

Bios of candidates for MNA office, 2011

Editor's Note: All biographies are printed exactly as they were submitted by individual nominees.

President, Labor

Donna Kelly-Williams, RN

Arlington, MA

Employment: Cambridge Hospital

Education: MA, Cambridge College, 2009; Certificate, Harvard Law School Trade Union Program, 2009; BA, University of Massachusetts, 2007; AD/RN Lasell College, 1978

Present/Past MNA Offices: President 2009-present, MNAVP, Regional Council 5 VP, Former chair Cambridge Hospital MNA Bargaining Unit.

Candidate Statement: As a practicing registered nurse and full time staff nurse, I continue to be humbled by the trust and confidence patients and our communities have in our profession. We have a tremendous obligation to protect ourselves, our fellow nurses, healthcare professionals and the patients entrusted to our care every day. Over the past decade MNA's commitment to have a limit set on the number of patients a nurse would care for at one time has brought unprecedented recognition for the MNA's devotion to the care of all patients' of the commonwealth. Nurses across the state are in contentious negotiations with staffing, layoffs, retirement and healthcare benefits, and restructuring, and I have been there, attending membership meetings, walking picket lines, and meeting with state and local legislators to support these and all nurses and healthcare professionals across the state. I have also embraced the opportunity to travel to many states across the country representing MNA and NNU as unionized nurses have stood up for their rights. I truly know what MNA members are experiencing across the state and am fully committed to continuing to serve, support, and promote all Members of the Massachusetts Nurses Association.

Secretary, Labor

Ellen Farley, RN-BC

Middleborough, MA

Employment: Taunton State Hospital

Education: AD, Bristol Community College, 1979

Present/Past MNA Offices: MNA Board of Directors, Center for Ethics and Human Rights, By-Laws Committee, STAT Team, Region 3 Board of Directors, Local Taunton State Hospital Secretary, Unit 7 Executive Board Secretary.

Candidate Statement: I am an active member

in the MNA attending meetings and participating in many events such as our annual Convention, Leadership Summits, State Council, and pickets supporting others in their time of need. I work politically helping with Legislative meetings/drops at the Statehouse and in their districts, and have testified at the Statehouse on behalf of our bills. I have also worked closely with the District Attorney to ensure we have a safe work environment.

I feel being unified, well organized, and having the ability to see the big picture for the future of staff nursing is very important. I have supported joining NNU so we have a voice in Washington DC to promote those things we as staff nurses need in order to deliver good nursing care.

I have been an advocate for my colleagues promoting the goal of MNA to address workplace violence, documenting assaults on staff and supporting employees who have been victims of workplace violence. I have addressed workplace violence in several forums. I was instrumental in the establishment of a "Safety for All" Committee at my hospital which was comprised of three unions and administration to evaluate workplace violence issues. I have also promoted contract language surrounding issues related to safety in the workplace to the Commonwealth during negotiations, and am extremely active on my local level. I have spoken nationally sharing my story and promoting workplace violence prevention and programs.

Director, Labor

Region 1

Ann Lewin, RN

Turner Falls, MA

Employment: Baystate Franklin Medical Center

Education: BSN, BU School of Nursing, 1982; BA, Grinnell College, 1972 Major: Russian language

Present/Past MNA Offices: BU, Junior Chair, BU, Senior Chair, MNA Board Member, NNU founding convention alternate, participant DC trip 2009 & 2011, participant Region 1 meetings.

Region 2

Patricia Mayo, RN

Fiskdale, MA

Employment: St. Vincent Hospital

Education: Nursing, Worcester City Hospital School of Nursing, 1965

Present/Past MNA Offices: Board of Directors, Executive Council, Finance Committee,

Region 2 Council, Region 2 Treasurer.

Region 3

Karen Gavigan, RN

Berkley, MA

Employment: Steward Good Samaritan

Education: BSN, Curry College, 2000; Diploma, Massachusetts School of Nursing, 1975

Present/Past MNA Offices: Co-chair Good Samaritan, BOD 2009-2011, Mass Nurse Editorial Committee.

Candidate Statement: I have been in nursing for 36 years; I began as diploma nurse graduating from Mass General Hospital. I went on to obtain a BSN at Curry College. I have been involved in MNA for many years I believe that it's so important to have representation from bedside nurses on the Board of Directors at the MNA. We are in the trenches with the patients and we need to advocate for their safety and for quality care.

I have been the Co-chair at Good Samaritan for 6 years and feel that we have made progress within our facility making our voice heard. I do feel that in this for profit, corporate environment we need to be more vigilant in our quest for appropriate RN staffing to deliver the best care that our patients deserve. I'm glad that MNA is part of the National Nurses Union and I believe that there is strength in numbers. I also believe that we have an obligation to new nurses to educate them about the improvements that we have won by being part of a union and working for strong contracts. Nurses have power in our hospitals and our union gives us a voice at the workplace. I have been on the Board of Directors for the last 2 years and am involved with the editorial committee for the Mass Nurse and the Mass Nurses Foundation. I have been committed to working hard and learning about the concerns of nurses around the region and the state. I would like to continue to work on the Board and am asking for your vote for the Region 3 Director of Labor.

Region 4

Kathleen "Kay" Marshall, RN

Newton Junction, NH

Employment: Anna Jaques Hospital

Education: ADN, Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, 1980; LPN, Edna McConnell Clark School of Practical Nursing Princeton Hospital, 1977; North Andover High School, 1973

Present/Past MNA Offices: Bylaws Committee
Candidate Statement: I have been an active member in MNA since 1981, and currently sit on the negotiating team at Anna Jaques Hospital and have for many years. I am

proud to say that I was fortunate enough to have been a delegate at the founding convention of NNU and I believe that both MNA and the NNU share my concerns and beliefs concerning Safe Staffing/Patient Care/and the Bedside Nurse.

