



Setting the Pace

Fall 2002 • Volume 22, Number 3

EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION
New York State Council

NYSCENA • P.O. Box 23451 • Rochester, NY 14692-3451

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mary Lou Killian

Emergency Nurses Week will be October sixth through the tenth. This year as in the past, activities will include teaching days for emergency nurses, community injury prevention programs, luncheons, cruises, radio announcements, and let's not forget the gifts from administration, ambulance services, physicians and anyone else that chooses to use this time to say "Thank You" for the work that we do every day of the year.

Emergency Nurses week can be very nice for the duration of the event. Unfortunately, in our everyday work we may forget that patients, doctors, the public and administration recognize that the work we do is vital. During these periods of forgetfulness we feel overworked and underappreciated; the quality of our work may suffer. Some of us choose to leave emergency nursing.

What can be done to keep the good feeling of emergency nurses week all year? It would be nice to give and receive flowers gifts and proclamations all the time but that it is not a realistic expectation.

Letting your coworkers know that you are grateful for their help by saying "Thank You" or "you (we) did that well" goes a long way on those days when nothing is going right. Gratitude and compliments from your coworkers is one of the greatest gifts you can receive, because they are the only ones who really understand all that is involved in "just doing your job."

When a nurse transfers from another unit don't just say "welcome" but assist them in every way possible to learn about emergency

nursing and recognize that by transferring they are displaying an act of courage. Believe it or not, nurses in other departments consider emergency departments as scary and many do not believe that they "could ever learn" everything that they need to know". Also, we all come into the emergency unit with different kinds of knowledge so what seems to you as just common sense may mean nothing to your coworker. It may take some time to explain rather than talking in ER-shorthand.

Make plans to have fun time with other emergency nurses. Again they are the only ones who fully understand what you have to give to do your job, and laughter is one of the great remedies for just about anything.

Lastly, often in our desire to just get things done we make false assumptions about our co-workers. Yes, emergency nurses have superpowers, but one of them is not mind reading. So, if your coworker does not automatically know when you need help, the best way to get it is to ask, and conversely when you are not busy but one of your coworkers is, offer a hand. Tomorrow you may need their offer of help.

The Celebration of Emergency Nurses week can go on all year but the thing that we have to remember is what Sue Chalupa -Breeze said to me this past winter. "These are tough times for emergency nurses, if we don't work together to help each other how can expect anyone else to help us?"

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

We are seeking nominations for office for the year 2003. Please give some thought to running for one of these offices. There is a lot of talent among our members. As a New York State Council ENA officer, you will have an added say in the direction we take. Your energy and leadership will help to promote emergency nursing at this important time.

The positions to be filled include:

President Elect – a one year term, and in 2004, this person will be State President. This state leadership position provides the maximum opportunity for planning and guiding the direction ENA takes, both at the state and the national level.

Treasurer – a two year term. The primary responsibility is to maintain the financial records, and to manage both incoming and outgoing funds.

Member at Large of the Board of Directors – a two year term. Members at Large help to develop and implement policy. They act as liaison to individual chapters. They also oversee and direct other projects at the request of the President.

If you would like to nominate someone, either yourself or someone else, please send the nomination along the nominee's phone number and address/email to Mary Schmidt Roth, 43 Lehigh Ct, Rockville Ctr, NY 11570, or fax to 516-766-5709, or email to: msr4life@ix.netcom.com.

Nominations will be taken from the floor at the fall meeting. The Nominations Committee would prefer nominations in advance as the nominees need to be contacted regarding their willingness to serve, and the committee also needs to verify their active membership status. If you have any questions, please call Mary at 516-766-2784.

THANKS

Thanks to Carol Jarmel who organized the New York State raffle which benefits ENA's Sept. 11 Fund, a scholarship fund to assist prehospital care providers who choose to attend nursing school. The prizes were a thrill, especially to baseball fans. There were many prizes awarded. Great idea, Carol, and thanks for the legwork. We missed you in New Orleans. Thanks also to all who manned the NYSCENA booth.



NYS Council members display some items from the 9-11 Fund raffle.

NEW DATE FOR FALL STATE COUNCIL MEETING

The next State Council meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in Poughkeepsie on Saturday, October 26th. The meeting will include election of officers for the upcoming year. All ENA members are invited to attend. Contact Mary Lou Killian at 845-454-3202, or email at mlk724@aol.com.

ATTENTION CHAPTERS

Please plan to hold your chapter elections in November. Plan to get your annual reports and financial statements in order. National ENA will be asking for this information. Having it available in a timely fashion ensures for a smooth transition of leadership.

ENCARE COMMITTEE

Don't forget!—when you give any injury prevention program, please drop a note to Judy at jjax@winthrop.org. We want to know how many and what kinds of programs are being offered throughout the state. Compiling this information will also help us when we seek funding for new programs.

NEW ORLEANS A SUCCESS!

