



**CALEB ROGOVIN, CRNA, MS,
CCRN, CEN**

How long have you been a CRNA? Do you specialize? Do you have a favorite type of anesthesia/surgeries? Describe your practice?

I have been a practicing CRNA for 17 years. I didn't realize I wanted to do anesthesia until well into my nursing career. I was a trauma/critical care nurse, educator, and administrator for 12 years before I really knew about becoming a CRNA. I often tell people that nurse anesthesia is one of the best kept secrets in nursing. I have taken it upon myself to educate as many nurses and non-healthcare people as to what a CRNA is and what we do!

I currently work in a university hospital located in the inner-city of Philadelphia. We are the major level one trauma center in the city. Although I perform all types of anesthesia and provide it for all types of surgical procedures, my love is trauma. Trauma is my life and I have had the privilege to work at some of the major trauma centers in the US.

Prior to becoming a CRNA I earned a Master's in Trauma Critical Care and have loved this population for my entire career. The Anesthesia Department where I work is a team practice with a physician residency program. Although there are the everyday ups and downs, the CRNA practice is pretty great. There are no overt politics and the CRNAs are well respected by the anesthesia faculty, residents and the surgeons. Aside from the standard operating room and same day surgery ORs, our GI, IR, and EP remote areas are very busy.

Why do you support the Foundation?

From early on in my anesthesia education, the professional aspects of nurse anesthesia were highlighted and emphasized. One part of my program's mission statement is to "graduate future leaders in the field of Nurse Anesthesia". I have always remembered this. Even though I may not be President of our Association or well known by the members, I do my part everyday to educate everyone around me. Aside from being an AANA member, I feel that supporting the Foundation is very important. Specifically, the AANA Foundation plays a vital role in my practice. The members of the Foundation have impressed me from the time I attended my first AANA meeting. The glossy brochure describing what the Foundation does made me proud of the organization and encouraged me to give my all. I was able to meet some of the leadership and was inspired by them. Dr. Jordan spent time speaking with me when I was a new graduate and I thought I would like to be like that when I have some experience.

What does being professionally involved mean to you?

I have had the honor to serve on the Certification Exam Item Writing Committee and the Program Committee. These were both excellent ways to serve the organization and give back and to get involved at the national level and see how things really worked within the organization. I worked with amazing staff from the AANA and with amazing CRNAs. Some of these CRNAs were new to committee work like myself, and others were very experienced with the AANA and their careers. I had excellent mentoring and learned a lot about myself, and the AANA. Giving my time to the committees was an amazing experience and I think I was able to share my knowledge and experiences to make our educational programs of the highest caliber. Working on a committee has given me great insight into the AANA and anesthesia practice.

What do you like most about nurse anesthesia?

Although this seems like an easy question, the answer is hard to put into words. I like EVERYTHING about nurse anesthesia. The things I loved about critical care/trauma nursing are what I love about anesthesia. Only nurse anesthesia is the next level. Pharmacology, physiology, and technology all come together and I am the one orchestrating everything. Although I work in a team practice, I am the one with the patient all the time! I used to think that intubating someone was the coolest thing in the world and I got to do it everyday! It was a little while into my practice that intubation was just a technical skill, a very important one, but just a skill. I have mastered that skill and now am able to see the big picture! Yes, the big picture! At 3:00 AM, when called to a code, carrying the "airway box" alone and walking into a patient room, I am confident that I can manage the airway and if lucky I can intubate the patient too!

What are your future goals?

I am finishing my DNP, and hope to have it completed in 1 more year. Friends and colleagues ask me why I am pursuing a DNP. They ask if I will make more money or get a promotion. I tell them "no"! I am getting the degree so my sister will have to call me doctor! I love clinical anesthesia and will always have my hand on a patient. I would like to have multiple jobs including: teaching, administrating and lecturing to my anesthesia colleagues and other healthcare providers about nurse anesthesia topics. I have had some amazing mentors in this profession and would like to be a mentor in return.