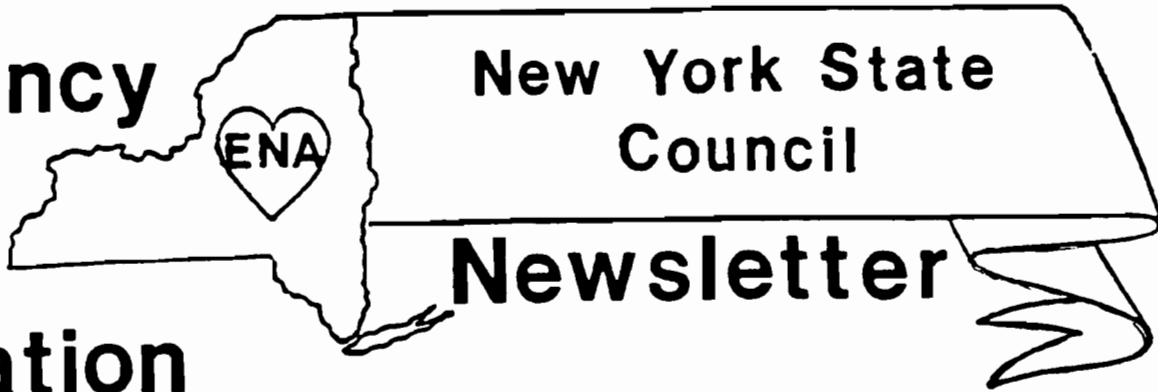


Emergency Nurses Association



VOLUME 11

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MARCH 1990

Carol Sammann, Editor

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF NYSCENA:

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Pres.-Elect: Fran Sikso
Secretary: Gwen Williams
Treasurer: Jon Williams

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Patsy Ballard & Storm Treanor

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE ENA, MARY MALLORY:

I would like to introduce myself as the new NYSCENA president. I have been an ED nurse for almost 20 years in a 400 + bed community hospital on Long Island. Having been an active ENA member for over 10 years, I was pleased to accept the challenge of being state president.

Hopefully this year we will be able to strengthen the ENA in New York State by encouraging more active participation at the local chapter level as well as seeing all chapters being represented by delegates at the quarterly state council meetings.

As 1990 begins we all have new challenges as emergency nurses. Within a very short time the entire climate of the emergency department has changed. Less than five years ago I remember participating in

various State and National ENA Conferences as strategies were developed on how we could attract patients to our ED's and hospitals. We worried that "urgent-care" and "quick-fix" free standing clinics were going to put us out of business.

Sometimes, how we may wish it were so! Patients are coming to us from all directions at once - rescues, walk-ins, transfers - and they are older and sicker than ever before. Many ED's have literally run out of space, stretchers, monitoring equipment, and NURSES!

Never has it been so important for nurses, especially ED nurses to have a strong networking/support system. This can be had through your active affiliation with your local chapter of ENA, the NYS Council, and the national ENA organization.

As your president I want to welcome Susan Budassi Sheehy as our National Board Liaison. Ms. Sheehy is a well-known National ENA member, speaker, and author. We hope that she will be able to participate in one of our future State Council meetings.

I hope to be able to meet with many of you at our annual "Setting the Pace" conference. This year our organization is celebrating our twentieth anniversary. See you in Buffalo!

Our congratulations to Virginia Hens R.N., on her recent appointment as Chairman of the National Consumer Awareness and Education Committee for the Emergency Nurses Association.

Don't forget National ENA Day - October 3, 1990. Begin planning now.

In each issue of our newsletter this year, we will feature a few of the New York State local chapters with their code numbers, the chapter president's name, address, and telephone number. We will also list the first three numbers of the zip codes for each chapter. Some chapters share a zip code area and members may choose the chapter they prefer. If in doubt, check with the chapter president.