Thanks to all the New York Nurses who attended General Assembly in New Orleans. The Scientific Assembly had its greatest registration ever. What a place to get an education. New Orleans is certainly a town for fun. The greatest thing about attending a national professional conference is meeting with colleagues. It's an opportunity to compare notes on what is happening and to commiserate about common problems. Put a few thousand nurses together and you would be amazed at what ideas and enthusiasm is generated.

ISSUES AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE

The Issues and Practice Committee is looking for research articles related to emergency nursing. The group is planning to review and abstract articles. If you have an article which you find interesting and would like to see reviewed, send it to: Denise Harris at 555 Hancock St, Brooklyn, NY

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 Mary Roth, msr4life@ix.netcom.com or fax (516) 766-5709

NEWSLETTER/COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Please submit any ideas, suggestions, or articles to:

Editor: **Mary Schmidt Roth**
E-mail: msr4life@ix.netcom.com
Phone: (516) 766-2784
Fax: (516) 766-5709

Contributing Editors: **Lori Barkwell**
E-mail: Bark518@aol.com

Denise Harris
E-mail: Dharris719@aol.com

Next issue deadline: October 20, 2002

EMERGENCY TRIAGE - SURVIVING THE HOT SEAT!

Friday, October 25
9am to 4pm

ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL
Poughkeepsie

This new triage course is designed to help emergency nurses advance their critical decision making skills. It will also enhance the ED nurses' ability to manage the emergency waiting area. Emergency nurses will complete the course with an increased confidence in their care of subtle or confusing as well as emergent conditions.

Registrations are \$65, \$50 for ENA members; \$40 group discount is 4 or more checks come in the same envelope. Lunch is included.

For further information, contact Course Coordinator, Cathy Lind, at 718-240-6512 or email her at: Harbor97@aol.com.

Mail registration information and check payable to: NYSCENA to 141 B 207 St., Rockaway Point, NY 11697.

Name _____
Address _____
Day Phone _____
Email if available _____
ENA# _____

Cancellation fee \$20, if canceling after October 20th.
ENA reserves the right to cancel for unforeseen events.

LEST WE FORGET — ONE YEAR LATER

If there is one song which touched me most in the previous year, it was Alan Jackson's "Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning":

Where were you when the world stopped turning
On that September day.
Were you in the yard with your wife and children
Or workin' in some stage in LA.
Did you stand there in shock at the sight of that black smoke
Risin' against that blue sky
Did you shout out in anger, in fear for your neighbor
Or did you just sit down and cry

Did you weep for the children who lost their dear loved ones
And pray for the ones who don't know
Did you rejoice for the people who walked from the rubble
And sob for the ones left below
Did you burst out with pride for the red, white, and blue
And the heroes who died just doin' what they do
Did you look up to heaven for some kind of answer
And look at yourself and what really matters

Chorus

I'm just a singer of simple songs; I'm not a real political man
I watch CNN but I'm not sure I can tell you
The difference in Iraq and Iran
But I know Jesus and I talk to God
And I remember this from when I was young
Faith, hope and love are some good things He gave us
And the greatest is love.

Where were you when the world stopped turning
On that September day
Teaching a class full of innocent children
Or driving down some cold interstate
Did you feel guilty 'cause you're a survivor
In a crowded room did you feel alone
Did you call up your mother and tell her you love her
Did you dust off that bible at home

Chorus

Did you open your eyes and hope it never happened
Close your eyes and not go to sleep
Did you notice the sunset for the first time in ages
Or speak to some stranger on the street
Did you lay down at night and think of tomorrow
Go out and buy you a gun
Did you turn off that violent old movie you're watching
And turn on I Love Lucy reruns
Did you go to a church and hold hands with some strangers
Stand in line and give your own blood
Did you just stay at home and cling tight to your family
And thank God you had somebody to love

Chorus

I'm just a singer of simple songs; I'm not a real political man
I watch CNN but I'm not sure I can tell you
The difference in Iraq and Iran
But I know Jesus and I talk to God
And I remember this from when I was young
Faith, hope and love are some good things He gave us
And the greatest is love.

This September marked the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks. Many of us went to memorial services to honor the victims, of special note those who went into danger while others ran from it. We pray for the dead, the survivors, and our country.

Over the past year, as nurses we have learned about weapons of mass destruction, how to recognize when they're used and how to treat the aftermath. We've participated in disaster drills, and we have cared for those injured, saddened and frightened by the terrorist attacks of 9-11.

This past year has seen Americans engaged in a war on terrorism and a debate on how best to preserve and protect our American way of life. ER nurses are an integral part of this, both as citizens and as first line responders and rescuers. We should participate with our intelligence, our talents, and our enthusiasm.



September 11 Memorial at Breezy Point, the community which lost the greatest number of rescue workers. The cross was made of steel removed from the World Trade Center rubble. The cross stands in a direct line of view from where the WTC stood.

EMERGENCY NURSES — KNOW US BEFORE YOU NEED US

When your neighbor asks, "Is it really like ER? I couldn't possibly be a nurse, all that blood." What do you say? Sometimes as nurses we fail to utilize the opportunities presented by family, friends, and neighbors to promote what we do.

Emergency nursing is a great job and a great career. After all, where else can you meet such a diverse group of people? And where else can you make such a difference in people's lives every single day.

