

NATIONAL CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

Emergency nurses took Washington DC by storm in September. The General Assembly debated multiple resolutions. Some passed with little debate while others were overhauled before the group would assent. Delegates agreed to study multistate licensure, including various models in hopes that nurses who work interstate or who work in multiple states can do so more easily. ENA will also investigate urgent care centers, called episodic care centers, looking at standards, staffing, and whether ENA expertise could benefit these centers. Debate on whether ED nurses would work with police in alcohol drug testing of accident victims was sobering and lively wit concerns for patient privacy, advocacy, and public health all raised. ENA will study the issue further and present recommendations. ENA plans to change their organizational status in expectation of a more favorable tax status. The Nominating Committee will become the Elections Committee, and the filling of vacancies for national officers were revised.

Jean Proehl, who ended her term as national President, recounted the previous year's achievements, and Benny Marret, inducted as President for the year 2000, outlined his vision for the year ahead. He hopes to improve communication, and reach out to more of the membership

and to involve them in ENA projects. Benny told a story of his childhood, when after dinner, he was always advised to save his fork, in anticipation of the dessert to follow. He gave attendees a fork to save, in anticipation of the good things to expect in the upcoming year.



Rep. Sue Kelly, Westchester, NY and Mary Schmidt Roth, Chair NYSCENA, Issues & Practice.

Having concluded the general assembly, over five hundred nurses nurses lobbied on Capitol Hill, Armed with briefing material and with enthusiasm, the group advocated for a Patient Bill of Rights, COMCARE, and Prevention of Needlestick Injuries. The response to the lobbying efforts was positive. One Congressional staffer was taken aback and very impressed when told how many nurses were involved in lobbying. It was an exciting and informative day.

The Scientific Assembly was attended by thousands interested in updating their knowledge ad skills. New York State did some recruiting and networking at a booth in the exhibit hall. NYS Council members gave out two hundred pounds of apples along with great information about New York. Thanks to Janet Curley for her efforts and to all who manned the booth.

After a long day of studying, parties were a great way to unwind and meet old and new friends.





ISSUES AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Issues and Practice Committee sponsored the New York State ENA members who visited with legislators on ENA's Day on the Hill. The goal was to visit with legislators in each chapter's area. Among the issues discussed were the Patient Bill of Rights and occupational safety issues, including needlestick injuries.

The Committee has drafted and sent letters to state legislators to protect specific groups from having their health insurance canceled by HMOs because reimbursement may be low. In addition letters were also sent to local legislators to insure that hospital length of stay is determined by the patient's doctor, and not by the HMO. If anyone is interested in copies please write to M. Roth, 43 Lehigh Ct., Rockville Ctr, NY 11570.

In following up on proposed child abuse legislation, which would require that mandated reporters have their reports investigated, and not refused, several members will meet with Assemblyman Greene of Brooklyn, to lobby for a vote in the Assembly floor.

The Legislative Breakfast in Albany is scheduled for January 19, 2000. The rooms have been arranged. We are asking for input from members on what issues to make a priority at this meeting. Please send comments and suggestions to M. Roth at 43 Lehigh Ct., Rockville Ctr., NY 11570. Better yet, join us the the next state council meeting for the planning session.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEL WILSON

Congratulations go out to Mel Wilson on being elected to the National Board of Director at Large position of ENA. Mel has served in various positions at the local, state and national levels. Mel is from the Genesee Chapter in Rochester, New York. She is currently employed at Strong Memorial Hospital in the emergency department as nursing communication specialist. Mel has BS in Nursing from Nazareth College and is currently enrolled in the Masters Program in Nursing at the University of Rochester, she will complete her Family Nurse Practitioner in May 2000. Mel also has a BA in History from Nazareth College. In her capacity of BOD, she will be serving as the Board Member to Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Mel's current position on ENA is "ENA should be about the membership. We need to find a way to retain our current members and gain new members." This is very much in keeping with Benny Marrott's visions for the year 2000. Her goals for the coming year is "to encourage the members to become more actively involved with ENA and to have ENA become more active with the membership." The New York State Council of Emergency Nurses Association would like to wish Mel, Good Luck and Much Success!!!!!!!!!!!!

TELEPHONE TRIAGE UPDATE

There is exciting news evolving from Chicago, as a group of nursing experts work with the National Certification Corporation to develop a certification exam in Telephone Nursing Practice. The nurses leading this project include Julie Briggs, Sheila Wheeler, Carol Stock, Sandra Dahl, Deb Gresham, and Sherri Smith. Valerie Grossman is the project chair.

This long awaited certification, will allow nurses who use the telephone as a significant part of their practice, to now gain board certification in this specialty area. As nurses move out of the ED/ICU/Clinic setting and into a telephone practice setting ... they have been left without an avenue to maintain their certification in their nursing area. With the creation of this exam, nurses will have the benefit of maintaining their board certification while exploring a new specialty area.

The exam is slated to be completed by mid 2000, and available to nurses by the end of 2000.



From left to right: Anne Wall, Congresswoman Louise & Mel Wilson.

NEWSLETTER TASK FORCE

Please submit any ideas, suggestions, or articles to:

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Next issue deadline: January 2000



ELECTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2000

Elections for the New State Council Officers for the year 2000 will be held Friday, November 12, 1999. The elections will be held at the State Council Meeting in Albany, New York.

