

# California Emergency Nurses Association

# THE MONITOR

## President's Message

First, I would like to thank each one of you for your dedication to Emergency Nursing, helping the patients and families with their medical emergencies. As your President for 2007, I would like to thank each one of our 2006 Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and Chapter Presidents or Representatives and look forward to leading our state emergency nursing organization for a meaningful and successful 2007. Strategizing for the new year is always challenging. How can we help you as a member of our organization? In 2005, the survey results showed our members would like to see more educational events.

We are calling 2007 the Year of Rejuvenation with our exciting Cal ENA Emergency Summit in Lake Tahoe. Part of this experience will be to learn something new, get together with colleagues, take time for a spa treatment at the MontBleu Resort Casino and Spa and especially take time for you to rejuvenate and invigorate before traveling back to work.

Let us recognize our state membership nationally for the exceptional job they do daily dedicated to emergency nursing. If you would like to

Inside this issue:	
New Board	3
Events	4
ENA History	5
Committee & Chapter News	6-8
Camp Nursing	9
San Antonio Report	10-11
CE Form	11
Next Meeting SF, Jan 19	12

nominate an individual for a national award, please contact your chapter leader or get the details at [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org). Additional grants will be approved for 2007, such as Emergency Nurses Week Grant. The purpose of this grant is to reach out to our hospitals within our chapters' catchment area, promoting emergency nursing and membership during Emergency Nurses Week. Other goals for 2007 include increasing communications with our members by assuring our board liaisons are given the tools

and opportunities to work with our chapter leaders and committee chairpersons. A professional organization must have goals, deadlines and be able to meet its strategic plan. This year, we, your 2007 Board of Directors, will make every attempt to meet your needs and requests and be accountable for a successful organization.

I encourage our members to become involved in our various committees and at your local chapter to carry the message of emergency nurses. Our board encourages and values your thoughts and ideas from our membership to improve the organization while remaining fiscally responsible to promote you, our membership as a whole, our leaders and our organization.

*Matthew F. Powers, RN, BSN, CEN, MICP  
Cal ENA President 2007*

### Meet Your 2007 Board

**President: Matt Powers, RN, BSN, CEN, MICP**



The North County Fire Authority employs Matt where he oversees paramedic (EMS) services for five fire agencies. His job is to manage EMS systems and provide training, quality improvement, protocol writing and revisions and response to emergency medical calls. He is also On-Call Manager of the Emergency Department for Kaiser-Permanente, Walnut Creek.

**ENA history:** Matt has been with the East Bay ENA, including past president in 2003, Representative to the EMSA Directors Advisory Group and the recipient of the 2003 National Rising Star Award! "I am excited to serve on the California State ENA Board of Directors, assuring that our focus will continue to be in education and safety of emergency nurses on the local, state and national levels."

*continued on page 3*

## Cal ENA Directory

### Board Members 2007

**President:** Matt Powers  
**President-Elect:** Janet O'Leary  
**Past-President:** Robert Toman  
**Secretary:** Terri Sturgill  
**Treasurer:** Jackie Magnuson  
**Treasurer-Elect:** Louise Hummel  
**Dir-at-Large:** Jody Haynes

*Contact all  
Cal ENA  
leaders at:  
CalENA.net*

### Committee Chairs

**Bylaws:** Robert Toman  
**Cal Nursing Coalition:** Diane Schertz  
**Cal ACEP Rep:** Lani Williams  
**Education:** Anita Fligge/Michelle Ruiz  
**EMS Commissioner:** Jan Ogar  
**EMS Committee:** Jan Ogar/Anna Valdez  
**ENAF/Fun Raiser:** Diane Schertz  
**Government Affairs:** Debby Rogers  
**Historian:** Liz Taylor  
**Injury Prevention Institute:** Jackie Jones  
**National Board Liaison:** Jeffrey Jordan  
**Newsletter:** Mark Wandro  
**Nursing Leadership In Practice:**  
Julie Wanstreet/Deborah Rodrigues  
**Pediatrics:** Michael Vicioso  
**Recruitment & Retention:** Ellie Encapera  
**Trauma:** Anita Ruiz-Contreras  
**Web Master:** Tom Trimble

### Chapter Leaders

223 **East Bay** Cheryl Balderson  
224 **Greater LA** Carol Snyder  
225 **Mid-Valley** Suzanne M. Kruzic  
226 **Orange Coast** Michael Vicioso  
228 **San Diego** Ricarda G. Jackson  
230 **San Francisco** Angela Hackenschmidt  
232 **Loma Prieta** Karen Grove  
253 **Sacramento** Carole Mennell  
362 **Inland Empire** Terri M. Sturgill  
378 **Channel Islands** Janet O'Leary  
379 **Superior** Kara L. Davis  
442 **Kern County** Francis Harris  
443 **North Coast** MaryAnn Mahoney

### State Council News

*Decisions made at State Council in November:*

- The Government Affairs Chair and EMS Commissioner will become non-voting members of the Cal ENA Board. Their input is important to the functioning of the Board.
- It was also recommended that one night's lodging be paid for committee chairs for all 2007 State Council meetings. This will help motivate members to serve as committee chairs.
- The Bylaws will be updated by Robert and ready for review in July.
- In a move to reinvest member's money in chapter development, the board would grant \$300 to chapters to promote Emergency Nurses Week. Chapters would be requested to match the amount and the grant would be specific for ENA products.
- National ENA is setting up a Memorial to Honor deceased ER Nurses and is asking for input. If you know of an ER RN who has died, please send a brief biography and picture to national ENA.