I have always strived to continue and improve care for my patients and for those with whom I work. I am concerned with the status of our health care system and the workload of nurses at the bedside and feel very strongly about "Safe Staffing Ratio's" and have worked toward this goal which I share with MNA.

If elected I would continue to work to obtain said "Safe Staffing Ratio's", continue to do what I can to improve health care system, and continue to focus on improving conditions of the bedside nurse. It is my belief that with these goals in mind the care of the individual patient will greatly improve. We are all our patient's Advocate which is one of our greatest roles.

In being a member of the Board I feel I can be most effective in promoting and obtaining these goals.

Patricia Rogers Sullivan

North Andover, MA

Employment: Lawrence General Hospital

Education: BSN, Thomas Edison State College, 2011; Masters, Cambridge College, 2008; ADN, Lowell General Hospital/ Middlesex Community College, 1983

Present/Past MNA Offices: MNA BOD, MNA Policy Committee, Region 4 Regional Council

Region 5

Dan Rec, RN

Bridgewater, MA

Employment: Faulkner Hospital

Education: BSN, Northeastern University, 1985

Present/Past MNA Offices: Board of Directors, Director, Labor Region 5, Regional Council 5

Candidate Statement: I started my nursing career in 1985. I have always been an active member in MNA and my bargaining unit of Faulkner Hospital. Currently I hold the offices of Board of Directors of MNA, Region 5 Council and Convention Committee. I have also participated in multiple subcommittees at the MNA as well. I strongly believe that unity and solidarity will contribute to making positive changes in my profession as MNA and NNU move forward.

I am asking to be reelected to another term so I can continue to advocate for registered nurses in our state and country by taking action in strengthening our commitment in safe patient care.

Michael Robinson, RN

Dorchester, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital

Education: Diploma, Brockton Hospital School of Nursing, 1982

Candidate Statement: After graduating from the Brockton Hospital School of Nursing and starting my nursing career, I became actively involved in the MNA at Jordan Hospital as a MNA negotiating committee member. I later joined the staff at the Brigham and Women's hospital where I have been a staff nurse for the past twenty-five years. Twenty of those years I've served as an elected member of the negotiating committee, most recently as is Vice Chair.

I have a long history of putting the safety of the patients and staff at the forefront because of its paramount importance to the best outcomes for the patients we care for and the working conditions and practice of the nurses the MNA represents. The membership of the MNA is the key to our Association's future and the voice of all the Associations' nurses is needed to show the direction that the MNA needs to go.

I am dedicated to advocating for the profession, our Union and the democratic fiber that is the essence of our Association. I believe achieving retiree health benefits, pension plan language, patient staffing legislation, and organizing the unorganized are all achievable goals for the Association. Goals I look forward to helping make come true. -Respectfully, Michael Robinson

Director At Large, Labor

Carolyn Fahey, RN

Middleboro, MA

Employment: Jordan Hospital

Education: BSN, Jacksonville University, Attending; Associates, Labore College, 1995

Present/Past MNA Offices: Jordan Hospital Bargaining Committee

Kathy Metzger, RN

Taunton, MA

Employment: Signature Health Care Brockton

Education: Diploma, Boston Children's Hospital, 1978; BA Legal Ed, UMass Boston, 2003

Present/Past MNA Offices: Chair Signature Healthcare, Region3 Board member, BOD, Congress on Health Policy and legislations, Workplace Violence Task Force, Executive Board member Plymouth Labor Council AFL-CIO.

Candidate Statement: I have been an active MNA member for many years. I was there when we took the vote to disaffiliate with ANA and I was there when we voted to be part of the NNU. Both were historical moments for bed side nurse and I was proud to have been part of both.

As a MNA member I have spent many hours at the State House lobbying for the

passage of our Safe Staffing bill, Workplace Violence bill, Assault bill and Safe Patient handling bill. I have worked diligently towards improving working conditions for myself and my fellow nurses. I have been part of panels which gave testimony to legislative committees and had a part in the passage of our Assault bill which the Governor signed into law last summer.

I held a seat on the Council for Health Policy, workplace Violence Task force. I currently hold a seat on the Region 3 Council and Plymouth-Bristol Labor Council. Currently I am the Chair of my local bargaining unit at Signature HealthCare Brockton Hospital.

In 2001 my hospital went on strike for 103 days for mandatory overtime language in which we were successful I have also supported my fellow nurses during their labor actions by walking their picket lines. I have been part of demonstrations at the State House and attended a rally in New Bedford to support workers and their collective bargaining rights.

I attend the leadership summit each year and value the time I spend networking with fellow nurses across the State. At this years summit was part of a discussion to create networks of hospitals to strengthen our voices and work together to improve work conditions and patient safety.

I presently honored to hold a seat on the Board of Directors and am seeking to retain that seat so I can be a part of the good work being done to ensure quality health care for our patients, safe working conditions and to continue to meet the needs of the bedside nurse.

