



EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION
New York State Council

Setting the Pace

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carole West, CEN



The past few months have been the busiest ever, especially in ENA. In August, we traveled to Ithaca for a successful Triage course, a great council meeting, a sunset dinner cruise and even found time for a wine tour. I learned valuable information at all functions.

The various types of wine remind me that we are a valuable, diverse multigenerational nursing workforce. There are numerous varieties of wine, from sweet to dry, various aging times and even

some with unusual names. Our co-workers consist of different attitudes, work ethics, habits, and overall expectations. Like the need for various tastes and aging processes in wine, it is important to utilize the numerous talents available to us to form a team of nursing empowerment.

With little time between the August state meeting and the General Assembly national meeting in San Antonio, Texas, the thirty-seven delegates representing New York State formed a strong voice on resolutions and bylaws for national ENA. During the two day business meeting, we covered a myriad of topics valid to emergency nursing and supporting the business of ENA and the vitality of the 30,000 plus member association. Watch for the new topic of retired nursing.

Immediately following General Assembly, we attended three days of Scientific Assembly. These days were filled with informational and inspirational education, as well as fun filled networking opportunities. So much packed into three days, I am still buzzing with ideas, new friends, old friends, numerous products and long lasting practices to help future emergency nursing.

As we left San Antonio, we truly felt we were champions. Like the Tina Turner hit (the lift off song for the conference), "Simply the Best", you felt you were and as it rang in our heads - "You're simply the best, better than all the rest, better than anyone, anyone I've ever met" - the energy carried us home and to each and every one of you in ENA, you truly are champions in emergency nursing each and every day!

NEW YORK FIRESTARTERS IN SAN ANTONIO

Mary Jo Stark, CEN

On Sept. 13th, the Emergency Nurses Association General Assembly convened in San Antonio Texas. Current ENA President Nancy Bonolumi announced that ENA had reached our 30,000 member benchmark and was continuing to grow. She spoke of "Firestarters" and that each one of us had the ability to evoke change and/or make a difference. As I sat in the room I was a little awed by the dedication of the people that sat before me. The amount of time, commitment and effort they put into the organization seemed to be endless. But, as I listened to the departing President, I began to really understand the message being sent to the group. It is every little piece that people give that make the group whole. Every "Firestarter" makes a difference. Some will grow to be large raging fires accomplishing many things, and others of us will light smaller flames and have smaller achievements. In the end, it is the sum of the whole that makes a real difference. The inspiring opening address led into the real work of the day, which was discussion of the bylaws and resolutions to be voted on the next morning.

On Sept. 14th, the following bylaws and resolutions were voted on. What follows is a synopsis of the votes and a little information on its impact.

Bylaw 6-01 titles "Requirements for Eligibility" was defeated. This bylaw would have set limitations to terms served by board members.

Bylaw 6-02 was approved creating a senior membership class entitling members over the age of 65 to discounted fees.

Resolution 6-01 was approved, defining basic requirements for clinical nurse managers as recommended by the organization.

Resolution 6-02 passed and will establish a work group to investigate a validation mechanism for clinical nurse specialists in the emergency care setting.

Resolution 6-03 also approved will form an emergency management/preparedness committee to collaborate with experts on emergency management.

Resolution 6-04 titled "Determination for Eligibility for National Elected Positions" was approved assuring that any proposed changes in eligibility of candidates be presented to the General Assembly in the form of a bylaw amendment.

cont. on next page



ENA delegates caucus in San Antonio

After the General Assembly, many of us stayed to attend the educational sessions, posters, exhibit hall and the city of San Antonio. The NC MA TINY party was a great success. Emergency nurses from North Carolina, Massachusetts, Texas, Indiana, and New York got together for some snacks and beverages, networking and . . . a little dancing.

If you are reading this, it may mean you are a NYSENA member. It may mean that you found it on the table in the ED staff lounge. Either way, maybe the description of the events above will inspire you to become a "Firestarter". Whether it is becoming a member of ENA to stay informed, or attending a chapter meeting for the first time, every spark counts. We all don't have to light bonfires, but each one of us makes a difference and can have an impact on the practice of emergency nursing.



