

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2007
Annual Meeting - April 24, 2008

Bev Anderson

On January 1, 2007, the Board of Directors consisted of: Bev Anderson, President, Grant Whitney, Vice President; Susi Watson Secretary; Dick Ward, Treasurer; and Sandra Vinson, Director-at-Large. In March, Susi Watson left the Board to travel with her newly retired husband. Penni Smith joined the Board and quickly became Webmaster and Secretary as Susi had been. Laura Niznik joined the Board in June. Her excellence in newsletter layout brought a whole new, professional look to our newsletter. She also did a major revision and face lift for our brochure. Grant Whitney resigned from the Board in November after 9 years of outstanding service to NCCNA.

We began 2007 with 30 support groups and grew to 445 members. The group in Rancho Cordova was suspended but another in the South Sacramento area will be attempted in 2008. New groups were started in Oakland and Yreka to end the year with 32 groups. On March 17, 2008, our membership stood at 369 including a number of new members. 2007 members are continuing to renew. If all renewed and the new members were added, we would be well over 500.

Bev Anderson and Sue Ingle represented NCCNA at the California Neuro Alliance Legislative Conference on March 26-27 in Sacramento. Legislation affecting people with neurological diseases was discussed the first day with teams visiting every legislator to share their views the next day.

Our Annual Meeting was held April 10, 2007, at the Sierra Health Foundation.

Our website's new name - www.pnhelp.org - was announced at the Annual Meeting. In June, a complete revised site was published, expanding from the ten pages of the old one to 27 (now 40) and featuring more information, an on-line membership form, and photos of NCCNA events. From this point, Penni Smith, our Webmaster, has continued to develop the website into an excellent tool for information to members and to others who want to know more about neuropathy and NCCNA. .

PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY, a new book by Norman Latov, M.D., The Neuropathy Association's founder, was published. 100 copies were made available for sale to our members at \$10 each.

Martha Chandley, Leader of West Sacramento and Davis PN Groups, spearheaded the development and placement of bus posters. The graphic designed for the poster became our organization's logo. It presents pictorially some of the most often reported symptoms of peripheral neuropathy. Sacramento RT Buses and buses in Yolo and Placer County are displaying them. Martha continues to receive phone inquiries because of the posters.

KCRA-Channel 3 featured peripheral neuropathy on a Health Watch segment on May 29. This was in support of Neuropathy Awareness Week. Bev Anderson and Mike Colozzi, Leader of the Elk Grove PN Group, appeared in the video.

We developed a relationship with the Neuropathy Action Foundation by working with NAF's President, Dominick Spatafora. **This resulted in the excellent Neuropathy Action Awareness Day on June 26 at UC-SF's Conference Center on Mission Bay in San Francisco.** A sizable number of people rode the bus that started in Auburn. Many drove in from the greater Bay Area.

After some success with a fundraising letter in 2006, the Board decided to develop a fundraising campaign that would include a letter. **A Fundraising Committee was appointed which involved members of the Board and local members.** Members from several groups were featured. The letter was sent to members, former members, friends of members and others whose names and addresses were volunteered. Many people responded. The total raised will help NCCNA in its efforts to reach our goals. It is hoped that the 2008 fund raising drive will do even better.

GOALS

General Goals

To provide Support Groups for people with Peripheral Neuropathy and Those Who Care About Them: We have started two new groups and have several in development. All groups have received help and encouragement through the year.

To Communicate with and develop active dialog with the Health Care Community: Each group that has speakers from the Health Care Community communicates information about neuropathy to that person. Other overtures to this group have been done by support groups.

To encourage Research to find Causes, Treatments, and Cures for Peripheral Neuropathy Several opportunities to participate in clinical trials have been advertised. A portion of the funds raised during the Fundraising Drive will be contributed toward neurological research specifically for peripheral neuropathy.

Update on Goals mentioned in the 2006 Annual Report:

To grow our membership number - Membership has grown but we haven't gone over 500 yet.

To have more members involved in group and NCCNA Leadership More groups are developing Leadership Teams so the leadership responsibilities are shared.

To further develop the current groups into thriving supportive groups with growing memberships
This is an ongoing goal.

To fill the Board of Directors to 7-9 members During this year, there have been 5-6 Board members.

To successfully bring in grants from a variety of sources NCCNA has applied for several grants. One small grant was given but we are yet to receive funds from the ones we have specifically applied for.

To continue developing a wide knowledge of various treatment and research options. Articles describing treatment options various people have tried have been printed regularly in the newsletter.