Trish Powers, RN

Boston, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital

Education: Diploma, New England Baptist School of Nursing, 1985

Present/Past MNA Offices: BWH Negotiating team member, 1993-present

Candidate Statement: I started my nursing career at the old Boston City Hospital in 1985 after graduating from New England Baptist SON. I got my first taste of how powerful a group can be when unified when I as a 20yr old G.N. went on strike after working at BCH for only two weeks. We were out for three days and returned to better and fair wages as well as improved staffing and safety practices. The last nineteen years I have been a staff nurse at Brigham and Women's Hospital in the OR Trauma unit,seventeen of those years I have been a MNA representative/committee member. I have been lucky enough to be part of a strong committee at BWH as we have successfully gotten the first

Kentucky River language in the country as well as the first to get staffing ratio language. I was part of the team who were successful in getting the 3300 nurses at BWH to take a strike vote a few years ago, the highest in the history of MNA 95%. We fortunately did not go on strike and were successful in maintaining our benefits and creating stronger staffing and safety language. I was honored to receive the MNA Kathryn McGinn-Cutler award in 2006 for my efforts in ensuring that the nurses at BWH have a safe working environment, air quality, personal protection ie. "garb", education etc.. If elected I will work vigorously for the issues I am passionate about including one voice one vote, keeping members informed as well as encouraging members to get involved, safe and rational staffing for ALL MNA facilities. Staffing language must be strong for both the Urban hospital as well as the community setting. Tip O'Neill said he credited his many victories for elective office to the fact that he asked the people to vote for him....so I am asking that you vote for me Trish Powers R.N a proud MNA member and Brigham nurse.

Michael Savoy

Dartmouth, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital

Education: BSN, UMass Boston, 1996

Present/Past Offices: At Large Committee Brigham & Women's Hospital

Candidate Statement: I have been a Union Emergency Department staff nurse for 14 years, for the last 9 of those years I have been an At Large Representative on the Brigham and Women's Hospital MNA Negotiating Committee.

I am a staunch advocate of safe and sane staffing and working conditions. Conditions that allow the bedside nurse to provide the very best care for their patients. Every day I am impressed by the dedication of nurses to their patients in sometimes difficult circumstances. Consequently, I am dedicated to advocating for the profession and our Union. I will continue to support and advocate for the democratic roots of our association and I believe that together we can actually achieve: improved retiree health benefits, improved pension plan language, safe and rational patient staffing legislation, a ban on mandatory OT and that we will further the drive to organize the unorganized nurses in Massachusetts. The involvement of all members of the MNA is the key to our Association's future and the voice of the all the Associations' nurses is needed to guide the direction of the MNA. With your support I will endeavor to carry out these goals and to be your advocate on the Board of Directors.

Thank you for your vote.

Colleen Wolfe, RN

Charlton, MA

Employment: UMass Memorial

Education: ADN, Quinsigamond Community College, 1995

Present/Past MNA Offices: BOD 09-11(at Large-Labor), Finance Com 09-present, Co-chair UMass Memorial BU, Regional 2 Council member

Candidate Statement: It has been a true privilege to serve on the MNA Board of Directors over the two years. I have walked with many of you on picket lines from around Massachusetts, Chicago and Washington DC. I have witnessed universal determination to ban the practice of mandatory overtime, strengthen workplace violence laws and insist on safe staffing on every unit in every hospital. On your behalf, I have met with legislatures informing them of the dangers of understaffing and mandatory overtime and stressing the need for regulatory relief. I have written to my local Worcester newspaper in support of the nurses at St. Vincent who, along with the nurses at Tuff's, took the ultimate stand against corporate tyranny which ultimately led to landmark maximum staffing ratio's. I have served on committees dedicated to patient and nurse advocacy.

There is much more to do to protect and advocate for our patients and our profession but we can do it. We are the nurses and yes we have an agenda! If re elected, I pledge to continue working on your behalf for safe staffing, protected health care and pension benefits, and advocate for our patients and nursing licenses at the local, regional, state and national levels. --In Unity, Colleen Wolfe RN

Nora A Watts, RN

Westborough, MA

Employment: Newton Wellesley Hospital

Education: BSN, Northeastern University, 1975

Present/Past MNA Offices: BOD-2009-present, MNA representative to NNU PAC, MNA BOD 1999-2008, MNA Treasurer 2004-2008, Cabinet of Labor Relations, MNA PAC, Past MNA PAC chairperson, Newton Wellesley Hospital nurses/collective bargaining committee member, past co-chair, past negotiating team member.

Candidate Statement: I have been a proud Union nurse/MNA member for 28 years. I've spent most of that time as an activist. I've been a local unit chairperson and served MNA members statewide in many capacities. We may have met on your picket line, at the statehouse, at convention, or at a leadership conference. I'm very proud of

the organization that our MNA members have built. It was an honor to serve as one of the delegates in Arizona when nurses from around the nation gathered to form the National Nurses Union.

Having come so far, the aggressive attack on labor unions this year has come as quite a shock. Nationally our sisters and brothers in the labor movement are being stripped of their bargaining rights on a wholesale level. Locally aggressive discipline is being used in an effort to silence nurses' voices. Bargaining is tougher. Strikes have loomed as possibility.

As labor works through our current challenges, I'm very glad to be a member of MNA/NNU. Our union does not sit silently by while corporate healthcare tries to undermine our ability to advocate for patients and provide safe care. We continue to achieve good contract language and to organize more nurses to take up the fight for safe patient care. We must remember that our progress was not made in isolation but by working collectively in support of one another. Today more than ever nurses need to look beyond the boundaries of our individual bargaining units. We must act in unity. Our future depends on it.

It has been an honor to serve on the MNA Board of Directors. I ask for your vote so that I may continue to work on your behalf.

Director At-Large, General

Kathlyn Logan

Spencer, MA

Employment: UMass Memorial University

Education: Associate, Quinsigamond Community College

Present/Past MNA Offices: Negotiating team, Staffing Advisory, Bargaining unit rep, Region 2 Board of Director, Central Mass Labor Counsel Vice President, Bargaining unit Vice Chair, Bargaining Unit Chair, Labor Management Chair, MNA Management Chair, MNA Leadership Fellow receipt, Elaine Cooley Award, Susan Gagne Nurse Addiction Award, MNA Board of Directors-General Labor, NNU Delegate

Candidate Statement: I have been a staff nurses for over 33 years. During my career I have seen many changes in health care, but the one change that needs to be done is safe patient staffing and the elimination of mandatory overtime. My goal for nursing is to be able to have working conditions that eliminates the threat of poor patient outcome, unsafe staffing and to have the ability to mentor new nurses into this wonderful profession.