President Elect:

Mary Schmidt-Roth

- Member of the Nassau-Queens Chapter of ENA. Past chapter President & Treasurer.
- Currently is an Alternate Representative to NYSCENA and is the Chairperson of the Issues and Practice Committee.
- Has served as a New York Delegate to the ENA National General Assembly.

Secretary:

Jeffrey A. Falk

- Member of the Mid Hudson Chapter of ENA. He is currently serving as chapter president.
- Currently is a Representative to the NYSCENA.
- Has served as a New York Delegate to the ENA National General Assembly.

Coleen Vesely

- Member of the Mohawk Chapter of ENA.
- Currently is a Representative to NYSCENA.
- Is Co-chair / Director of the New York State EnCare Program.
- Has served as a New York State Delegate to the ENA National General Assembly.

Director at Large:

Janet Curley

- Member of the Brooklyn-Staten Island Chapter of ENA.
- Currently is an alternative Representative to NYSCENA.
- Is active in NYSCENA Committee's
- Has served as a New York State Delegate to the ENA National General Assembly.

Michele (Mickey) Forness

- Member of the Chatt Chapter of ENA. She is currently chapter President.
- Currently is a Representative to NYSCENA,
- Has been Chairperson of the State ENA Committee and the NYSCENA Liaison to the New York State EMA Council.
- Has served as a New York State Delegate To the ENA National General Assembly.

BROOKLYN-SI HAPPENINGS

1) Ronnie Gucchardi and Barbara Barton from Staten Island University Hospital were interviewed on a local TV (BCAT) program called "BACK TO HEALTH" in which they discussed the ENCARE program. It aired Wed, Aug 4, 1999 at 9pm.

2) A group of nurses, doctors, and clerks from The Brooklyn Hospital Center volunteered to provide medical care to those attending WOODSTOCK '99. Sherrill Ann Pinnock RN, Carol Alleyne-Farris RN, Dr. Lisandro Irizarry MD, Chairman of Emergency Medicine, Mark Heller MD, Tony Mendez MD, Residents- Barry Diner MD, Michael Ameres MD, David Soloman MD, Mark Harris MD, Linette Murdock MD, Raquel Mora MD and ED clerk-Henry Cheema.

Denise Harris, RN
Bklyn-SI Chapter

NASSAU QUEENS ENA

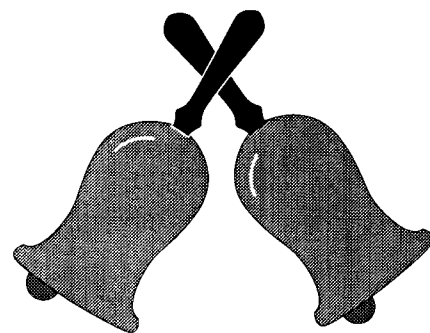
No news at this time.

PICTURES OF THE PAST

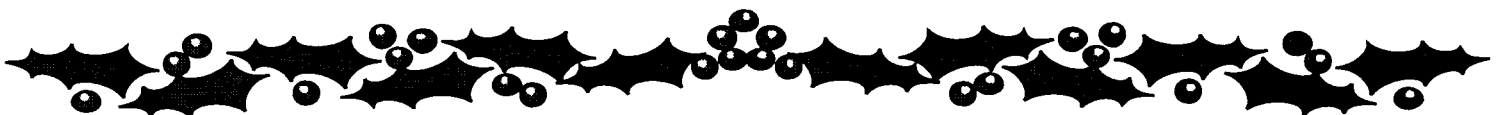
As you may be aware, NYSCENA will be celebrating its 30th year anniversary in May 2000. We will be in Niagara Falls to celebrate this event. We are looking for pictures and memorabilia of past events and old members to use for this special event. If you have anything or know of anybody that does, please contact:

Dottie Krause
56 Ellington Road
Rochester, New York 14616

Janet Curley
659 Carroll St #3
Brooklyn, New York 11215



Seasons Greetings



TRAUMA COURSE DATES

This is a listing of courses being offered throughout the state. For more information on the exact location and registration and fees, contact persons are listed.

December 10-11 TNCC	Poughkeepsie St. Francis	S. McAllen 914-496-8429
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Additional educational programs of interest include: Nassau Queens ENA will present Psychiatric Emergencies on March 9th at 7pm at Long Beach Hospital. To register, call Mary at (516) 766-2784.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!

The New York State Council of the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) has a newsletter circulation of 2300. It is published quarterly and reaches all Emergency Departments and ENA members in New York State. We accept paid advertisements meeting the following criteria:

1. Products which relate to emergency nursing
2. Services relating to emergency nursing
3. Recruitment advertising within New York State

Advertisements are subject to committee approval prior to publication. Advertisements are to be copy ready and reducible. The New York State Council of ENA disclaims any responsibility for advertising material and does not guarantee, or endorse any product or service advertised. We are very proud of the work that is done by the Council and encourage your support of ENA. Should you decide to advertise, checks should be made payable to NYSCENA. For further information, please contact Ramona Sowers, 308 Mid Avenue, Elmira, NY 14904