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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Holistic Nurses Association Elects Dr. Peggy Burkhardt President for 2013-15

The American Holistic Nurses Association (www.ahna.org) has elected Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Burkhardt, Ph.D., ARNP, BC, HNC, as president for a term to run from 2013-2015.

She was installed this month as AHNA president in Norfolk, VA, at the organization's 33rd Annual Conference. As president, Burkhardt’s responsibilities will include policy development oversight; chairing the board of directors; and collaborating with the association’s Executive Director.

Since AHNA’s founding in 1981, this non-profit professional membership association for registered nurses and other holistic healthcare professionals has increasingly become the definitive global voice for holistic nursing.

The organization’s primary mission is to advance holistic healthcare by increasing awareness, education and both professional and personal community-building among nurses, other healthcare professionals, and the public.

Over the past 32 years AHNA has consistently delivered valuable resources, improved educational tools, and offered superior networking opportunities to a vibrant and expanding universe of healthcare professionals. AHNA currently services almost 4,500 members through 130 local chapters/networks both in the U.S. and abroad.

Holistic nursing is recognized by the American Nurses Association as an official nursing specialty with both a defined scope and standards of practice.

As the new leader of this organization, Dr. Burkhardt presents a vision of a world where all nurses treat patients holistically, regardless of their specialty or level of training and education.

“Healthcare professionals in every discipline are increasingly recognizing the importance of healing the person rather than just addressing a symptom,” she says. “As a professional association that focuses on the relationship between body and mind, mind and spirit, AHNA is uniquely positioned to provide the intellectual assets needed in today’s world to educate and heal the entire person, rather than just treating a portion of the problem.”

Dr. Burkhardt is currently an Associate Professor Emerita at the West Virginia University School of Nursing, Charleston Division. As a nursing educator she has taught BSN, MSN and Doctoral nursing students and has been a holistic nurse for over 25 years.

The freshly minted President has also authored or co-authored numerous articles and books related to Holistic Nursing and Holistic Healthcare, including Ethics and Issues in Contemporary Nursing and Spirituality: Living Our Connectedness.
AHNA President Dr. Peggy A. Burkhardt

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