I have been a member of the board of directors since 2005 and I want to be able continue to work with the members of the board so that we can achieve the goals we

have set forward. to do. I believe in a democratic membership that works with all nurses through the State, the Nation and the World. In Unity we can achieve anything.

Paula Ryan, RNC

Norwell, MA

Employment: Quincy Medical Center

Education: Diploma, Quincy Hospital School of Nursing, 1967

Present/Past MNA Offices: Director at Large-General

Candidate Statement: I have been proud member of MNA since 1967 when Quincy City Hospital was the first to be organized by MNA. I have served as a committee member for over thirty-five years. As Chair for almost twenty years, I have had the opportunity to lead and advocate for nurses at the local level. It has been an interesting and valuable experience.

In this fast changing and challenging health care environment it is evident that our high standard of practice is being negatively impacted. We are seeing a subtle erosion of our profession and standard of care. Ones that set these standards are now ignoring their importance. The policies that guide our practice are disregarded in order to facilitate leadership and managements' alternative goals. Our concerns regarding our practice and the lack of resources needed are minimized and not valued. The recognition of labor and the act of bargaining in good faith is becoming non existent. The greed for power and profits of enterprise has impacted our ability to provide high quality and safe care to our patients and community. This is not acceptable. We are the guardians of patient care and advocates for their well-being!

We have much to accomplish. We can succeed with defined goals and a clear vision. Do not underestimate our power.

Having served on the BOD this past year, I have gained further insight into the inner structure of MNA. I would like to continue to be involved in the process of decision-making and directing a successful future for our practice and profession.

MNA is your voice. United we can make a difference.

Please consider me when you vote.--In Unity, Paula Ryan

Meredith Scannell, RN

Hudson, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital

Education: Diploma, St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing, 1995; Master's Public Health, Boston University, 2006; Master's Nursing, UMDNJ

Candidate Statement: I am an Emergency Department staff nurse working at the

Brigham and Women's Hospital with an extensive interest in patient healthcare and I have been a nurse advocate since the beginning of my nursing career. After graduating from St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of Nursing and starting my first nursing position I soon found myself imbedded and winning in a National Labor and Relation's Lawsuit. This lawsuit was nationally recognized and instrumental in passing legislation for whistle blower protection for all nurses in Massachusetts. Having an advance nursing degree as a certified nurse-midwife and Master's degree in Public Health from Boston University I have a comprehensive understanding of what is needed in healthcare to ensure that patients are given the best care without compromising the safety of the nurse. Every day I am impressed by the dedication that nurses have continued to express for their patients even in the most difficult of circumstances. I am dedicated to continue my advocacy for nursing profession and our Union. I will continue to support the democratic roots of our association and I believe that together we can actually achieve: improved retiree health benefits, improved pension plan language, safe and rational patient staffing legislation, a ban on mandatory OT and further the drive to organize the unorganized nurses in Massachusetts. The involvement of all members of the MNA is the key to our Association's future. The voice of all Associations' nurses is needed to guide the direction of the MNA.

Susan Wright Thomas, RN

Hull, MA

Employment: Cambridge Hospital

Education: Diploma, Brockton Hospital School of Nursing, 1993; MS, University of Massachusetts-Amherst -Public Health, 1982; BA, Chatham College, 1972

Present/Past MNA Offices: Cambridge Hospital Bargaining unit Secretary, Awards Committee, Labor Education Committee, Convention subcommittee

Candidate Statement: We are living and working in difficult times. Our rights to negotiate fair and reasonable working conditions are being assaulted. Our knowledge and professional judgement and disrespected and denigrated by "experts" who assert that they know what we need to do and say to give care. Many of these experts have never provided direct care to patients. At times I get discouraged, but I have decided to put that aside and work harder to protect myself, my family, my friends, and my patients from elements that would have us give in. The Nurses are not broken and we will not be. Staff Nurses are the true experts. I believe the MNA/NNU presents the strongest front

and the best opportunity to affect the working lives of nurses and the safety of patients. I choose to run for the Board of Directors in order to help make decisions that promote the progressive courses of action that move the MNA forward as a national leader in the protection of the rights of working families and the right of all of us to safe and effective health care.

Labor Program Member

Gloria Bardsley, OTR/L

N. Grafton, MA

Region 2

Employment: DDS Glavin Regional Center

Education: Associate's (Occup. Therapy), Quinsigamond Community College, 1978; BA, (O.T.), Worcester State College, 1998

Present/Past MNA Offices: Board of Directors 12/2009-present, Unit 7 Executive Board 3/2009-present, attended Reg 2 activities, participated in STAT events

Candidate Statement: My name is Gloria Bardsley and I work as an Occupational Therapist at the Glavin Regional Center/Department of Developmental Services (D.D.S.).

Since 1999, I have served the Massachusetts Nurses Association in various roles including Chapter Chairperson at the Glavin Regional Center, Unit 7 Executive Board Member and member of the Massachusetts Nurses Association Board of Directors.

As a health care professional, I believe it is important that all disciplines be represented and heard. Throughout my career, I have advocated for all members of the M.N.A., regardless of discipline.

I hope you will support me so I can continue to represent you.