To expand our connections with the medical community and medical organizations and raise their awareness of peripheral neuropathy Preparations have been made for a major advance in this area in 2008.

To promote and encourage membership in The Neuropathy Association as well as The Northern California Chapter of The Neuropathy Association and make clear the difference. Hundreds of

double brochures have been distributed using both brochures nested together. The Neuropathy Association reports that their membership is up in our area.

To do fundraising activities to develop our organization and better educate the public and the medical profession about peripheral neuropathy. To have a successful fundraising project to contribute toward research to find causes, treatments, and cures for PN. This year's Fundraising Campaign was more successful than that in 2006. Part of that raised in this year's Fundraising Campaign will be contributed to research.

Goal for 2007 - That the Board of Directors would develop a Strategic Plan to guide the organization as it seeks to fulfill these and other goals. This has been accomplished.

Goals for 2008

- To use the Strategic Plan to advance this organization
- To organize additional support groups
- To develop the groups we have in place
- To do a major project to connect with the Health Care Community
- To have more of our members at the California NeuroAlliance Conference
- To find more ways to encourage research

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Ward, Treasurer

Please note that we started 2007 with \$5,865, received over \$25,000 in income, spent \$17,687 during the year and finished with a surplus of over \$13,000. We had the equivalent of about 330 annual memberships in 2007 which gave us dues income of \$7,915, and we received over \$12,000 in contributions and grants.

As you all know the annual membership costs \$24. On an individual dues basis, \$5 is returned to the parent support group, \$14 is spent on 12 issues of the newsletter and six dollars is spent on insurance for a total of \$25. So you see one dollar more than your membership dues is spent on core costs. This means we are dependent on donations and grants to cover this dollar and all the other costs listed in the budget. These costs cover administration and expenses required to advertise, publicize and inform the general public and the health care community about neuropathy generally and NCCNA specifically.

Our 2008 budget is ambitious. We are projecting a 21% growth in membership and a 33% increase in contributions and grants. We project a 40% increase in expenses in 2009. We plan to increase advertising, visit several cities/towns in Northern California to "plant" new support groups and drop in on existing support groups. We will increase the size of the Board. We have implemented 800 telephone service to make it easy to be reached by members and anyone interested in learning about NCCNA. We have established a web site (www.pnhelp.org) so that we can be an ever expanding source of information about neuropathy and NCCNA activities for members and the general public world wide.

You have been generous with your contributions to NCCNA. We ask you to continue this generosity so together we can get the word about neuropathy out to the public and the health care community. If we achieve our budgetary goals we will have a surplus of \$15,369 at the end of 2008 and our organization will remain fiscally sound.

NCCNA 2007 Actuals and 2008 Budget

	2007 ACTUALS	2008 BUDGET
Starting Balance	\$5,865.56	\$13,306.34
Income		
NCCNA Dues 2007	\$7,915.85	
NCCNA Dues 2008	\$4,248.00	\$5,352.00
NCCNA Dues 2009	\$24.00	\$5,300.00
Books	\$827.75	
Contributions	\$10,112.21	\$12,000.00
Grant	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00
Total Income	\$25,127.81	\$26,652.00
Total Income Plus Starting Balance	\$30,993.37	\$39,958.34
Expenditures		
Rebates	\$3,550.50	\$2,000.00
Contribution Sharing With TNA		\$1,200.00
Accounting	\$700.00	\$1,200.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$100.00	\$100.00
Insurance	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Advertising	\$283.65	\$1,000.00
Printing Brochures, Etc	\$1,371.95	\$1,500.00
Computer, Comm, Internet	\$120.40	\$1,000.00
Office Supplies	\$871.34	\$500.00
Postage and Handling	\$903.55	\$1,400.00
Start Up Donations for New Groups	\$100.00	\$500.00
Group Development	\$234.06	\$500.00
Group Leader Support	\$0.00	\$250.00
Membership Recruitment	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Monthly Newsletter	\$4,767.88	\$6,000.00
Fund Raising	\$803.07	\$1,000.00
Research & Education	\$600.00	\$900.00
Post Office Box	\$132.00	\$132.00
Bank Service Charge	\$20.00	\$40.00
Tax	\$30.00	\$67.00
Purchase for Resale (River Cat tickets)	\$305.50	
Travel (transport, lodging, meals)	\$560.40	\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$174.44	
Board Member Development	\$58.29	\$300.00
Total Expenditures	\$17,687.03	\$24,589.00
End of Year Balance	\$13,306.34	\$15,369.34