The California Emergency Nurses Association is a non-profit professional organization with a membership of approximately 2500. The State Council meets 5 times a year. Correspondence may be sent to:

#### Cal ENA

President Matt Powers  
[president@calena.net](mailto:president@calena.net)

*The Monitor* is the Official Publication of California State Council Emergency Nurses Association. *The Monitor* is published 5 times/year. For inquiries, article submission, or ad placement, please contact the editor:  
[editor@calena.net](mailto:editor@calena.net)

#### Sponsorship Rates

The fees per insertion are:  
Business card: (2 x 3.5) \$125      1/4 page: (3.5 x 4) \$250  
1/2 page: (7 x 4) \$450      Whole page: (7 x 8.5) \$800

Cal ENA mourns the loss of colleagues in the tragic crash of a Mercy helicopter in El Cajon pass on December 10. Please remember pilot Paul G. Latour, 46, of Apple Valley; nurse Katrina J. Kish, 42, of Moreno Valley; and paramedic Jerald W. Miller, 40, of Apple Valley.

## Meet Your 2007 Board

### President-elect: Janet O'Leary, RRT, RN, MICN, CEN

Janet is Pre-Hospital/EMS Coordinator overseeing daily operations of the base station (SJRMC) and receiving facility (SJPVH) with regards to pre-hospital care. She acts as liaison between facilities and pre-hospital care provider agencies, VC EMS, VC Base and Receiving hospitals. She is Program Director for the Ventura County MICN Course, attends all VC EMS committee meetings, participates in all CQI projects, acts as instructor in various pre-hospital programs upon request and is a TNCC Director and instructor. As a result of data collected from a recently completed pre-hospital 12 Lead EKG study VC EMS is moving forward in dedicating STEMI receiving facilities in Ventura County.



**ENA History:** A member since 1992, CEN since 1994, Janet spearheaded the Channel Islands Chapter Reactivation in 2004, serving as President and Chapter Representative in 2004-2005. "My interest in pre-hospital services and government affairs opened up an opportunity to become involved at the state level by joining both committees during my first attendance in 2004, at our Cal ENA State Council Meeting. I have 14 years combined experience in critical care, ED and flight nursing, as well as 10 years prior experience as a Registered Respiratory Therapist. Becoming involved in the Cal ENA State Council has opened so many doors of opportunity for me. I really appreciate all the support and professionalism that is shared within the ENA community. I am honored to be a member and to be elected to the Cal ENA President-elect for 2007. I look forward to the challenge."

### Treasurer: Jackie Magnuson, RN

Jackie is a Staff RN III in the ED in San Jose, which very recently has undergone many changes. Those changes include becoming a Level II Trauma Center, Rapid Medical Exam (RME) area for those non-emergent patients and melding together with staff from SJMC, which closed its doors for good in December 2004. "We are the second busiest hospital in Santa Clara County with about 55,000 visits per year. I am actively involved in the Charge Nurse and RME/Triage Committees in the department."



**ENA History:** "I have been a member of ENA since 1999, more actively since 2001. I am the current President of the Loma Prieta Chapter and served as Co-Chair of the Education Committee, at the local level, in 2002 and 2003. I put on a symposium in 2003 at the chapter level without any out-of-pocket expense to the LP Chapter by getting pharmaceutical companies to sponsor the entire one-day program. I served as President-elect in 2004, am an ENCARE Provider and attended my first ENA National Leadership Conference in 2005 in Florida. My spare time is devoted to my family, daughter Megan and husband, Eric."

### Treasurer-elect: Louse Hummel, RN, MSN, CNS, CEN

Louise is employed by Scripps Memorial Hospital, La Jolla, as an Emergency Department Staff Nurse.



#### ENA history:

Louise became involved in ENA in 1992, upon finishing graduate school. While a member of Orange Coast chapter she held the offices of Treasurer in 1993, 1994, 1995 and President - elect in 1996, prior to moving to San Diego in September 1996. As a member of San Diego Chapter, she held the office of Treasurer in 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001. She was elected to the office of State Treasurer-elect in 2000 progressing to Treasurer in 2001, then President-elect in 2002, and President in 2003.

Her National Committee Appointments include the 2004 National Planning Committee for General/Scientific Assembly held in San Diego and then in 2005, the International Relations Committee. Louise boasts taking the very first CEN exam in July 1980 and has maintained her certification since that time. "After over 10 years as a Clinical Nurse Specialist/Educator, I am happily back at the bedside delivering patient care. In addition to my staff nurse position I teach as an adjunct faculty in 2 local San Diego Community Colleges. I also teach in a CEN review course and TNCC and ENPC courses. Happily married for nearly 25 years, I have one daughter, Sara, who just graduated from Harvey Mudd College with a degree in Chemistry (and is still looking for a job). Hobbies: Rob and I enjoy wine tasting and trips to Northern California. I enjoy gardening, needlepoint crafts and cooking. I would like to say thank you, to the Cal ENA membership, for putting their trust in me and electing me the 2007 Treasurer-elect. I am looking forward to serving you as a member of your State Council Board of Directors."

### Secretary: Terri Sturgill, RN, CEN

Terri is employed by Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs, Terri works as a Staff Nurse on the night shift.