Thank you for your consideration when you vote, --Gloria Bardsley OTR/L

Nominations Committee

Lynne Demoura, RN, BSN

Taunton, MA

Employment: Taunton State Hospital

Education: BSN, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, 1998; BS, Bridgewater State College, Major: Psychology, 1992

Candidate Statement: I am interested in initiating active participation with the Massachusetts Nurses Association. I am currently employed with the Department of Mental Health at Taunton State Hospital as an RN III. I am well educated holding BS in Psychology and a BS in Nursing. I am committed to providing quality compassionate holistic nursing care. I have a variety of work experiences including age specific, psychiatric and medical surgical nursing. I am passionate about the issues nurses face in their day-to-day work environments as well as performance improvement initiatives

for the patients we care for. I am committed to the continued pursuit of maintaining excellent nursing practices and coordinating efficient quality nursing care within the sometimes challenging and difficult confounds provided. I am proudly submitting a consent to serve for the MNA 2011 Elections for the Nominations Committee.

Mary Ann Gillan, RN

Brookline, MA

Employment: Cambridge Health Alliance

Education: Associates, Bunker Hill Community College, 2006

Patricia Mayo, RN

Fiskdale, MA

Employment: St. Vincent Hospital

Education: Nursing, Worcester City Hospital School of Nursing, 1965

Present/Past MNA Offices: Board Directors, Executive Council, Finance Committee, Region 2 Council, Region 2 Treasurer

Beth Piknick

Centerville, MA

Employment: Cape Cod Hospital

Education: BS, Lesley University, 1999; Diploma, Faulkner Hospital School of Nursing, 1971

Present/Past MNA Offices: Congress Nursing Practice, MNA President

Candidate Statement: During my 40 year history of involvement in MNA, I have met many members on picket lines, at region meetings, at legislative fund raisers and walkthroughs at the state house. I have met many nursing advocates and many patient advocates. My practice has changed dramatically over the past couple of decades. Health care has changed dramatically as well during that time. I have supported leaving a national nurses organization that does not speak for me as a nurse at the bedside. I have supported the joining of a new national nurses that does speak for me as a nurse at the bedside. I am watching as nurses all over the country and our state are being pushed to the wall to successfully gain contracts that protect their patients via staffing language and mandatory overtime language. They have fought back against concessionary bargaining and won these victories.

I believe I have a strong sense of those who support the philosophy of the MNA as an entire organization. I feel that with your support and vote, I will be able to encourage other members to participate and run for the various boards and committees which are vacant and open for our election process. Thank you.

Meredith Scannell, RN

Hudson, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital

Education: Diploma, St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing, 1995; Master's Public Health, Boston University, 2006; Master's Nursing, UMDNJ

Candidate Statement: I am an Emergency Department staff nurse working at the Brigham and Women's Hospital with an extensive interest in patient healthcare and I have been a nurse advocate since the beginning of my nursing career. After graduating from St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of Nursing and starting my first nursing position I soon found myself imbedded and winning in a National Labor and Relation's Lawsuit. This lawsuit was nationally recognized and instrumental in passing legislation for whistle blower protection for all nurses in Massachusetts. Having an advance nursing degree as a certified nurse-midwife and Master's degree in Public Health from Boston University I have a comprehensive understanding of what is needed in healthcare to ensure that patients are given the best care without compromising the safety of the nurse. Every day I am impressed by the dedication that nurses have continued to express for their patients even in the most difficult of circumstances. I am dedicated to continue to support the democratic roots of our association and I believe that together we can actually achieve: improved retiree health benefits, improved pension plan language, safe and rational patient staffing legislation, a ban on mandatory OT and further the drive to organize the unorganized nurses in Massachusetts. The involvement of all members of the MNA is the key to our Association's future. The voice of all Associations' nurses is needed to guide the direction of the MNA.

Bylaws Committee

Linda Condon, RN, BSN

Brockton, MA

Employment: Morton Hospital/ Norwood Hospital

Education: BSN, UMass Dartmouth, 1982

Present/Past MNA Offices: Nominations Committee, Testified for MNA before Commonwealth of MA Legislature on Workplace Violence and Safe Staffing, MNA- Brockton Hospital Negotiations Committee 1991-2005, MNA Brockton Hospital Negotiations Co-chair 1997-2005

Candidate Statement: Throughout my career my focus has always been quality patient care by promoting my profession and it's intrinsic value. I have actively engaged in promoting my nursing profession and will continue to do so in order to address the challenges facing us. A strong, organized active association is the key to our success in protecting our patients and promoting our profession. I respectfully request your vote. In Unity,

Linda Condon

Patricia Healy, RN

Florence, MA

Employment: BWH

Education: BSN, University of Mass, 1977

Present/Past MNA Offices: Board of Directors, Congress on Health Policy, Bylaws Committee, Awards Committee, Pres-Reg I

Betsy Prescott, RN, BSN

Newton, MA

Employment: SEMC

Education: BSN, Framingham State College, 2008; Diploma, St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing

Present/Past MNA Offices: PAC-Region 5, Delegate for Boston Labor Council, Region 5 Secretary, Chair SEMC

Candidate Statement: I have had the honor of being an MNA member since 1979, the start of my career at SEMC. I love to be part of the profession that is most entrusted and admired by the public. I have grown professionally and so has my active participation in MNA. As a leader for SEMC I strive everyday to protect our patients and their families. Nurses must be able to practice safely and I will fight for what the staff and patients need. To enable them, to want to be part of the SEMC family. My MNA career started as a floor representative, as a committee member, then an officer. I have participated in 4 contract negotiating sessions. I am the current chair. I am a proud Region 5 member, the secretary and attend all region 5 meetings. As an officer, I participate in the regional summits. I am an active PAC member and hold a region 5 seat, as well as a delegate for the Greater Boston Labor council. I am also a proud member of NNU, attending the first Organizing Institute and participating in the Staff Nurse Assembly. I have spoken on behalf of Steward nurses in Michigan and Minnesota and traveled to FL to help organize new NNU facilities. I am currently volunteering at Holy Family to support our brothers and sisters to help them learn what could be, a member of MNA. I will continue to serve Region 5 and MNA/NNU if elected.