*NY delegates outside
San Antonio Convention center*



NY delegates at work

CONGRATULATIONS!

*CONGRATULATIONS TO SUE PREZZANO,
WHO BECOMES NYSCENA'S PRESIDENT FOR 2007!
SUE HAS MANY YEARS EXPERIENCE AS AN
EMERGENCY NURSE. SHE ALSO HAS BEEN VERY
ACTIVELY INVOLVED WITH PREHOSPITAL CARE
PROVIDERS. SUE IS A TRAUMA INSTRUCTOR.
SUE COMES FROM THE MID HUDSON CHAPTER AND
HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN ENA. WE WISH HER
A GREAT YEAR AS PRESIDENT.*

CALL FOR 2006 NYSCENA COUNCIL CANDIDATES

The State Council is looking for candidates for officers for 2007. All of these positions provide leadership and networking opportunities which may not be available to you in your regular job. You can help to shape the future of emergency nursing practice.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ALL POSITIONS:

Be a member in good standing of the New York State Emergency Nurses Association. (NYSENA) It is recommended that the candidate have been active within their chapter or at the state council level.

The positions to be voted on are:

PRESIDENT-ELECT (three year commitment)

The President – elect is a one year term, with the commitment to continue on as President and then as Immediate Past President. The responsibilities of President-elect include:

- Serve as Parliamentarian for the quarterly State Council meetings
- Serve as Chairperson to the Awards Committee
- Assist the President in the day to day running of the organization
- Attend at least 75% of the State Council meetings and Board of Director meetings.
- Be available to advise chapters and serve as liaison between Chapters, Committees and the State Council.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (two year commitment)

As Director at Large, the individual would be expected to:

- Attend at least 75% of the State Council meetings and Board of Director meetings
- Assist the President in the day to day running of the organization
- Be available to advise chapters and serve as liaison between Chapters, Committees, and the State Council
- May serve as Chairperson of a State Council Standing Committee

TREASURER (two year commitment)

As Treasurer, the individual would be expected to:

- Manage the financial records for the organization
- Meet with accountant as needed
- Member/Chair the Finance Committee
- Attend at least 75% of the State Council meetings and Board of Director meetings
- Assist the President in the day to day running of the organization
publish a financial statement for the membership

Elections will take place in Newburgh on Saturday, October 28th.

LAURA GILES, CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

I am presenting my name as candidate for President-elect for 2007. My emergency nursing career started at Bellevue Hospital in 1970 and I attended one of the first "EDNA" meetings in New York City in 1971. Watching the ENA grow into the terrific resource it has become has been inspiring since is done so on a strictly voluntary basis. That commitment to professional development is also evident in New York State and I am proud to be a part of this organization.

I have been an active ENA member of the NYSCENA for the past 13 years. I have served as the President of the Manhattan-Bronx Chapter and currently hold the position of Secretary for that chapter. I have been a delegate to NYSCENA and also to the National ENA General Assembly. Positions at the state level have been as Chair of the Issues and Practice Committee, Coordinator of the 2006 Legislative Breakfast and Director at Large for 2005-2006.

ENA serves an important role in my life. It has provided tools for educating emergency nurses, enabled me to stay in touch with my profession and supplied me with valuable professional contacts. I would like to see emergency nurses more widely recognized for the vital role they play in emergency care. One of my goals as President would be to raise our visibility in New York State as a professional organization with strong ties to other professional nursing and emergency medicine organizations.

NEW YORK STATE EMERGENCY NURSES ASSN. HONORS OUR MILITARY NURSING COLLEAGUES!

Emergency nursing and military service have common bonds. Emergency nursing is a service profession as is military service. It is not surprising that some of those who serve today are ED nurses. Our military today is all voluntary. Those who serve do so with true commitment. The conditions they work in are difficult. Some who are in the military are reservists and National Guard members. They care for soldiers, civilians and detainees far from home.