**ENA History:** Terri has been an ENA member since 1999, active in the Inland Empire Chapter holding the following positions: Director-at-large in 2002, Treasurer 2003-2004, President-elect in 2005 and currently the 2006 Chapter President. She has served Cal ENA as a Delegate to the National General Assembly for the past 4 years.

"I am excited about serving on the Board for the state of California. I am anxious to learn more about the activities at the state level. Thank you to everyone for providing me this opportunity."

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Education and Event Calendar

### TNCC Dates: 2007

**January 10, Monterey,**  
Lisa Latham 831/277-4414

**January 11, Roseville,**  
Christy Frecceri 916/781-1382

**January 11, Santa Rosa,**  
Lory McLellan 707/525-5300 X7053

**January 18, Los Angeles, Instructor Course,**  
Inge Morton 323/660-2450 X4455

**February 21, Los Angeles,**  
Yolonda Morad 323/669-4566

**March 10 & 11, Oxnard - St. John's Regional Medical Center,**  
Janet O'Leary (805) 988-2722



**SAVE the DATES!!!**

**April 19-21, 2007**

### The 2007 Cal ENA Summit "Redesigning the Future of Emergency Practice"

Supported by Dynamic Guest Speakers and Vendors

#### **Day One: (1 CE)**

Cal ENA Committee and State Council Meeting  
Wine & Cheese Opening Reception and Presentation

#### **Day Two: (7 CEs)**

Educational Events including track options  
Keynote Speaker 2007 ENA Pres-elect Denise King  
Technology in the ED  
Politics and Emergency Practice  
Mild Hypothermia in the Post Arrest Survivor  
Trauma on the Battlefield of Iraq  
Pediatric Emergency Care  
Early Management of Sepsis  
Emergency Practice Out of the Box

#### **Day Three: (7.5 CEs)**

Basic Disaster Life Support Course  
(Additional fee required)

#### **Cost includes:**

Wine & Cheese Reception, Continental Breakfast,  
Lunch, and CEs

Make your own hotel reservations @ the special  
ENA conference rate with  
The MontBleu Resort Casino & Spa in Lake Tahoe.

[www.montbleuresort.com](http://www.montbleuresort.com)

Use the code: "STEMER7" or  
"California Emergency Nursing"

If you're flying into the Reno/Tahoe Airport, a bus  
transfer is needed.

Brochures will be mailed to ENA members  
in January and posted on [www.calena.net](http://www.calena.net) and  
[www.ENW.org](http://www.ENW.org)

RNs, Paramedics, New Grads and Nursing Students  
are welcome.

BRN and EMS Provider Credits offered.  
Non-ENA members are welcome and may join ENA @  
the door for the ENA price.

### ENPC Dates: 2007

**February 5, Monterey,**  
Catherine Powers 831/622-2776



### CEN Review Classes

Call one of these providers for their next class:  
Selfridge, Sparger, Shea & Assoc. (800) 270-2500  
CME Associates (714) 998-2208  
Fazio/Ruiz & Associates (800) 339-2RNS  
Randolph Associates (707) 875-9422

### Important Dates

#### Board and State Council meetings

**January 18 & 19, 2007:** San Francisco  
**April 18 & 19:** Lake Tahoe, in conjunction  
with "Cal ENA Summit".  
**July 12 & 13:** San Diego  
**August/Sept:** Conference Call - TBA  
**November 8 & 9:** Los Angeles

Next Newsletter Deadline: Jan. 31

**Courses and Educational Events maybe added  
or cancelled after publication. Please confirm  
dates with course directors or at:  
[www.calena.net](http://www.calena.net) and then go to Educational  
Opportunities for current course listings.**

## **We Were Roadrunners** *The continuing story of the early years of ENA*

In **1977-78 June Brown** was president.

Highlights of her presidency included the decision to move our headquarters and staff of two to Chicago and be on our own. By June 1978, there was a full time staff of nine. The Awards Committee was established. Membership increased to 12,848.

The beginning of the 18 month Committee to revise the Constitution and ByLaws started. The Education Committee took on the task of revising the Core Curriculum. The Scientific Assembly was held In Houston, Texas, September 18-22, 1978.



In **1978-79 Peggy McCall** became president.

The Core Curriculum went to press. Final plans were made for the Certification Exam (CEN) for June, 1980.

Much time and effort went into trying to resolve problems, mostly of a financial nature, to continue the joint Scientific Assemblies with ACEP. When an impasse was reached, EDNA organized our own. The 1979 **EDNA** Scientific Assembly and General Assembly was held in Phoenix, Arizona, September 27-29.

In **1979-80 Marta Prado** served as president. This was our Tenth Anniversary Year and an Anniversary Committee sent out a packet each month on some area of Emergency Nursing. The Core Curriculum was revised. The first CEN examination was given on July 19, 1980. Twenty six Position Papers were adopted. EDNA assumed a leadership role in the Federation of Nursing.

Mr. Robert Finnegan was appointed as the new Executive Director. The Past Presidents' Council and the Awards Program were started.

The 1980 Assembly was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

*(This first 10 years of EDNA was compiled by Judy Kelleher with the goal of writing a history of ENA.)*

### **1980-81 June Thompson**

Financial and organizational problems brought the organization to its knees. Our Executive Director was released from his position and we used a significant amount of our money to hire a consulting firm, 'Arthur Young and Company', from Chicago, to do a financial and organizational assessment of EDNA. They took the job without assurances that we would be able to fulfill our agreement with them. They also assisted in a search for a new Executive Director.

