



ARIZONA

Association of Patient Advocates

Message from the President



Dear AAPA members,

It is a distinct honor and pleasure to serve this organization as your president. We have been blessed with an incredible Board of Directors who have worked together for the last year assuring that our AAPA organization exists to inspire and lead Patient Advocates to reach their full potential. Our committees have been the strength that provided professional growth.

As your incoming President, my goal is to build on the foundation we have put in place this last year and to recruit and retain both Professional and Associate members. We will be launching our educational programs in the next month which will promote education and empower members as they establish and expand their advocacy practices. As a Board, we want to increase our networking both in person and on Zoom to familiarize ourselves with our remarkable advocates and their practice specialties. This will assist our members with referrals to colleagues as our practices grow. And I do believe our practices will grow dramatically in the next year!

As I reflect on our progress over the last two years, I am amazed at how far we have come. We will reach new heights in the coming year and expand on our successes. I would like all of you to know that I welcome your collegial insight and suggestions for AAPA. Great minds accomplish great things!

Wishing you the very best in this welcome New Year,

Best regards,

Rosie

Upcoming AAPA Meetings

The Board has recognized the desire for more networking opportunities for its members and has scheduled those in the New Year alternating with educational programs. Most meetings will occur on the 2nd Thursday of the month but be sure to check the website and sign up for emails for exact dates and times. Tentative dates for 2022:

Thursday, January 13th , Noon to 1pm - First Anniversary Celebration, Zoom Networking Meeting – Get to know the new Board and fellow members.

In-Person Networking Events - February, April, June, August, October, and December

Educational Programs with BCPA CEs - March, May, September and November

Don't miss these great opportunities.

Sign up for emails at www.ArizonaAPA.org today!

2022 AAPA Board of Directors

President - Rosie Oldham, BS, RN, LNCC, BCPA

President Elect – Michelle Riddle, BCPA

Secretary – Bridget Jablonksi, MSN, MBA, RN, VA-BC, BCPA

Treasurer – Althea Halchuck, EJD, CT, BCPA

Director at Large – Carolyn Bennett, BSN, RN, BCPA, CSA

Director at Large – Tujuana “TJ” Land, MSN, RN, CCRN-R, BCPA, iRNPA

Holiday Gathering Was a Huge Success

December 2nd, AAPA members met at the Arizona Biltmore Hotel in Phoenix for a lovely evening to celebrate the holiday season. Members enjoyed catching up with friends and meeting some new members as well. Board Members generously donated prize baskets for the event and some of the lucky winners are pictured below. We are looking forward to more in-person meetings as the year progresses.



Above Board Members L to R – Bridget Jablonski, Carolyn Bennett, Rosie Oldham, Michelle Riddle, Althea Halchuck. Absent – TJ Land



Right – Melissa Cardine

Left – Bridget Jablonski and Kristin Hill



Above – Rosie Oldham and Nicole Broadhurst



Holiday Social
December 2, 2021
Biltmore Resort Hotel

Celebrating AAPA



Thank You to Our AAPA Members

We want to say thank you to the current Professional and Associate AAPA Members who have made this organization a success over the past year. We appreciate the support you have shown us by sharing your expertise as you serve on committees, attend educational programs and provide input at meetings. We could not do it without you!

Professional

Rebecca Barnett, Carolyn Bennett, Melissa Cardine, Janie Dalrymple, Althea Halchuck, Kristin Hill, Bridget Jablonski, Tujuana Land, Rosie Oldham, Michelle Riddle, Jennifer Whalen, Catherine Vrona

Associate

Karen Chamberlain, Janet Clements, Debora Gama Lima, Wendell Hill, Teri McLenna, Suzanne McWilliams, Jacqueline Shore



Meet the New AAPA President Rosie Oldham, BS, RN, LNCC, BCPA



AAPA is fortunate to have Rosie Oldham at the helm as its President in 2022.