Congress on Nursing Practice

Linda Barton, RN,CCRN,BS

Stoughton, MA

Employment: Norwood Hospital

Education: BS, Curry College, 2007; AD, Mass Bay Community College, 2001

Present/Past MNA Offices: Congress on Nursing Practice

Candidate Statement: I am pleased to submit my name for re-appointment to a position on the Congress of Nursing Practice. I understand that my commitment is for 2 years.

I am a member of the Practice Coun-

cil at Norwood Hospital. As such, I strive to improve the process by which nursing delivers excellent care to the patient. I am committed to providing education in Advanced Directives/End-of-Life Planning to both healthcare providers and the community, in the effort to improve the healthcare delivery system overall. I teach ACLS and BLS at the hospital and am proud to make the educational experience one of the quality infused with some humor. I also teach ACLS on a regular basis at the MNA.

I believe I can continue to support the nursing profession in Massachusetts by serving on the MNA Congress of Nursing Practice. Thank you, Linda Barton

Mary Doyle Keohane, RN

Abington, MA

Employment: MEEI

Education: Diploma, St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of Nursing, 1977

Present/Past MNA Offices: Congress on Nursing Practice, Domestic Violence Education Planning Comm

Maureen F Mogan, RN

North Weymouth, MA

Employment: University of Massachusetts-Boston

Education: MSN, University of Texas, 1974; BSN, Fitchburg State College, 1976; Diploma, Children's Hospital School of Nursing, 1972

Elizabeth Sparks, RN,CNOR

Norwood, MA

Employment: Newton Wellesley Hospital

Education: Associate, Massasoit Community College, 1991

Present/Past MNA Offices: Cabinet, MNA PAC-Vice Chair, BOD, Bylaws Committee Chair, Emergency Preparedness-Chair

Candidate Statement: My name is Betty Sparks and I am an RN at Newton Wellesley Hospital. I am running for the Congress on Nursing Practice. I have been very active on the MNA PAC and am currently serving as it's Vice Chair. I am very concerned with the direction in which our hospitals are going. They are forcing us to practice nursing as if we are on an assembly line and our patients are the products being produced. Picture Lucy and Ethel at the candy factory and the conveyor belt speeding up and the candy falling off and being misplaced, only our conveyor belts (stretchers) are full of patients not peppermint patties! We need to speak up and slowdown those belts or our patients who rely on us to take care of them will be the ones hurt. We need to be the ones at the table with our elected officials when health care bills come across their desks. We are the ones who do the work everyday and we need to be there to tell them how to improve the quality of healthcare. We need to make sure

that quality healthcare is not sacrificed in order to increase profits for the hospitals and the insurance companies. We need to make sure that our patients get the best care that we can provide. We need to make sure that the hospitals and insurance companies support the care that our patients need and deserve. I have deployed in many disasters, including Hurricane Katrina and the earthquake in Haiti, I have seen first hand what happens when the system does not take care of it's people. We need to hold our elected officials, the hospitals and the insurance companies accountable! Good quality healthcare starts with RN's at the bedside practicing nursing as only they know how to do..

Leann Tibets, RN, BSN, CMSRN

Dedham, MA

Employment: Steward St. Elizabeth's Medical Center

Education: BSN, Curry College, 2004; ADN, Laboure College, 1980

Present/Past MNA Offices: Congress on Nursing Practice

Candidate Statement: My Nursing career has spanned over 30 years, the majority of which have been at the bedside. Advances in technology and documentation requirements to name a few, further remove RN's from direct patient care. Demands are constantly made of our time; prioritizing is a strategy for survival. Multi-tasking becomes necessary.

Nurses wear many hats, and all our jobs hold gravity. Frail elders are often in our care. We find ourselves relying on the assistance of ancillary help to be our "eyes" and "ears", hoping to keep that elder out of fall statistics. We must be an advocate for them. Assessing pain, as well as re-assessing after dosing is another important intervention. Patient teaching and communicating with families are important for outcomes.

The Health Care Industry is affected by our current economic climate. This year, I was witness to my first 'reduction in force', which had a direct impact on five of my co-workers. The unit where I work, Heme/Onc, has been closed several times due to low census, requiring staff to float to other units for days on end.

RN's all have a story to share. Themes are similar. I have learned so much through the years from my patients and their families. I have also learned by example of my fellow Nurses. Resilience is a trait common to most Nurses.

Through my current service to the Congress for Nursing Practice, I have grown to understand about the workings of the MNA more fully. I have become a more active member. I have engaged with my colleagues at Congress meetings and addressed issues

that directly impact our practice. Work accomplished on this committee is vital and impacts us all in our day-to-day practice.