Torry Sansone was selected as the Association's Executive Director. The Board of Directors, in collaboration with Arthur Young and Company, completely redesigned

the base organizational structure, from how board members and officers are elected to how chapters are structured and how the organization does business. The new business plan was presented to the 1981 General Assembly and, with a total standing ovation, the General Assembly accepted the plan.

After 10 years, EDNA had grown in services and member benefits. After an increase to \$35 in 1977, dues were increased to \$50 in 1980.

The 1981 Scientific Assembly was held in Toronto with an unplanned on-site fire drill.

### **1981-82 Vicki C. Patrick**

During Vicki's term, we developed a foundation of financial and organizational stability. We were trailblazer in writing standards of practice for our specialty. Administrative and management functions of CEN were moved into the office.

The Blue Ribbon commission was established.

We had the highest attendance (to date) at the New Orleans Scientific Assembly.

### **1982-83 Gail Nicoll**

This term saw a significant increase in membership and revenue. The Standards of Emergency Nursing, chaired by Marguerite T. Littleton, RN, were completed and published. A task force was appointed to develop the curriculum for trauma nursing.

The Blue Ribbon Commission study was completed, chaired by June Thompson, RN, and their recommendations were accepted by the 1983 General Assembly in Anaheim, California.

### **1983-84 Joan Ernst**

The Blue Ribbon Commission changes were implemented in January, 1984. The first nationwide State Council Presidents' meeting was held in Chicago; We finalized and published the National Research Project on the Role of the Pre-Hospital Providers. We re-established our liaison with ACEP. Our president gave the keynote Speech at the First International Conference of Emergency Nurses at the Royal College of Nursing, London, England. At our own Scientific Assembly in San Antonio, Texas, we voted to change our name to Emergency Nurses Association (**ENA**), to be more inclusive of those who do not work in a hospital setting.

*Liz Taylor and Judy Kelleher*

## Committee News

### Recruitment and Retention

These are the most current totals for our 12 active Chapters and overall total for the California Council as of December 2007. North Coast deactivated and its members are being distributed to surrounding chapters.

**We are now over 2500 members!!**

Chapter # & Name	8/06	11/06
(223) East Bay	217	215
(224) Greater LA	395	381
(225) Mid-Valley	203	183
(226) Orange Coast	235	227
(228) San Diego	304	297
(230) San Francisco	169	172
(232) Loma Prieta	192	188
(253) Sacramento	269	258
(362) Inland Empire	221	209
(378) Channel Islands	94	86
(379) Superior	71	74
(442) Kern County	20	19
NCA No Chapter Assigned	58	200
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2470</b>	<b>2509</b>

The national office is changing their membership database, assigning all members to local chapters by their mailing address zip code. I will alert you when this transition goes live.

To receive timely communications and optimal membership services, we encourage all members to keep email & mailing addresses current **with the National office**. Only the individual member may make address, email and chapter preference requests with the national office on line at [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org)

**Regarding “unassigned members”:** When someone joins ENA for the first time and does not indicate a chapter preference, they are assigned to a chapter based on geographical location. If any member chooses to change their chapter affiliation for any reason, just notify the Membership Services Office at National by calling 1-800-2-GET-ENA. Remember that any member may choose to belong to any one chapter within a state (3 tiered) by request, through the National office.

If you’re sponsoring a new member, tell them what chapter number to write on their application according to their address or personal chapter choice.

Cal ENA Mailing Labels are available to approved buyers. Need to invite members to educational events? Contact Ellie Encapera, RN, Recruitment and Retention Chair, for order processing and pricing at: [miselliern@socal.rr.com](mailto:miselliern@socal.rr.com)

**Spread the word to educational coordinators** that this committee prepares Cal ENA mailing labels for approved buyers. **Encourage them to advertise in your local and state newsletters.**

*Ellie Encapera, Chair*

### Government Affairs Report (GAC)

Bills that the GAC tracked in 2006:

**AB 586** Medical Disaster Mobilizing-support, letter sent to GO; **AB1137** Asthma and Anaphylactic Emergencies-support, letter sent; **AB 2083** AED-support, letter sent; **AB 2108** Child Passengers-support, letter sent to GO; **AB 2265** Maddy Fund-support, letter sent to GO; **AB 2427** Helmet Law-oppose, letter sent; **AB 2554** EMT Discipline-oppose, letter sent; **SB 162** Public Health Department-watch; **SB 409** EMS Appropriation; **SB 1301** Adverse Events-watch; **SB 1339** EMS Evaluation-support; **SB 1350** Trauma Funds-support; **SB1773** Fines-support, letter sent to GO; **SB1811** EMT Licensure-watch.

*Debby Rogers, Chair*

### Trauma

TNCC Directors, please contact the Trauma Committee to discuss your availability to assist with course requests. Contact the Regional Directors for assistance to put TNCC courses together; Grant funds are available. A CATN Course Director is needed. This person would be responsible for facilitating CATN courses for Cal ENA.