Chapter: Adirondack - 027
President: Ellen Ellis
131 Brunswick Road
Troy, NY 12180
(H) 1-518-272-1072
(W) 1-518-454-1526
Zip Codes: 120 - 126
129, 132, 136

Chapter: Brooklyn - 028
President: Gloria Williams
3325 Neptune Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11224
(H) 1-718-946-0711
(W) 1-718-615-4042
Zip Codes: 112

Chapter: Chatt - 030
President: Deborah Weaver
6 Nottingham Circle
Jamestown, NY 14701
(H) 1-716-484-7626
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Zip Codes: 147

Chapter: Suffolk - 038
President: Jeannette Barth
19 Longworth Avenue
Dix Hills, NY 11746
(H) 1-516-667-6430
(W) 1-516-562-4125
Zip Codes: 117, 119

Chapter: Nassau-Queens - 033
President: Mary Hayes
31 Lincoln Walk
Breezy Point, NY 11697
(H) 1-718-634-9424
(W) 1-718-945-7100
ext. 4410
Zip Codes: 110, 111, 113, 114,
115, 116, a few 117

Chapter: Western New York
President: Joan Wilkinson
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Grand Island, NY 14072
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(W) 1-716-898-1450
Zip Codes: 140, 141, several
142-143

**AWARDS NOMINATION COMMITTEE
NEWS FROM FRAN SIKSO,
CHAIRPERSON:**

Just a reminder that nominations for New York State ENA awards are due March 15. The three awards available are:

ANITA DORR AWARD - is given to the emergency nurse recognized by peers for consistently being knowledgeable in emergency nursing and for presenting the image of being a caring and professional individual. The award is reflective of the integrity and commitment of the woman in whose memory the award is given - Anita Dorr, the co-founder of ENA.

EDUCATION AWARD - is presented in an effort to recognize an RN and ENA member who has demonstrated excellence in education of nurses or others in the area of emergency nursing.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD - recognizes an individual who has demonstrated a commitment to NYSENA and helps to promote the ideals of ENA through various projects and efforts.

**NURSE PRACTICE COMMITTEE
NEWS FROM GINNY HENS,
CHAIRPERSON:**

Chairman.....Virginia Hens, R.N.
Vice-Chairman.....Mary Ann Portoro, R.N.

The first yearly meeting of the Nurse Practice Committee was held on January 26, 1990. The full council was in attendance.

Following a brief report on Committee activities during the previous year, the "ISSUES FORUM" to take place at our state conference in May was planned.

Topics to be addressed during the Forum were suggested, discussed, categorized, and prioritized as follows:

LEGAL ISSUES -

Consent to treat
Liability
Legislation

ETHICAL ISSUES -

DNR
The impact of "GRIDLOCK" on;
fire codes, infection control, and
access to the E.D.

AMBULANCE DIVERSION -

Is diversion legal?

AIDS PATIENTS -

Can a nurse refuse to care for a
patient? Even if she is pregnant?

NURSING SHORTAGE -

Staffing ratios, nurse/patient
ratios
RCT update

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS -

Nursing role
Haz Mat decontamination (LEPC)

CEN PREPARATION -

HOW?

PROPOSED LEGISLATION -

"Article 30"
"Proxy"
"S 15" (Trauma Bill)
"RCT"
"Living Will"

**COME JOIN THE DISCUSSION AT THE
ISSUES FORUM AT THE STATE
CONFERENCE IN BUFFALO ON MAY 4
& 5!**

DON'T MISS IT!

EMT CLINICAL EXPERIENCE GUIDE
(as prepared by the Department of
Health)

In the last newsletter, we printed the "Role and Responsibilities for Physicians and Nurses" during the in-hospital observation and training for basic EMT students. This issue lists the Responsibilities and Skills of the basic EMT, as published in the "EMT Clinical Experience Guide".

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EMT
STUDENT DURING THE IN-HOSPITAL
OBSERVATION AND TRAINING FOR
THE BASIC EMT STUDENT**

The EMT student must report to the charge nurse of the emergency department at the participating hospital on the date and time assigned by the Instructor/Coordinator for the EMT course:

In addition to strict compliance with all hospital policies the EMT student will:

- Be neatly attired and in a physical and mental state conducive to learning.
- Be identified with a name tag provided by the hospital or Course Sponsor.
- Be under the direct supervision of a medical professional employed and assigned by the hospital.
- Observe rules of patient confidentiality.