Our emergency department staffs were involved in training of these staff. Hospitals like Jacobi Medical Center and Brookdale Medical Centre created programs to update skills in trauma and disaster medicine. This in turn helped to insure that our service men and women get the best care possible.

The learning goes on in more than one direction. Military medical teams are adding their expertise and experience in trauma care which is helping us care for patients here in the United States. Today the emphasis on early intervention and transportation has resulted in improved outcomes for the victims of trauma.

In celebrating Emergency Nurses Week, the NYSENA launched a drive to send packages to our military colleagues in thanks for their service.

This year's theme for Emergency Nurses Week "always ready, always caring" holds especially true for those nurses who serve our country. The idea for the drive came after a meeting where we found out how many of our members and their children are serving in the military. These nurses have strong commitments to their country and to their patients. Everyday their skills, courage and compassion are making a big difference.

NYSENA will be sending educational reference materials and personal items to show support for our colleagues serving our nation in these dangerous times. We are planning for the first of the care packages to arrive in time for Veterans' Day. If you would like to join this effort, you can contact us through the website: www.nysena.org. Just click on Contact Us!

State President Carole West stated, "We have the highest respect for the skills and courage of our fellow nurses in the military. We hope that in this way we can show our support and thanks for their efforts. We hope for their safe return."

In this newsletter and in future newsletters we would like you to meet some of these extraordinary nurses. If you would like to share stories or photos of someone you know serving our country, send it to the editor at:

mrs4life@ix.netcom.com or

www.nysena.org or

to 255 Raymond St., Rockville Centre, NY 11570.

Linda Zajicek

As a civilian, Linda Zajicek is a follow-up coordinator in the Emergency Department at Stony Brook University Hospital on Long Island. Major Zajicek serves with the 344 Combat Support Hospital, Fort Totten, NY. On April 15, 2005, she headed to Fort McCoy for Immersion Training. The two and a half month experience was intended to prepare the group for life in Iraq. Here, Linda wore her uniform and slept in a tent. She learned about the culture of the people that would be her new neighbors. She also developed her skills using a weapon. These were not the only skills and knowledge she brought overseas.

Looking back, Linda recognized that she was fortunate to bring with her knowledge and skills attained through her years at Stony Brook. The work environment of collaborative practice and autonomy gave her the ability to make decisions and function well as a team member. With her knowledge and skill fine tuned for her new experience, Linda departed for Iraq on July 5, 2005.

The primary mission of the unit was to provide healthcare to detainees. This work was done in a hospital that has all the services we are accustomed to have here in the United States. Most of the medical care provided was to detainees. There were many days, because of location or severity of injury, critically injured soldiers arrive at the hospital. Care for these soldiers was a rewarding experience. For Linda, "every American soldier saved was the most memorable experience."

On May 18, 2006, Linda returned to the United States shaped by her experience. "It certainly puts events in everyday life into perspective." Admittedly, "I would have never volunteered for the experience, but would encourage people to take the unique opportunity."

One of the most touching thoughts that Linda shared was that during the year that she was away, no one forgot her. She received notes and gifts from everyone she worked with. Those notes and thoughts were very important to her.

Both Linda and I hope that reading this will inspire you, whether it is part of your Emergency Nurses celebration or just as an everyday act, to salute an emergency nurse who is or has served in the armed forces.

Mary Jo Stark

NYSENA salutes and thanks all the service men and women for the great job they do to protect us every day. We salute their families who worry for them.

Godspeed and may you return safely.

Sue Peters

Sue Peters is a staff nurse at Queens Hospital Center, an urban community hospital. As part of her military service, Sue found herself in a hospital in southern Iraq which primarily cared for detainees. She and other members of her unit, TASK FORCE 344 Medical, worked with members of the Romanian Medical Unit. When asked if there was a part of her emergency experience which helped her in her military serving, she replied "EVERYTHING!"

LTC Peters has a lot of experience as well as education which helped her to care for those in her charge. In addition to the courses she took as a civilian, the military also provided courses in trauma and burn care, and courses in language and culture. Sue said that there were ample translators to assist them. The staff learned some new words and sign language which was helpful. The Iraqis were happy to be able to receive care. Many had not had any previous health care. Just as in her home environment, she cared for many with heart disease, hypertension and diabetes as well as infection. There were many amputees and others who needed complex care. In addition to the detainees, injured American and other coalition troops were brought there for care.