Congress on Health and Safety

Meredith Scannell, RN

Hudson, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital
Education: Diploma, St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing, 1995; Master's Public Health, Boston University, 2006; Master's Nursing, UMDNJ

Candidate Statement: I am an Emergency Department staff nurse working at the Brigham and Women's Hospital with an extensive interest in patient healthcare and I have been a nurse advocate since the beginning of my nursing career. After graduating from St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of Nursing and starting my first nursing position I soon found myself imbedded and winning in a National Labor and Relation's Lawsuit. This lawsuit was nationally recognized and instrumental in passing legislation for whistle blower protection for all nurses in Massachusetts. Having an advance nursing degree as a certified nurse-midwife and Master's degree in Public Health from Boston University I have a comprehensive understanding of what is needed in healthcare to ensure that patients are given the best care without compromising the safety of the nurse. Every day I am impressed by the dedication that nurses have continued to express for their patients even in the most difficult of circumstances. I am dedicated to continue to support the democratic roots of our association and I believe that together we can actually achieve: improved retiree health benefits, improved pension plan language, safe and rational patient staffing legislation, a ban on mandatory OT and further the drive to organize the unorganized nurses in Massachusetts. The involvement of all members of the MNA is the key to our Association's future. The voice of all Associations' nurses is needed to guide the direction of the MNA.

Mary Havlicek Cornacchia, RN, BSN

Westborough, MA

Employment: Tufts Medical Center

Education: BSN, Fitchburg State College, 1988

Present/Past MNA Offices: Currently serving as Vice Chair of Bargaining Committee at Tufts

Candidate Statement: My name is Mary Havlicek Cornacchia and I have been employed at Tufts Medical Center for 23 years with experience in clinical research and med-surg nursing. It is only in the last two years that I have become an "active" member of the MNA. Serving as vice chair of the Tufts bargaining unit has been an

eye-opening experience on all levels-locally, statewide, and nationally. Previously I had been content to go to work, do my shift, and go home- now I am excited to tackle the health and safety issues that face each and every nurse on a daily basis. The nursing profession today is in a constant state of flux...it is both exhilarating and challenging. It is difficult to stay on top of things as an individual but the MNA provides amazing resources. I bring an enthusiasm and strong need to be involved in addressing the health and safety issues that nurses face in their practice each and every day. Having sustained a work related injury myself, I am very interested in raising awareness and working toward resolution of problems on all levels. If I am elected to the Congress on Health & Safety I will commit to raising awareness, researching issues, educating members-nurses, the community, and legislators. It is my hope to help empower individual nurses and to work towards a healthier and safer environment for one and all.

Congress on Health Policy

Tina Russell, RN

East Bridgewater, MA

Employment: Retired

Education: Diploma, Brockton Hospital School of Nursing, 1962

Present/Past MNA Offices: Congress on Health Policy, MNA Finance Committee, Convention Planning & Safe Patient Care Task Force

Katherine Sandell, RN, BSN

Boston, MA

Employment: Boston Medical Center

Education: MSN-CNS, UMass-Boston, Present; BSN, UMass-Boston, 2006; BS, UMass-Amherst, 2003

Candidate Statement: Currently healthcare and healthcare policy is undergoing major changes. I feel that nursing should have one of the biggest seats at the table when it comes to creating and passing new healthcare policies and laws. There is a definite need for healthcare reform in our society due to the high costs of healthcare in this country, but it needs to be done correctly and with input from all members of the health care delivery team. Nursing is one of the major members of this team and by becoming a part of the Congress on Health Policy I hope to give nurses a voice at the table on what we think would work and be beneficial during this reform.

I am currently a nurse at Boston Medical Center in the CCU and have been an MNA member my whole nursing career. I am pursuing my master's degree in nursing at

the University of Massachusetts, Boston to become a Clinical Nurse Specialist in acute/critical care. I value education and feel that nurses should teach other nurses and hope to become a nurse educator.

Lynne Starbard, RN

Worcester, MA

Employment: UMass Memorial

Education: Associates, Quinsigamond Community College, 1977; LPN, David Hale Fanning Health Occupations, 1977; Anna Maria College- Paxton, 1971-1972

Present/Past MNA Offices: Congress Health Policy, Secretary PAC, STAT Team, Awards Committee, Convention Committee, chairperson Region 2, Co-chair Memorial/Hahnemann Home Health & Hospice

Candidate Statement: I ask for your vote in the upcoming election for reelection to the Congress on Health Policy and Legislation. I am currently the Chairperson of Region 2 and Co-chair of my Bargaining Unit. I am secretary of the PAC Committee and have worked on many campaigns for MNA endorsed candidates along with literature drops and visits to our elected officials in Boston and Washington DC. I am an active member of the STAT team, Congress on Health Policy, and a member of the Awards and Convention Committees. I serve as a Vice President on the Central Ma Labor Council for the last 8 yrs. I am seeking reelection to this Congress to continue the work started on new and impending legislation pertinent to the MNA and the NNU which impact our nursing care.

At-Large Regional Council

Region 1

Patricia Healey, RN

Florence, MA

Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital
Education: BSN, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 1977

Present/Past MNA Offices: BOD-Labor 1998-2009, Bylaws Committee, Awards Committee, Congress on Health Policy, President Reg 1

Region 2

Susan Mulcahy, RN

Shrewsbury, MA

Employment: UMass Memorial
Education: Diploma, Worcester Hahnemann School of Nursing, 1970
Present/Past MNA Offices: PAC, Region 2 Board, Region Treasurer, Region Secretary

Region 3

Colette Kopke

Plymouth, MA

Employment: Jordan Hospital
Education: ASN, Northeastern University,

1968; Post Grad courses, Northeastern University, Curry College

Present/Past MNA Offices: BOD At-large Director, Labor, PAC Jordan Committee

Candidate Statement: Having been involved in MNA, since the 70's, I have a strong connection to this organization. Our nursing profession is an integral team member of our healthcare system, which is in crisis..

We as nurses, are advocates; need to continue our roles, not only for patients; their families, but for ourselves. A myriad of issues face us- safe patient handling- safe staffing with RN-patient ratios- violence in the workplace; six sigma-lean staffing.