*Anita Ruiz-Contreras, Chair*

*John Fazio, North Metro Regional Director*

*Cathy Tylka, Southern Regional Director*

*Elaine Paradis, Central Regional Director*

*Christy Frecceri, Northern Regional Director*

### Education: 2007 Emergency Summit

The 2007 Emergency Summit, April 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2007, at the new Montbleu Resort Casino and Spa, Lake Tahoe, will coincide with a BOD meeting the eve of the 18<sup>th</sup>, state committees and state council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> followed by a wine and cheese opening reception that evening. The Educational Conference will be on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and, for an extra fee, the Basic Disaster Life Support Course will be on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Nevada State ENA is assisting us with vendors as Vendor and Speaker committees are working feverishly on the agenda and production of a flyer.

Room reservations at the special ENA conference rate can be made on line at [www.montbleuresort.com](http://www.montbleuresort.com). (See page 4)

*Becky Petersen, Chair*

## Committee News

### EMS Committee

Guest speakers were Stephanie Rasmussen and Capt Art Andres from San Bernardino City Fire Department speaking about an upcoming CalChiefs/EMSA conference that will provide an opportunity for first responders and hospital personnel to network. The conference is titled: *Emerging Issues in Fire & EMS* and will be held May 2-4, 2007, at Pechanga Resort & Casino in Temecula. They are also looking for someone from ENA to sit on their steering committee for 2008. More info and their brochure is posted on the Cal ENA website.

The tragic shootings in Amish country were discussed and it was decided to send Letters of Support. Diane & Anna worked together to draft a letter of support for responders to the Amish murders.

Goals for 2007 include following Legislation, especially bills 1811/2554 to keep ENA in the loop and to have input. More emergency preparedness discussion revealed that CHA may have a speaker that could speak to the committee or at lunch.

Disaster Interest Group: The ESAR/VHP name will change, it is too cumbersome. New name has not been decided upon. Questions are still focused around what a hospital will accept in the form of medical personnel identification & documentation during a disaster response. Next DIG meeting is 1<sup>st</sup> week of December.

*Diane St. Denis, Chair*

### ENA Foundation Report

Thanks to Randi Castillo for her continuing donations of prizes and cash to the Foundation. Thanks to Cathy Tylka and Diane Schertz for their donation of prizes.

At the November State Council meeting that raised \$219.00 for the foundation.

The auctions and Fiesta Night in San Antonio unofficially raised \$54,000.00 for the foundation. Thanks to all for supporting these efforts

National State Challenge to raise money for the Foundation, a named scholarship will be given for a minimum of \$5000.00.

*Diane M. Schertz, "FUNdraiSer"*

### Injury Prevention

Jackie Jones requests that if your chapter is involved in any projects on this topic, please forward the info to her so she can get a better picture of what is going on around the state.

### Coalition of Nursing Organizations

Following are some of the items discussed at the last CNOC meeting.

AB 1667 passed, this means that except for Glucagon and Epi, medication must be given by a licensed medical person.

Nursing education money was obtained in Scott's Bill (1309). Dymally will be the Chair of Assembly Health committee this year and it will be important to educate him on our issues. He may be contacted at: [www.Assemblymember.dymally@assembly.ca.gov](http://www.Assemblymember.dymally@assembly.ca.gov).

California Assoc. of Nurse Anesthetists has hired a new lobbyist, they hope to make progress to bill Medicare directly; They are still involved with the lawsuit with Cal. Soc. of Anesthesiologists against the BRN.

American Nurse Assoc-California will hold their RN Lobby days in Sacramento April 22 & 23, 2007.

Compton College lost its accreditation, El Camino College has absorbed their students and faculty and this presents many new challenges.

Med Reconciliation was a big topic.

Last but not least, due to low attendance and other venues for collaboration, disbanding the Coalition was discussed. A letter went out to the member nursing organizations asking if this is appropriate. There will be a probable final meeting in December.

Diane suggested that money budgeted for the Nursing Coalition be donated to Flo's Cookie Jar, a fund for nursing students. The State Council approved.

*Diane M. Schertz, CNOC Liaison*

### Leadership in Practice

**Medication Reconciliation** in the ED was discussed at our meeting in Irvine on November 3, 2006.

Requirement 8A states: There is a process for comparing a patient's current medications with those ordered for the patient while under the care of the organization.

The implementation expectations are to complete a list of the patient's medications and then compare the medication orders while under the care of the organization.

We interpret this as reviewing the patient's current medications, making sure they are correct and not sending them home with new prescriptions that could double or interact poorly with what they are already taking.

We found that there are many issues in the Emergency Department that make this a difficult process. Language barriers and lack of knowledge were two issues that affected most departments represented. Patients frequently do not know their medications, or may have them on a list that is not current. Doses are not always well defined ranging from precise and exact, to estimated. Many



## Committee and Chapter News

times the list is taken and copied without discussing it with the patient, or language barriers prevent the discussion and teaching the safety goal is intended to encourage. It was apparent that all facilities represented had some type of program in place to address medication reconciliation, and all were still defining their process.

Having a computerized chart allows the ED to open the old chart from a previous visit and compare. One facility represented uses this system. If your patients are only using this ED and not working around to other EDs and collecting prescriptions this could be a good way to help reconcile medications when knowledge and language are a barrier. Of course we know that we are dealing with patients that visit multiple EDs and multiple urgent care facilities in their quest for medical care.

Another facility has decided to involve the pharmacy. The pharmacy has a representative that visits the ED and discusses medications with the patient. Perhaps having a pharmacist in the ED would be one solution, however costly.