Rosie brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this role. She has been a registered nurse since 1981 working in areas such as behavioral health and addiction, home health and acute inpatient care. Her experience led her to build a legal nurse consulting business, R&G Medical Legal Solutions, LLC in 1992, practicing as a legal nurse consultant for 26 years. Rosie is a contributing author to many medical legal articles and textbooks, and has presented nationally to nursing associations, physician groups and attorney organizations as well as appearing on radio and television programs. Rosie has served on numerous committees and in leadership roles of many organizations including the American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants at both the local and national level.

Since early 2016, Ms. Oldham has provided consulting to patients and their families as an Independent RN Patient Advocate. Obtaining the Patient Advocate Board Certification has been the highlight of a career devoted to helping clients safely navigate the healthcare system. As an AAPA founding member, Bylaws Committee Chair and recent President Elect, Rosie has been instrumental to the creation of AAPA, and we are excited to welcome her into this new role and see what she has in store for us in 2022! Welcome Rosie!

We asked Rosie some questions to get to know her a little better and here are her answers.

What do you see for the future of patient advocacy in Arizona? My sense of the future for AAPA is that we will increase our numbers and become the “Gold Standard” non-profit organization for Patient Advocates. We are well on our way!

How do you think AAPA can help advance patient advocacy? By establishing a strategic plan for 2022 – 2023 and implementing goals set. An example would be the industry is experiencing a rising awareness of Patient Advocates and the demand for services is increasing dramatically. This may require a Board Review of our membership levels to increase Professional Membership and support Certification (BCPA) of our Associate Members. This can be accomplished by providing networking events, educational opportunities and professional development.

What do you enjoy most about being a patient advocate? My favorite two words are “Question Everything”. Making a difference in health outcomes for clients is profoundly satisfying.

What do you like to do in your spare time? I sing with the Sounds of the Southwest Singers community choir and chorale. We are preparing to sing at Carnegie May 25, 2022 and we provide concerts year round in the Valley. Traveling and singing with the choir to venues such as Normandy Beach, Paris, London, the Vatican in Rome are highlights that I cherish.

What do you like best about living in Arizona? The Winter months!



Do you know both Associate and Professional Members can serve on committees? Do you know AAPA has 4 working committees in need of members? Education, Communication, Membership and Social Connection are all looking for members to join them today.

If you have an interest in the workings of AAPA and would like to serve on a committee, please send a message to us at admin@ArizonaAPA.org and we will connect you with the Chair of the committee.

Patient Advocate Bingo

HAVE YOU ...



Cried with a Client	Created a Website	Texted a Client's Medical Provider
Contacted PACB	Become an AAPA Member	Done Pro Bono Work
Referred a Client to Another Advocate	Crowd-sourced on Social Media	Taken Care of a Client's Pet

Have You Ever?

AAPA brings patient advocates together to share our common struggles and triumphs. Play **Patient Advocate Bingo** with us and see how many interesting experiences we have in common.

Let us know how you did and send us a message at Admin@ArizonaAPA.org to share some of the interesting challenges and triumphs you have had as a patient advocate. You might see them listed in the next newsletter (with your permission and respecting privacy and confidentiality of clients).



Let's Celebrate Together



Please join us for our First Anniversary Celebration of Arizona Association of Patient Advocates

This will be a Networking event via Zoom on Thursday 1/13/2022 from Noon to 1:00 pm Arizona Time. We look forward to beginning the New Year by introducing our new Board of Directors and getting to know our members....

I want to get involved. How can I help AAPA?

- Spread the word about us.** Share the newsletter and website, www.ArizonaAPA.org, with people who might be interested in patient advocacy and the organization.
- Serve on your favorite committee.** Have a knack for social media? Love planning events? Like to write? Then we have a spot for you! Volunteering on committees is a great way to meet your colleagues and give back to the community.
- Be a speaker.** Do you have an area of expertise that you would like to share with a supportive and grateful audience? Or do you know someone who would be great? We would love to hear from them.

Send a message to us at Admin@ArizonaAPA.org today. We look forward to hearing from you!