992; Associates, North Shore Community College, 1988**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Grievance Chair for 8 years, Co-chair for 2 years**Region 5****Jim Moura, RN***Dorchester, MA***Employment:** West Roxbury VA Medical Center**Education:** BSN, University of Rhode Island, 1974**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Secretary of MNA, MNA BOD, President Region V

Candidate Statement: Democracy, transparency and free speech should be the foundation of our union. If elected, I pledge to work on behalf of all members throughout our Association and will support policies that secure a fair and equal process that will encourage all members to speak out and have their voices be heard.

Congress on Health and Safety**Rachel Slate, BSN, BA, RN***Stoughton, MA***Employment:** Brigham & Women's Hospital**Education:** MSN-Nursing Leadership, Framingham State College, 2010; BSN, University of Massachusetts, Boston, 2006**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Education Committee Member**Kathy Sperrazza, RN, MS***Wellesley, MA***Employment:** Partners Hospice**Education:** ScD(candidate), University of MA, Lowell, 2005-current; MS, University of Rhode Island, 2004; BSN, Northeastern University, 1976**Present/Past MNA Activities:** Congress on Health & Safety

Candidate Statement: As an injured worker I was involved in the development of the MNA Health and Safety Program. My own experience with a work related illness has led me to have a unique understanding of the importance of providing prevention programs to minimize the hazardous effects of our complex work environment on nurses.

I have been proud to be a Member of the Congress on Health and Safety and to work collaboratively with the MNA staff, and other nurses from varied backgrounds who share a passion for improving the environments we work in and minimizing the risks we face every day.

The focus of the Congress is to identify potential hazards to nurses and to share that information through programs, and articles with employers, nurses and others health-care workers. Additional focus is on gaining better understanding of what is happening in the work environment and what we can do to prevent risk. MNA and members of the Congress collaborate with national, state, and local organizations dedicated to health and safety. We also work closely with bar-

gaining unit members in their facilities to provide support, information and resources to address identified health and safety concerns. We have made great strides to protect you in your workplace and to inform you of potentials that threaten your health, your profession and your livelihood.

I would be honored if you would re-elect me to this position so that I may represent you at MNA and continue this vital work on occupational safety and health.

Terri Arthur, BS, MS

East Falmouth, MA

Employment: Medical Education Systems, Jordan Hospital

Education: MSM, Lesley College, 1985; Diploma, Greenville Hospital School of Nursing, 1971; BS, Bob Jones University, 1967

Present/Past MNA Activities: Mem & former chair Congress on Health & Safety; Chair Committee for Health & Safety contract language; Nsg Dir. For SEAK seminars occupational health & safety

Candidate Statement: During my membership on the Congress on Health and Safety, I have been proud to be a part of making our occupational department at MNA become the best of any state nursing association. This has been achieved by the work of our leadership and dedicated members of the Congress on Health and Safety. Over the last few years we have been a strong advocate for workplace safety achieving success in

the areas of preventing workplace violence and abuse, safe patient handling, assisting nurses with workers' compensation, workplace hazards, air quality, chemical exposures, and contract language. Unfortunately our work is not done. New health and safety issues continue to affect our membership. Now, with the advent of the National Nurses union, we intend to work with them to nationalize these issues. I hope to continue working with this Congress to meet the challenges of health and safety for our nurses.

Elizabeth A. O'Connor, RN

Milton, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital
Education: BS, Fitchburg State College, 1976

Present/Past MNA Activities: Congress on Health and Safety, Past Board Region 5

Mary Anne Dillon, RN, BSN

Brookline, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital
Education: BSN, UMass Boston, 2003; ADN, FMCC New York, 1977

Present/Past MNA Activities: Member of H&S Congress

Congress on Nursing Practice

Linda Winslow, RN, BSN, IBCLC

Walpole, MA

Employment: Newton Wellesley

Education: BSN, UMass/Boston, 1988; Diploma, St. Luke's Hospital

Present/Past MNA Activities: Congress for Nurse Practice

Marianne Chisholm, RN

S. Boston, MA

Employment: Tufts Medical Center

Education: BSN, Rhode Island College, 1983

Present/Past MNA Activities: Congress on Nursing Practice

Bylaws Committee

William Fyfe, RN

Berkley, MA

Employment: Taunton State Hospital

Education: AD, Massasoit Community College, 1977

Present/Past MNA Activities: BOD, Labor Education Task Force, By-Laws Committee

Janet Spicer, RN

Newton, MA

Employment: Faulkner Hospital

Education: BSN, BU School of Nursing, 1976

Present/Past MNA Activities: Convention committee, Board Policy Committee

Nomination Committee

Elizabeth Kennedy

South Easton, MA

Employment: City of Brockton

Education: RN, Faulkner Hospital, 1956

Present/Past MNA Activities: Bylaws, Nursing Practice, Nominations Committee

MNA Final Ballot, 2010

Vice President, Labor*

1 for 2 years

Karen Coughlin
Barbara Norton

Treasurer, Labor*

1 for 2 years

Ann Marie McDonagh

Director, Labor*, 5 for 2 years

(1 per Region)

Region 1

Sandra Hottin

Region 2

Ellen Smith

Region 3

Donna Dudik

Region 4

Tiffany Diaz Bercy

Region 5

Barbara Tiller

Michael Robinson

Director At-Large, Labor*

3 for 2 years

Mary Lou Stock

Beth Amsler

Marie Ritacco

Jean Cabral

Paula Ascí

Diane Michael

Director At-Large, General*

4 for 2 years

Fabiano Bueno

Deborah Donahue

Thomas Adams

Katie Murphy

Ginny Ryan

Meredith Scannell

Gary Kellenberger

Trish Powers

Nominations Committee

5 for 2 years (1 per Region)

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

Elizabeth Kennedy

Region 4

Region 5

Bylaws Committee

5 for 2 years

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

William Fyfe

Region 4

Region 5

Janet Spicer

Congress on Nursing Practice

4 for 2 years

Linda Winslow

Marianne Chisholm

Congress on Health Policy

4 for 2 years

Congress on Health & Safety

6 for 2 years

Rachel Slate

Kathy Sperrazza

Terri Arthur

Elizabeth O'Connor

Mary Anne Dillon

Center for Nursing Ethics & Human Rights, 2 for 2 years

At-Large Position in Regional Council, 2 for 2 years

Region 1

Region 2

Tami Hale

Cathy Watterson

Debra Holmes

Region 3

Peggy Kilroy

Paula Ascí

Stephanie Stevens

Region 4

Mary Wignall

Marie Freeman

Region 5

Jim Moura

*General means an MNA member in good standing and does not have to be a member of the labor program. Labor means an MNA member in good standing who is also a labor program member. Labor Program Member means a non-RN Healthcare Professional who is a member in good standing of the labor program.