Many physician groups have scribes working with them to help with documentation.

Perhaps taking down medications and reviewing lists could be a focus for scribes. Because they are employed by physicians and not the facility, this could help with placing the responsibility of reconciling medication where it should be, with the physicians.

Managing a busy ED with triage and turn around times being monitored will continue to be a challenge with this added patient safety goal. Patients do look to us for education and explanation. Effectively staffing the ED to meet all the community needs will continue to challenge us. The expectation of less than 90 minute door-to-balloon times for Primary Percutaneous Intervention in STEMI patients and the evolving Stroke Teams that also need to meet quick door-to-thrombolytic times give us much to consider in providing additional staff to educate and collect medication information.

*Julie Wanstreet, Chair*

### Chapter News

**Greater Los Angeles** is turning over leadership to new president, Carol Snyder. **Scientific Assembly pins** are still available for both Nashville '05 and San Antonio '06. These are collector's items, be sure to get yours soon.

**Mid Valley** hosted their annual Awards Dinner during ED Nurse Week. It was very well attended with 120 attendees.

**East Bay** has elected a new board and is planning events for 2007.

**San Francisco** will have a meeting on January 10 with their new president, Angela Hackenschmidt of SFGH.

**Loma Prieta** celebrated Emergency Nurses Week with a dinner and speaker at the October meeting. Dorrie Fontaine, RN, DNSc, FAAN, past president of AACN, spoke to our group about "The Healthy Work Environment." We invited the local AACN Chapter and had a very nice turnout.

**Sacramento** had a Luncheon Oct 13 during Emergency Nurses Week at El Torito's in Stockton; Strategic planning for 2007 was discussed.

2007 Officers elected: President- Carole Mennell, President-Elect/Chapter Rep- Anna Valdez, Secretary/Treasurer- Judy Scott, congratulations to all. Two events are planned for 2007, CEN Review Course with testing in June and an offering for Emergency Nurses Week event.

**Channel Islands** is planning a Christmas dinner meeting. Officers for 2007 were elected.

**Orange Coast's** educational event, *Life in the Real OC*,



on Nov. 2, was a success with 107 attendees. Officers for 2007 were elected.

**Inland Empire** proudly took out chapter member Denise King to dinner to celebrate her election as President-elect of national ENA. Their EMS Conference in Palm Springs was well attended. Check out the Cal ENA website for several ENPC courses they are sponsoring.

**San Diego** is planning High Tea party at the Westgate Hotel in December. Their 2007 Officers have been elected. 911 Conference planned for July 14<sup>th</sup>, after Cal ENA State Board and Council meetings on July 12 & 13. They are offering TNCC Instructor courses.

**Kern County** Officers for 2007 have been elected. An Educational event is being planned for February 24.

## Never Too Early to Plan for Summer

This past summer, I returned to the scene of my first summer vacation job thirty-five years earlier. I had been a camp nurse for two consecutive weeks, at a summer camp in the historic mountain community of Julian, CA. I had not saved much money since graduating from nursing school the previous year. It was a convenient way to be away from work, on vacation, and although I was not paid, I had no expenses either. I'd been to this same camp as a camper in the late 50s, then as a counselor in the early 60s and had loved each experience in the sylvan setting. For several years, I returned for one or two sessions each summer. Initially, I was ill prepared for my tasks as a camp nurse. I was an ICU nurse, single and with no child raising experience beyond babysitting. What I knew about home sickness could be placed in a thimble. The 8-16 year olds didn't seem to be having AMIs, CVAs or need hourly neuro checks nor hourly central line readings. Fortunately, I did no harm. Once I transferred to the emergency department and started learning how to care for children with chronic and acute illnesses and injuries, I became a very good camp nurse.

For me, the beauty of camp nursing is to practice the art of nursing "in a natural place apart from the pressures of everyday life..."<sup>1</sup> It is a special role - part clinician, part super mom and team member. The uniform is typically sandals and shorts, with free time at the swimming pool built into each afternoon schedule. I thrive upon the energy and creativity of the campers, counselors and the staff.

For more than ten years I have belonged to the Association of Camp Nurses. They are a wonderful resource. In the November newsletter, *Compass Point*<sup>2</sup>, there is a great article written for the first time nurse in a camp setting. The association web site, [www.campnurse.org](http://www.campnurse.org), has other very helpful information, such as "Tips for Success."<sup>3</sup>

Check out *NurseWeek*, August 14, 2006, cover story, "Happy Campers, RNs Ensure Summer Fun at Specialty Camps."<sup>4</sup> It is a look at the experience of a nurse helping

provide summer camp adventures for some children with special needs.

Special needs camp, church camps, Girl Scout Camps are a few of the types of programs that need nurses for their summer programs. I was able to send one of my nephews and step-grandsons to camp for a week, a \$790 value, because I volunteered my time for two weeks.

When Cherry Ames interviewed for a camp nurse position, her prospective employer said, "Someone who likes children and who likes the outdoors...is the kind of nurse we want."<sup>5</sup> On the final page of *Cherry Ames, Camp Nurse*, "... (Cherry) remembered a fawn she had seen this summer running in the woods, its dappled coat dappled again by shadows of leaves. She breathed in again the cool woodsy fragrance to which she had fallen asleep and awakened. And the wonderful people. It had been a rich experience getting to know all of them."<sup>5</sup> This summer, in Julian, as I gazed out one of the infirmary windows, I saw a doe meander by. Each afternoon, I had the chance to watch a wild turkey teach her five offspring, how to forage for food. Priceless!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the prospective of being a camp nurse. I would be delighted to share my resources.