SKILLS OF THE EMT

The following skills have been completed by the EMT student at the time of his/her observing in the emergency department and, under supervision, he/she is capable of performing any of the following:

- A. Assessment (Primary and Secondary Survey; Triage)
 - 1. Vital signs including pulse, BP, respirations, level of consciousness, skin, and pupils.
 - 2. History - past and injuries, current medications, allergies, chief complaint, and current history.
 - 3. Physical exam - to detect injury, fractures, pain, bleeding, (internal and external) deformity.
 - 4. Rapid identification of Life-threatening problems.
- B. Airway Management
 - 1. Oxygen administration with nasal cannula, simple face, non-rebreathing, and Venturi masks.
 - 2. CPR and Bag-Valve-Mask ventilation.
 - 3. Oral Suctioning.
 - 4. Use of oropharyngeal airways.
- C. Hemorrhage Control
 - 1. Basic hemorrhage control.
 - 2. Basic dressings and bandages.
- D. Simple Splinting
- E. Lifting and Moving of Patients
- F. Document Information and Communicate Same to Necessary Personnel
- G. Use of the NYS Pre-hospital Care Report for Data Collection

PROPOSED ARTICLE REVISIONS TO ARTICLE 30:

"Article 30" is the portion of the Public Health Law which governs EMS in New York State. It is currently in the process of being revised. Everyone involved in emergency care has a responsibility to carefully monitor the progress of these revisions.

In June, Assemblyman Richard Gottfried introduces Bill A 7503. Senator Tully also has a draft bill soon to be introduced - S 5943. Senator Tully has spent a great deal of time soliciting input from all components and providers of EMS across our state.

Highlights of both bills are as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL A 7503 - proposed by Richard Gottfried, Chairman of the Assembly Health Committee.

Highlights of this bill include the establishment of minimum staffing standards for ambulances, requiring volunteer ambulance agencies to provide at least a certified first responder on all calls and all other ambulance agencies (proprietary, hospital, municipal) to have a minimum of one EMT on every call. Emergency Medical Services (those agencies not providing ambulance service, i.e.: fire department rapid response systems) would have to meet the requirements stated above for voluntary and other ambulance agencies.

A state emergency medical advisory committee, consisting of eleven physicians, would be established. This committee would recommend rules and regulations related to statewide minimum standards for medical control, protocols, use of medical devices and drugs by EMTs at all levels, and quality assurance of prehospital and interhospital care.

The bill further mandates that all ambulance agencies have a quality assurance program and assures confidentiality and immunity from liability for the quality assurance board members. At least one member of the committee shall be a physician, nurse, or governing body member who does not participate in the provision of care by the service.

The bill defines Medical Control for certified first responders, emergency medical technicians or advanced emergency technicians.

The bill states that decisions on certificates of need (C.O.N.) for air ambulance services shall be made by the state council.

SENATE BILL S 5943 - proposed by Chairman of the Senate Health Committee, Michael Tully.

The proposed bill establishes a phased-in minimum standard for volunteer ambulance services that would require a certified first responder by 1991 and EMT by 1994. All other ambulance services would be required to meet a minimum standard of EMT. Emergency medical service agencies (rapid response, non-transporting EMS agencies) would have to meet the minimum requirement of certified first responder. The Commissioner of Health would have the power to waive the above requirements if the ambulance service made a genuine effort to comply with the requirements, and no other source of medical assistance was available, or reliance on alternative sources of medical assistance would have resulted in unreasonable delay in the provision of medical care.

The bill provides for the creation of a state medical control board as a sub-committee of the State Council, and states that some members of the board be appointed by elected legislators, rather than the Commissioner of Health.

Quality Assurance standards are similar to those outlined in the Gottfried bill.

Medical control is defined for certified first responders, emergency medical technicians or advanced emergency medical technicians.

It is imperative that the New York State EMS Council and the Medical Control Board both have good representation by all components of EMS, and of every geographic region of the state. The physicians must all have background and experience in Emergency Care. "How else can they set the standards?"

Avenues of opportunity must be made available for "grass roots" input into the system.

We will keep you posted on the progress of this most important piece of legislation.

NURSE PRACTICE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CEN
PREPARATION BY ELLEN ELLIS,
RN, MS, CEN:

The question is often asked by emergency nurses; how to prepare for taking the CEN? At a recent meeting of the New York State Practice Committee this issue was discussed at length, especially in the light of the new (1987) exam revisions. A number of useful guidelines/content resulted and are shared here for your review. Not all of these recommendations may be applicable or feasible for everyone but they do provide some concrete suggestions which we believe will be useful.