Now, more than ever, we are fortunate to not only be involved at our local, regional; state levels, but at the national level through NNU; now is the time to come together

and continue our work, as individuals, but more importantly as a stronger collective bargaining union.

I remain grateful for our visionary leaders at many levels; I feel honored to work with them at PAC, BOD; my local unit at Jordan Hospital.

As a newer member of BOD, I have been energized by our leadership, fellow board members; MNA staff; remain hopeful for our future. I would appreciate your vote, to follow through on our work in progress.

I feel I have not only the experience, but most of all my ongoing commitment to work for you; continue to support and advocate for MNA and NNU.-- THANKYOU, Colette C. Kopke, RN

Rosemary O'Brien, RN

S. Harwich, MA

Employment: Retired

Education: RN, Catherine Laboure School of Nursing, 1960; BS, BC School of Nursing UMass, Ongoing; AD, Massasoit Community College, Ongoing

Present/Past MNA Offices: Secretary BOD, At-Large Director, BOD Policy Committee, Sec Reg 3 Council

Candidate Statement: I have been active in the nursing profession for more than fifty years. For the past eight years you have given me the opportunity to represent you as a member of the MNA Board of Directors. I am seeking an at-large position in Region Three so that I can better communicate to the members of the Region, the goals and objectives of the NNU/MNA and more importantly to convey to both our National and State organizations, the needs and concerns of its rank and file members.

Region 5

Joan Ballantyne, RN

Mansfield, MA

Employment: Norwood Hospital

Education: RMN, Greater Glasgow Western District College of Nursing, 1980; RGN, Greater Glasgow Western District College of Nursing, 1982

Present/Past Offices: Co-chair local bargaining unit, active member Region 5 committee, convention committee 2011, STAT team

Candidate Statement: I have been a proud union member since attending nursing school in Glasgow. The confidence of being a union member gave me the strength to stand up for my patients and colleagues even then as a lowly nursing student in such a powerful hierarchy that health care institutions were at the time. Today I still feel the power of our union at the local level and enjoy working within the bargaining unit experiencing the strength in solidarity and unity it provides. If you vote for me I promise not only to attend the "One meeting a month and eat the obligatory light supper" but will lend my continued full support to strengthen

the relationships the individual bargaining units have within Region 5; which in turn can only further strength our union.

Betsy Prescott, RN, BSN

Newton, MA

Employment: SEMC

Education: BSN, Framingham State College, 2008; Diploma, St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing

Present/Past Offices: PAC-Region 5, Delegate for Boston Labor Council, Region 5 Secretary, Chair SEMC

Candidate Statement: I have had the honor of being an MNA member since 1979, the start of my career at SEMC. I love to be part of the profession that is most entrusted and admired by the public. I have grown professionally and so has my active participation in MNA. As a leader for SEMC I strive everyday to protect our patients and their families. Nurses must be able to practice safely and I will fight for what the staff and patients need. To enable them, to want

to be part of the SEMC family. My MNA career started as a floor representative, as a committee member, then an officer. I have participated in 4 contract negotiating sessions. I am the current chair. I am a proud Region 5 member, the secretary and attend all region 5 meetings. As an officer, I participate in the regional summits. I am an active PAC member and hold a region 5 seat, as well as a delegate for the Greater Boston Labor council. I am also a proud member of NNU, attending the first Organizing Institute and participating in the Staff Nurse Assembly. I have spoken on behalf of Steward nurses in Michigan and Minnesota and traveled to FL to help organize new NNU facilities. I am currently volunteering at Holy Family to support our brothers and sisters to help them learn what could be, a member of MNA. I will continue to serve Region 5 and MNA/NNU if elected. ■

MNA Final Ballot, 2011

President, Labor*

1 for 2 years

Donna Kelly-Williams

Secretary, Labor*

1 for 2 years

Ellen Farley

Director, Labor*, 5 for 2 years

(1 per Region)

Region 1

Ann Lewin

Region 2

Patricia Mayo

Region 3

Karen Gavigan

Region 4

Kathleen "Kay" Marshall

Patricia Rogers Sullivan

Region 5

Dan Rec

Michael Robinson

Director At-Large, General

3 for 2 years

Kathlyn Logan

Paula Ryan

Meredith Scannell

Susan Wright Thomas

Director At-Large, Labor

4 for 2 years

Carolyn Fahey

Kathy Metzger

Trish Powers

Michael Savoy

Colleen Wolfe

Nora Watts

Labor Program Member who is a non-RN Health Care Professional

1 for 2 years

Gloria Bardsley

Nominations Committee, 5 for 2 years (1 per Region)

Region 1

Region 2

Patricia Mayo

Region 3

Lynne Demoura

Beth Pickett

Region 4

Meredith Scannell

Region 5

Mary Ann Gillan

Bylaws Committee

5 for 2 years

Linda Condon

Patricia Healey

Betsy Prescott

Congress on Nursing Practice

5 for 2 years

Linda Barton

Mary Doyle Keohane

Maureen Mogan

Elizabeth Sparks

Leann Tibets

Congress on Health Policy

5 for 2 years

Tina Russell

Katherine Sandell

Lynn Starbard

Congress on Health and Safety

5 for 2 years

Mary Havlicek Cornacchia

Meredith Scannell

Center for Nursing Ethics & Human Rights

2 for 2 years

At-Large Position in Regional Council

2 for 2 years (2 per region)

Region 1

Patricia Healey

Region 2

Susan Mulcahy

Region 3

Collette Kopke

Rosemary O'Brien

Region 4

Region 5

Joan Ballantyne

Betsy Prescott

**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 health care professional who is a member in good standing of the labor program.*