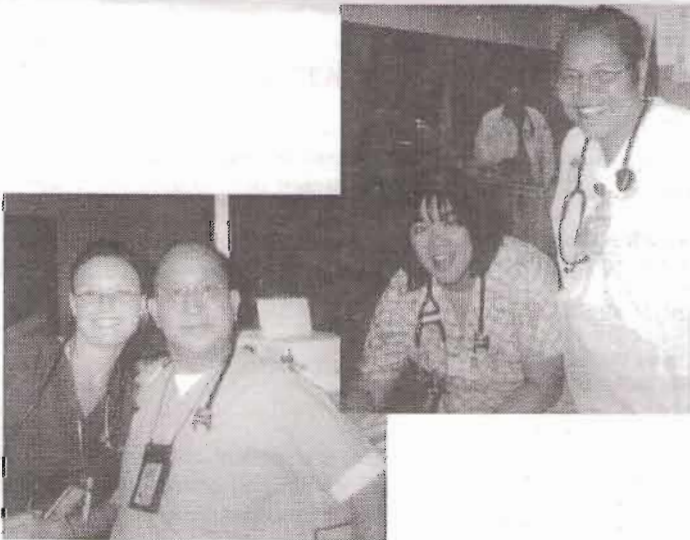
For people who enjoy variety and challenge, ED nursing has it. It's intellectually stimulating, technically challenging and physically and emotionally demanding.

From the moment a person comes to the ED, it is a professional nurse who ensures that the presenting problem is identified, that initial treatment is given, that reevaluation occurs in a timely fashion to ensure that the patient makes changes for the better or a new treatment is started, that the patient understands what is happening to them and what they will need to do to ensure continued progress.

While in the midst of the controlled chaos which is so common in emergency departments, the nurse is also the professional who ensures that the patients is cared for as the very important human beings they are, and are valued as persons.

TO ALL EMERGENCY NURSES, CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS FOR THE GREAT JOB YOU DO EVERYDAY IN CARING FOR YOUR PATIENTS.

HAPPY EMERGENCY NURSES WEEK!



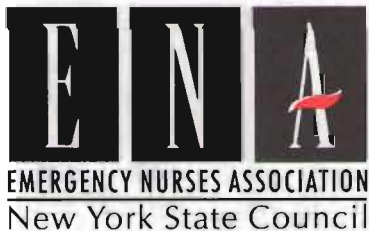
2002 Summer Student Nurse Extern Program at the Brooklyn Hospital Center. Top L-R: Deborah Wright (Nurse Educator), Sharon Thomas, Olawanle Burns, Denise Harris (Nurse Educator), Laura Walton, Emmie Lamberty. Bottom L-R: Maria Adames, Natalie Hutchinson, Ella Reid.

TRIAGE – SURVIVING THE HOT SEAT

Raves reviews were given to the new program developed by Cathy Lind, Susan Callahan Montella, and the Professional Development Committee. This one day course was given in August at Bellevue Hospital. Interest in the program was intense, and some nurses had to be turned away due to lack of space. In response, NYSCENA has agreed to give the course again in October in Poughkeepsie in conjunction with the Fall Council meeting. The course provides an overview of triage, the systems which are in use, and how to best utilize it in a person's individual emergency department. Case studies helped the participants to improve their critical thinking skills.



Left to Right: Sue Callahan Montella and Cathy Lind at completion of Triage Course.



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TNCC COURSE DATES

September 28, 29	Montifiore Medical Center Bronx	Meg Barry 212-305-2432
October 11 and 12	Manhattanville College Lower Hudson	Rita Anderson 845-783-2384 or 914-493-7310
October 14, 16	Emerg. Medicine Training Ctr. Syracuse	Rose Marie 315-464-4851 or ALSCTR@upstate.edu
October	Nassau Queens	Mary Hayes 718-634-9424
October 15, 22, 26	Wyckoff Heights Hospital	Maria Gigante

ENPC COURSE DATES

November 5, 7, 9	Bayonne Hospital	Carol Jarmel catmom310@aol.com
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CATN COURSE DATES

November	Nassau Queens	Cathy Lind 718-240-6512 or Harbor97@aol.com
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CEN REVIEW DATES

November 21, 22	Montifiore Medical Center Bronx	Lisa Kosits 718-920-5241 or lkosits@montifiore.org
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UPCOMING COURSE DATES

Emergency Nursing Core Course
 Brooklyn Hospital
 Sept. 25, 26, 27
 Contact: Denise Harris 718-250-6905

5th Annual Trauma Teaching Day
 St. Francis Hospital, Poughkeepsie
 Nov, 9, 2002
 Contact: 845-431-8728

Adirondack ENA Teaching Day
 Holiday Inn, Saratoga Springs
 October 4, 2002
 Contact: Bark518@aol.com

Nassau Queens Education Evening
 Monday, October 7, 2002
 Contact: Judy Jax 516-663-8708
 jjax@winthrop.org

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 Emergency Nurses Association
 Website:

www.nysena.org