Susan Morse [pfaff@cox.net](mailto:pfaff@cox.net)

### References

1. Camp Stevens, Camp and Conference Center, [www.campstevens.org](http://www.campstevens.org)
2. Erceg, L. E. "The First Time Camp Nurse: What Does This Nurse Need to Know?" (2006) *Compass Point*, 16, (3), 5-8.
3. Camp Nurse Jobs, Camp Nurse Job Tips, [www.campnurse.org](http://www.campnurse.org).
4. Williams, Scott. "Happy Campers!" (2006). *NurseWeek, Calif. Edition*, 19 (17), 12-13.
5. Wells, Helen. "Cherry Ames, Camp Nurse". New York, Grosset & Dunlap, 1957.
6. Tuel, Mary. "Camp Nursing in the Ozark Mountains, One Emergency Nurses's Experience", (2005) *JEN*, 31 (5), 470-472.



### Meet Your 2007 Board (Continued from page 3)

#### Director at Large: Jody Haynes, RN

Jody works at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center in Invasive Cardiology as a clinical coordinator and as an emergency nurse at 20th Century Fox Movie Studio. She volunteers with the American Red Cross and is an active member of one of California's Disaster Medical Assistance Teams, having recently been deployed to



the Esperanza Fire in the Inland Empire. She is the immediate past president of the Orange Coast Chapter.

#### Immediate Past President: Robert Lee Toman, RN, CEN, MICN

Robert is the Clinical Director of Emergency Services who oversees all administrative and nursing functions of a 16-bed Level 3 Emergency Department, servicing 22,000 visits at

(Continued on page 11)

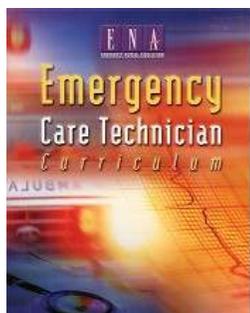
(This article is a continuation from last issue of the report that Mark filed on this year's Scientific Assembly.)



### Day Three (afternoon)

Friday afternoon, I was at a class on **differential diagnosis** of common symptoms seen in children. Diarrhea is very common

and usually resolves with a simple BRAT diet. But if it is painful as indicated by the child drawing up or stiffening when crying, there could be other problems. Bloody diarrhea could be caused by an anal fissure or a polyp that has torn. If the stool is described as currant jelly, this is a late sign of Intussusception. This can be diagnosed and repaired by an air contrast enema. Sometimes surgical repair is necessary. For vomiting, be sure to get a thorough history. Serious alternative diagnoses include Newborn Necrotizing Enterocolitis and Pyloric Stenosis with accompanying projectile vomiting. The speaker warned against suggesting this symptom, as parents tend to always feel their child exhibits it. Malrotation is a surgical emergency that occurs in the first few days of life and involves the abdominal organs failing to properly rotate into place. Bilious or green emesis is the presenting symptom. Next, several types of rash were discussed. Roseola is contagious only when the fever is present. Pityriasis Rosea is non-contagious, but can last 6-8 weeks. Erythema Multiforma is viral and gets worse when the skin is put in warm water. Petechiae are non-blanching red spots that could be indicative of meningitis. Large loop marks could be caused by a beating and require special care to determine the history and reporting to Protective Services. Sore throats are very common, but keep in mind that the most common age group for epiglottitis is adults, now that children are being vaccinated against it.



Next, I heard a great class on the **Emergency Care Technician Curriculum**. We can take our techs for granted, but the more knowledge we share with them, the more they will appreciate us and the more professional they will become. Since there seems to be a void in this area, ENA has published a comprehensive curriculum for techs. The speaker at this

class showed how her institution used this guide to set up an annual Role Development Day for techs. They got input from their techs, did a needs assessment and set up the day with lots of advance notice. They also had sponsors

so the cost was low. In the class, they went over what RNs do and what techs do to make their roles clear. To keep it interesting, they had games, prizes, raffles and lots of trivia questions. It has turned out to be very popular and the techs find their jobs more satisfying.

Friday afternoon, there was a general session with a panel report on the **Institute of Medicine report** on the crisis in emergency services. The problem is the lack of coordination among emergency medicine, pre-hospital services and disaster preparedness. Recommendations include consolidating all three services under the Department of Health Services. Statewide trauma systems, reinstatement of trauma funding and incorporation of EMS into disaster planning were some of the other goals. This report will get a lot of national attention, so watch for it in the news. Be prepared to speak to the issues in your local community. Nurses and doctors should become more active in community services such as rescue squads, volunteer fire departments and disaster planning. Friday night, there was a party to benefit the ENA Foundation at La Villita, an outdoor area with old Mexican arts and crafts shops. It was hot and humid out and the main entertainment was getting bonked on the head with the traditional confetti-filled eggshell and watching a couple of Mexican folk dances. There was also a live band and a few of us danced, but it was really too hot.

