After a 15-year absence, the AANA Annual Meeting returns to Denver in 2007. The last and first time the Annual Meeting was in the Mile High City was 1992. It was held August 8-13 in the same place the 2007 meeting will be—the Colorado Convention Center—with an attendance of more than 3,500 (Table 1).

Table 1. 1992 AANA Annual Meeting Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>1,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmembers</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guests</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitors</td>
<td>973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,665</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A year in review: 1992
To put 1992 into context, here is a snapshot of United States and world events: President George H. W. Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin formally declared an end to the Cold War, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was signed, 4 Los Angeles police officers were acquitted in the in the Rodney King trial, Johnny Carson retired as host The Tonight Show, and The Silence of the Lambs won the Oscar for Best Picture.1

In AANA events prior to the Annual Meeting, John Garde, CRNA, MS, was Executive Director; Scott Gray, CRNA, was AANA president; the current building at 222 South Prospect Avenue in Park Ridge, Ill, was purchased; the newly created position of Practice Director was filled by Mary Ellen Farney, CRNA, MJ; and the Government Relations Workshop was attended by 230 Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). (In 1996, the Spring Assembly of States and the Government Relations Workshop held a joint meeting. The following year, the 2 meetings permanently merged, and the meeting was renamed the Mid-Year Assembly.)

Educational sessions
In 1992, a number of interesting educational sessions appeared on the program. Sunday afternoon had one general session—“Issues and Answers: Clinical Ethics.” This panel discussion moderated by John Callaway, senior correspondent for WTTW-TV (Chicago’s public television station) in Chicago, included Mary DePaoli-Lutzo, CRNA, PhD; Kathryn Montgomery Hunter, PhD, co-director, Ethics and Human Values in Medicine Program, Northwestern University Medical School; Leonard Fleck, PhD, associate professor, Medical Ethics/Health Policy, Center for Ethics and Humanities in Life Sciences, Michigan State University; and Jerry Cromwell, PhD, president, Health Economics Research, Inc (Figure 1). This was the fourth year that Callaway moderated the Issues and Answers session. Other notable sessions included “HIV: Who Has a Right to Know?,” “Anesthesia’s Role in Euthanasia,” “Stress and the Anesthetist,” and “Liaison with the ASA.”

The meeting concluded with a Closing Session on Thursday morning. The keynote speaker was Ira Schlezinger, MPA, MOD, vice president of Planning and Marketing, St Paul Medical Center, Dallas, Tex, who spoke on “Environmental Forces—Changing the Face of Health Care Delivery.” Schlezinger made this request to nurse anesthetists, “Don’t all have a sick day on the same day. You would absolutely shut down the infrastructure of healthcare in America. The magnitude of what you do is overwhelming.”2

Fun and entertainment
Saturday’s Opening Ceremonies featured a multimedia presentation of past, current, and future AANA leaders titled “Together – We Make it Happen,” a laser spectacular called “We Are all One,” and greetings from Denver Mayor Wellington E. Webb. Six of AANA’s awards were presented: Program Director of the Year, Clinical Instructor of the Year, Didactic Instructor of the Year, and...
Research in Action, Public Relations Recognition, and Public Interest in Anesthesia; see Table 2 for a list of all 1992 award recipients. This was the first year that Program Director, Clinical Instructor, and Didactic Instructor of the Year awards were presented.

Sunday evening’s Opening Party had a “Wild West Round-Up” theme. The Annual Meeting program suggested that appropriate attire included cowboy boots, 10-gallon hats, and square-dance type dresses (Figure 2). Partygoers enjoyed a dinner buffet from 7 PM to 1 AM. The fun continued Monday night with the AANA Comedy Hour starring ventriloquist and standup comedian Ronn Lucas and his cowboy puppet Buffalo Billy.

The Annual Banquet concluded the festivities on Wednesday night in the ballroom of the Colorado Convention Center. The Agatha Hodgins Award for Outstanding Accomplishment, the Helen Lamb Outstanding Educator Award, and the Clinical Practitioner Award (later to be renamed after Alice Magaw) were presented (see Table 2). Attendees enjoyed the Musical Salute to the States with music provided by the Jerry Barnett Orchestra and the always popular AANA scrapbook that features photographs taken throughout the week. The gavel of presidency passed from Scott Gray, CRNA, to Peggy McFadden, CRNA, BS (Figure 3).

Student activities
A number of student activities were offered at the 1992 Annual Meeting beginning with the Student Get-Together on Sunday. This 1-hour early evening program was sponsored by Burroughs Wellcome and allowed students to mingle and to meet the candidates for Student Representative to the Educa-
Student activities were concentrated on Tuesday, which was Student Nurse Anesthetist Day. The day began with a continental breakfast sponsored by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists, followed by the Student Forum where voting for the Student Representative to the Education Committee took place. Then 6 teams competed in the College Bowl, which was moderated by COL James Temo, CRNA, MSN, USA, AN.

After a short break, Elizabeth Tornquist, MA, presented a session on “The Nuts and Bolts of How to Publish Your Research” at the Student Luncheon. Also at the luncheon, Victor Tolin, RN, BSN (Figure 4), was announced as the winner of the election of Student Representative to the Education Committee, and CPT Lisa Petty, MHS, USA, AN, as winner of the Student Writing Contest for her paper on “Anesthetic management of a patient with moyamoya disease: A case report.”

Looking forward to 2007
As in previous years, this year’s Annual Meeting will include a variety of educational sessions, student activities, social activities, and entertainment. For more information, see the Annual Meeting Quickview on page 172.

REFERENCES