In talking about what might be helpful to the medical unit and staff, Sue recommended that it might be helpful for additional medical references be sent. ACLS has new guidelines, and pocket reference books for trauma, burn care and critical care are always helpful. She is concerned about the availability of medical follow-up outside of the American units.

Members of Task Force 344 Medical were glad to be a part of the team which made a difference in the Mideast. Their patients were people in need, and that's whom they is very accustomed to caring for.

Lisa Bowman

Lisa Bowman is a staff nurse at Albany Medical Center. She is a reservist in the Air Guard. Part of her military service has taken her overseas on three tours. She has been on the front line caring for our injured. Major Bowman is a specially trained flight nurse. In addition to her civilian education and experience which is extensive, the military provided specialized courses in flight physiology and medicine, critical care, burn care, and disaster and multiple casualty triage and care.

When asked whether her experience in the emergency department helped her in her military nursing, she replied, everything.... the trauma care, triage, critical care. Emergency nursing experience correlated well with the skills she needed and used to provide care to our service men and women. Her military colleagues came from all types of nursing backgrounds. Her skills helped her to mentor others as well as care for her patients. Improved early intervention in trauma care has made a difference. Lisa said that today her patients are sometimes able to be transported back home or to Europe in a day or two, rather than previously when it might take a week.

Lisa talked a little about the local environment. There is a small commissary on base so staff can get personal items. Things which may be helpful include chap stick, gum, phone cards, and reference materials like critical care manual and recent magazines would be appreciated.

Overall, Lisa said "It is the best and most exciting thing in her life" being able to provide high quality care and make a difference in saving lives. She recommends that nurses get involved, keep up their education and experience, especially with what's going on in the world today.



Sue Breese's daughter, Robyn Chalupa, receives her promotion to Captain in Afghanistan.



Ivy Henry's son, Sgt. Henry (right) from D Co. New Jersey Army National Guard, serving in Iraq.

Today's military can involve the whole family.

One of our members, Sue Breese, from Genesee Valley is a special example. Sue is an emergency nurse. She and her husband are grandparents of toddlers. They are stepping in for their kids doing the parenting because their son and daughter are both in the military and serving overseas. It's a special task to care for these little ones, while concerned for their kids. Military service is a family affair.

Marion Smith and Ivy Henry, from the Brooklyn-Staten Island Chapter, both have sons serving in the Mideast.

COURSE SCHEDULE

COURSE	DATE	PLACE	CONTACT
TNCC Provider	Nov 4/5	Manhattan	Meg Barry 212-305-2432
TNCC Provider	Nov 15/16	Plattsburgh	Ann Heywood 518-562-7483
ENPC Provider	Oct 25/26	Plattsburgh	Ann Heywood 518-562-7483
ENPC Provider	Nov. 29/30	Kingsbrook Jewish Med Ctr.	Denise Harris DHarris719@aol.com
ENPC Provider	Nov 29/30	Wilson Reg. Med Ctr.	Alice Sturckler 607-763-6022
Brooklyn Staten Teaching Day	Oct 25	TBA	Ivy Budhai Henry IBUDAIHEN@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE!

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Preparing for the Future at**

SETTING THE PACE 2007

**April 19 and 20, 2007
Saratoga Springs Holiday Inn**

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Shopping*

Featured Speakers:

*Jean Proehl ,
Emergency Nursing Author and ENA Past President
Glenda Kelman,
Author and Dean, Graduate Nursing, Sages College*

Topics include:

*CATN – Advanced Trauma; Trauma Tricks;
Evidenced Based Practice;
Critical Thinking skills;
And more . . .*

For information, contact Mary Lou Killian
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845-454-3202

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Services relating to emergency nursing.
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*Do you have a clinical question?
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One of our expert clinicians will answer
it in a future newsletter.*



ENANA members relax on Lake Cayuga



Carole West, center, with friends