### Day Four

Saturday morning was the **CEN Recognition Breakfast** and the speaker was Mary Feeley, a popular speaker on humor in the workplace. She showed how an attitude of light-heartedness can prevent burnout, decrease stress and tension, reflect a positive image and promote teamwork. Through personal stories she showed how this can work for our patients by helping them overcome their fears and relate to us in a positive way. Later Saturday morning, there was a **nursing trivia game show** called Emergency! Emergency! It was set up like Jeopardy with two teams of contestants, four categories of questions with five nursing related questions in each category. It was very high energy, with music and prizes. The answers were not easy and both teams ended up in the hole. The team that won did so by getting back to zero. This was the most unusual and exciting of all the classes I attended. By coincidence, one of the vendors in the exhibit hall was selling a preprogrammed computer game called My Quiz Show that allowed the user to customize questions and categories. ([www.c3visuals.com](http://www.c3visuals.com))



## Pearls from San Antonio (cont'd.)

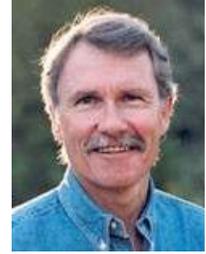
That afternoon, I attended a class on pediatric trauma. After the game show, this class was very tame. However, I did take away the **Pediatric Assessment Triangle** consisting of appearance, work of breathing and circulation to the skin. Her message was to expect multi-system injury in childhood trauma. Driveways can be very dangerous, especially when parents are backing out in large SUVs.



Then I heard a presentation on **outdoor safety**. The lecturer gave a lot of common sense rules for keeping safe when venturing out into the wilderness. For example, saltine crackers and peanut butter can be used to replace electrolytes, along with some safe drinking water. Be sure to get acclimated to higher altitudes before you pursue strenuous activities. Watch out for poisonous plants and animals. Polypropylene clothing is best for keeping warm and wicking off moisture.

Finally, the **closing address** was given by the former governor of Oregon, Dr. John Kitzhaber. He spoke on

reforming the health care system in the US. He feels the current system (Medicare/caid) provides health care only for the “deserving” poor and anyone over 65. Then it asks all working persons, even if they cannot pay for insurance for themselves, to pay for the insurance of those over 65, rich or poor.



Instead, he would like us to do what most other civilized nations have done, and that is to provide health care for all. He launched the Archimedes Movement to accomplish this end. His success with the Oregon Health Plan and his stirring speech got many of us to look into his plan at [www.joinAM.org](http://www.joinAM.org).

After that, we had the Stryker Farewell Matinee, where we saw slides and video highlights of the past several days. It is always fun to see who you recognize in the photos. We all filed out and bid a sad farewell to each other until next year in Salt Lake City.

*Mark Wandro*

*(Continued from page 9)*

Madera Community Hospital, Madera.

**ENA History:** On the local level, Robert served as Chapter Representative for 3 years, President-elect of Mid Valley ENA in 2001 and President in 2002. Robert was a member of the State Council Education Committee following a year as chair. Robert has served as Treasurer-elect and Treasurer for the state and



has been a voting delegate at three National General Assemblies. He is a certified TNCC-I, ENPC-I and ENCARE Provider.

Robert is a strong proponent of students entering nursing and emergency nursing practice. Local schools are granted support by his facility for nursing students and graduates and, under his direction, ENA member strength continues to grow. Under his leadership, Mid Valley has emerged as a strong chapter in member involvement.

**You can earn one (1) CE**, at no cost for reading the Monitor. After reading the newsletter, complete the evaluation below and email to:

**Anita Fligge** at: [fligster@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fligster@sbcglobal.net)

You will receive your CE certificate within 30 days by mail. Provider approved by the California BRN Provider #10609 for 1 contact hour.

Objectives:

After reading the Monitor the reader will be able to:

1. Recognize new Cal ENA officers.
2. Know decisions made at State Council.
3. Understand what our committees are doing.
4. Learn opportunities for emergency nurses.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ License# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

1. How many years in ENA does the Board have?
2. How can being a committee chair save you money?
3. When did EDNA become ENA?
4. What is the Pediatric Assessment Triangle.
5. Name 2 innovative ways to deal with Med Recon.
6. Name an alternative practice setting for RNs and an alternative health care plan.



# Next Meeting

**Thursday, January 18, 2007  
4-7pm Board Meeting**

**Friday, January 19  
8:30-4pm State Council Meeting**



**The Ritz-Carlton**  
600 Stockton St  
San Francisco, CA 94108  
(415) 296-7465

25 minutes from SFO and 35 minutes from Oakland  
Use taxi or Cary Limosine—Valet parking only  
Located in the heart of Nob Hill

Steps away from Union Square shopping, Fisherman's Wharf  
Located across the street from the California Street Cable Car line  
60 minutes from the Wine Country

To get the special ENA rate, contact Jody Haynes:  
(hjody@aol.com)

ENA rates will not apply through the hotel directly.  
Business or sophisticated casual attire for dining at the hotel.  
This is a rare treat and a special ENA meeting to be remembered  
[www.ritzcarlton.com/hotels/san\\_francisco](http://www.ritzcarlton.com/hotels/san_francisco)



## California Emergency Nurses Association

# THE MONITOR

Official Publication of Cal ENA  
Editor: Mark Wandro, RN, CEN  
3512 Orinda Dr.  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
[editor@calena.net](mailto:editor@calena.net)

Report email and address changes to the National  
ENA office: (800) 243-8362 or [enainfo@ena.org](mailto:enainfo@ena.org)