1. The underlying exam framework is nursing and, more specifically, nursing process. Those taking the exam should be familiar with the nursing assessment, diagnosis, interventions, and evaluative criteria that would be applicable to each presenting "medical" diagnosis or presenting problem. Review of the scientific principles which govern the interventions we do daily is essential.

2. It is recommended that those nurses taking the exam have at least two years of clinical emergency nursing experience. Because of the broad scope of theory that is related to emergency nursing and the time required to become proficient in its clinical application with incorporation of the nursing process, the committee felt that this two year time frame should be given serious consideration.

3. The Emergency Nursing Core Curriculum provides an overview of the content that may be included in the exam. While admittedly it does not explore the content in depth, it does describe or list all topics that should be reviewed, including "non-clinical" ones. It also is presented in a nursing process format which reinforces those components. There are a number of emergency nursing texts which supplement the outline format of the Core Curriculum (see bibliography below) and will enhance preparation. Critical Care and Medical-Surgical texts as well as others, may also be useful.

There are also texts available which contain practice questions. These help in identifying knowledge deficits and in getting into a "test taking" mind set.

4. CEN review classes are being marketed nation-wide and may be of assistance in preparing for the exam. It is recommended that you critically examine content and presenting faculty before enrolling in these classes. It should be coordinated and primarily taught by nurses who have their CEN and also credentials/experience in teaching. While physician faculty may be included, they are not likely to address the nursing components that are needed for a comprehensive review. While courses such as ACLS are vital for our practice, the CEN does not duplicate those course exams. Content of these CEN review courses should reflect the Emergency Nursing Core Curriculum.

Please note that the workshops being presented at the New York State ENA Convention in Buffalo on May 4 & 5, 1990 are specifically targeted to assist with CEN preparation.

5. If CEN review classes are not available or are not an option due to expense, scheduling, and the like, consider forming a study group with others preparing for the exam.

6. Incorporate your emergency prioritizing skills when trying to eliminate some of the multiple choice distractors. Don't be misled by less important choices, stick to the ABC's.

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Lanros, Nedell, Assessment and Intervention in Emergency Nursing, Third Edition, Appleton and Lange, 1988.

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Sheehy, Susan, and Barber, Janet, Emergency Nursing Principles and Practice, C.V. Mosby, 1985.

**TRAUMA COMMITTEE NEWS BY
ANNE WALL, CHAIRPERSON:**

The 1990 Trauma Committee is off to a great start! Members from across the state met in Albany and addressed many topics.

TNCC issues will be only a portion of the committee's goals this year. In light of the recent Long Island air crash, the group has chosen to focus on community disaster preparedness. Each representative will contact their county Emergency Planning Council for information on their plans and we will discuss them in our next meeting and how we can impact on this service.

Another 1990 goal is to network with Trauma Coordinators across the state. Trauma Coordinators will be contacted and input to meeting their needs will be encouraged.

Copies of the NY State TNCC Instructor guidelines for 1990 have gone out to all Instructors. Any TNCC Instructor who has not received a copy should contact Anne Wall.

National ENA is currently developing both Provider and Instructor re-verification criteria which they will present in October at the General Assembly. Any Instructors who need re-verification in 1990 will be "grandfathered" until 1991. There will be no re-verification in NY until 1991, in keeping with the National guidelines.

New York State will sponsor 3 TNCC(P) courses in the upcoming year. We are attempting to have all courses on the same weekend. Our hope is to bring the TNCC to areas that have few instructors. Three

areas we have identified are: Hudson Valley, North Country, and Western NY. Watch for upcoming details.

If anyone has any questions or would like to become involved with the Trauma Committee, please contact Anne Wall 716-275-4814 (D).

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS NEWS BY
FRAN SIKSO, CHAIRPERSON:**

State issues which the Government Affairs Committee is watching this year are: hospital reimbursement, Uni-Care, Proxy-DNR, RCT, and toxic wastes.

Actual bills in print:

State Senate:

S5531 - The Health Care Shortage Act. This bill appears to help the shortage but we must be sure the RCT position could not be funded under it.

S6167 - The Health-Proxy Bill. This bill will allow people to direct terminal care.

National:

HR 1602 - the Trauma Bill. It has passed the House and is due to be marked on the floor.

S1265 - The Determination Act. This is sponsored by Senator Moynihan and hopefully it will add strength to "living wills".

Our help is needed by EMS for regional funding. Your chapter chairman has more information on this bill.

A strong legislative network is the goal of the committee this year. Please become involved. Your chapter president can give you more information.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY NURSES
DAY NEWS FROM KATHY
CONBOY, PAST NYSCENA
PRESIDENT:

Last October, we celebrated the first annual National Emergency Nurses Day. With not a lot of time to prepare, nurses across the country enthusiastically supported the concept of a day dedicated to us.

This year, National Emergency Nurses Day is October 3rd (henceforth, it will be the Tuesday in October). This date corresponds with the actual first ENA meeting held in Buffalo in 1970. With more time to prepare this year, I know this year's National Emergency Nurses Day will be even more successful.

Some of the projects held last year included: dinners, ED open houses, proclamations from state and local officials, and recognition in many forms from hospital officials. Nurses used banners, photographs, balloons, tee-shirts, and many other items to commemorate the day. There are no restrictions on what can be done and the opportunities to call attention to our profession and specialty area are endless.

I encourage you to plan now for that day. Your ENA state officers and National ENA are, as always, available to you for guidance. Promotional materials will be forth coming from our National ENA Office.

NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE NEWS FROM MARY
ELLEN WILSON, CHAIR-ELECT:

The New York State Council Emergency Nurses Association Conference will be held May 4-5, 1990 in Buffalo, NY at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. This year's conference coincides with the ENA's twentieth anniversary. A gala banquet is planned for Friday, May 4, 1990 with an address by Joanne Fadale, the current ENA National President.

The conference will be offering various courses, all of which have been designed to help prepare for the CEN exam. Our speakers will be utilizing the nursing process during their presentations.

We are very excited about our keynote speaker, Margaret McMahon, who is a past president of ENA and a nationally renowned speaker. Her keynote address will be "Emergency Care: Have We Reached the Boiling Point?".

This year we will again be having an Issues Forum. We are incorporating the Issues Forum into the conference so that all participants can meet and exchange ideas.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

EMS NEWS FROM THE JANUARY
EMS REPORT BY RUTH
PERRONE, EMS LIAISON:

Legislative Committee: continues to review the content of proposed Article 30 which include: a physician from each Regional Council, 7 non-physicians appointed by the State EMS Council Chairperson, and a physician Chairperson appointed by the Commissioner.

Education and Training Committee: identified areas for the development of materials, courses, etc., including: EMS Dispatcher training, emotional preparation of new EMS providers, stress and coping of EMS providers, EMS agency management (including operations and personnel management). A 15 hour pediatric continuing education course will be ready by the fall.

Evaluation Committee: decided to distribute the Q.A. Manual without the excerpt from the A.C.E.P. Q.A. book.

EMS Council:

- The Council's Executive Committee has been designated as the Council's Finance Committee and has begun to review the state budget process.
- Regional Councils were asked to lobby legislators for the funds needed for the Block Grant Programs.
- Part 800 amendments are due for publication in the State Registrar in February and the 45 day comment period will end either 3/30 or 4/6. The State Council should act on these amendments in May.

- EMS Week will be in the third week of September.
- Letters appointing the State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (S.E.M.A.C.) are being drafted.
- There is still no progress on the controlled substance regulations for the V.A.C.s nor on the final report regarding EMS training at community colleges.
- A survey will be made requesting hospitals to identify needs regarding Q.A. of pre-hospital care.

CHAPTER NEWS BITS:

Mid-Hudson Chapter is sponsoring "Organ Procurement" at the Westchester Medical Center on April 6, 1990 from 9 AM - 12 PM. A buffet lunch will be included. For more information, contact Susan Strauss at 473-7341.

The Suffolk and Nassau-Queens Chapter held their first annual educational conference December 14, 1989 at the Pickwick Motor Inn. The conference was successful and the National ENA granted 3.6 C.E.U.'s for the program.

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