Nominations for 2012 Chapter Board of Directors Now Open

At the chapter meeting on 18 August, nominations were open for the 2012 board of directors.

The slate of officers so far is:
- President-elect: Colleen Vega
- Secretary: Leslie “Nurse” Chin
- Treasurer: Anne Marcotte
- Chapter Rep: Julie Rossie
- Director @ Large: Julie Rossie

Our president next year will be Connie Yokum. **Voting will be at the September meeting.**

The CalENA board already had their elections for the 2012 session. The winners are:
- President-elect: Linda Rosenberg
- Secretary: Carole Snyder
- Treasurer-elect: Kristin Connor
- Director @ Large: Susan Smith
- Marcus Godfrey will be the president & Tobin Miller will be our secretary.

Sadly, only 81 members voted in the state election, down from 134 last year. LPENA had 17/257 chapter members vote. That is only 6.6% of our chapter membership. Pretty dismal.

In the National election, only 5.31% of the entire membership voted; that is 2,134 or 40,221 national members. CA only had 4.9% of the votes.

The big question is, why are so few people voting? Do you feel like you don’t know who you are voting for? Is it voter apathy? Do you not see the point?

Elected leaders are the ones that represent you and make the decisions that guide our organization. They collaborate with other professional organizations, participate in the legislative process, and decide what benefits the members will receive. They make sure that qualified colleagues are keeping our educational materials updated. Without our organization, we would have no say in how we practice.

Consider voting next year, and make California a leader in the election process.
Ever curious about how to do an ultrasound guided IV insertion on a difficult stick? EMREF will be offering a 4 hour class at the November CalENA meeting in San Diego on Thursday, Nov 10, before the Board of Directors meeting. Class size will be limited to 30, and the cost is $200. Information about the State Council meetings are posted on the CalENA website (www.calena.us).

The 2012 meeting schedule is out for the state council meetings.

- Jan 12-13 (Thur & Fri) San Francisco
- Mar 13-14 (Tues & Wed) Sacramento
- May 21-22 (Mon & Tues) Palm Springs
- Aug 9-10 (Thur & Fri) Universal City
- Nov 8-9 (Thur & Fri) Chico

The March meeting will include legislative visits on Tuesday before the BOD meeting. The May meeting will be in conjunction with CFED West, a multidisciplinary conference. There will be a nurse track. Our meeting will be Mon-Tues, CFED West will follow. You may choose to attend or not attend the CFED conference. More information will be available at a later date.

Sacramento Chapter’s own Diane Schertz will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Conference in Tampa, FL in September. Diane has been a dedicated and fervent supporter of the ENA Foundation. She considers herself a “Fun Raiser,” and has been responsible for raising thousands of dollars for scholarships and grants from the Foundation. This is a well-deserved award.

Have you received a free ENA membership in the past few years? Ellie Encapara, the state Membership Chair (as well as being a director on the national board), will be retiring sometime next year. She plans to retire to North Carolina. She has been a driving force in getting California the distinction of having the largest membership in the nation. Early congratulations to Ellie!

If you plan on attending the General Assembly as a delegate, there will be a Delegate Meeting on Tuesday evening, 9/20 at 2030 at the Convention Center in rooms 18 & 19.

California members attending the General or Scientific Assembly are invited to California Reception at the Marriott Waterside Hotel, room 12, on Wednesday evening, 1900-2100. Come & meet your CalENA BOD, and network with other members from up and down the state.

A Few Chapter Tidbits

The September meeting will be at Stanford Hospital. We will meet at 1700 at The Peninsula Creamery for dinner, and our scheduled topic will be Crucial Conversations. Mark your calendar for Thursday, Sept 15.

The chapter will be raising money by selling long sleeve t shirts. They are gray, with our chapter logo on the left breast. The back has a large circle surrounding a map of our chapter counties. Abbreviations for each hospital in our chapter area are in the circle. Did you know there are 18 hospitals represented by LPENA? Can you name them all?

SAVE THE DATE FOR BIZARRO!

Our 2012 Annual Educational Update, BIZARRO! will be Thursday, 15 April 2012. Mark your calendar and plan to join us for a day of interesting & unusual topics.

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"The right to be heard does not automatically include the right to be taken seriously."
--Hubert Humphrey, 38th U.S. vice president
Are you a veteran?
Do you know about the Women’s Memorial?

By Diane St. Denis

Did you serve in the military? Did you know there is a memorial in Washington, DC, dedicated to preserving the history of women who have served in the armed forces.

What We Don’t Record, We Lose!

The Women In Military Service For America Memorial (WIMSA) is the only major national memorial honoring all women who served in our nation’s defense throughout history. Their patriotism and bravery are a part of our nation’s collective heritage and are finally recognized in the Memorial through exhibits, film and the Memorial Register, which guarantees each registered woman’s individual story a permanent place in America’s history.

More than 2.5 million women have served in defense of our nation, since its beginning more than 230 years ago. The individual histories of nearly 250,000 of these women come to life in the Memorial Register. The Register is an interactive computer database that allows Memorial visitors access to military histories, photographs and memorable military experiences of registered servicewomen. However, registration is NOT AUTOMATIC.

If you are a servicewoman, or know of a servicewoman, past or present, please help preserve this important and long overlooked portion of history by filling out a registration form today for yourself, a family member or friend. Every woman’s story is important and any information is better than no information. It is individual experiences that make up America’s collective history. Make sure the story of women serving in defense of our nation is recorded and never forgotten.

If you would like to register to be a member, go to http://www.womensmemorial.org/. I am a charter member, and was excited to see a photo of myself hanging in the memorial in February of 2009.

You can register yourself or share this information with other women veterans.

The memorial is located at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery. If you have never been to Washington, DC, be sure to visit Arlington. It is one of the most beautiful and reverent places to see. There are, sadly, funerals several times a day. The Tomb of the Unknowns is amazing.

There are countless veterans groups out there, but this one is amazing. They will focus on a special topic and dedicate an entire display to it. When I was there in 2009, there was a display on the WASPs. The Women’s Air Force Service Pilots was created during WWII and these women ferried planes to other bases, trained pilots, and the photos, mementos, & stories were amazing to see. These women were the first, beside nurses, to serve in the military.

Check out WIMSA and register today. They welcome your stories, photos, & mementos.

Disaster Preparedness
Are you ready?

On Tuesday, Aug 23, there was a 5.8 magnitude earthquake in of all places, Fairfax, VA. The Washington Monument sustained some damage, as did other “non-seismically safe” buildings.

Hurricane Irene is ready to hit the East Coast of the US later this week. The Southwest had raging wildfires a few weeks ago in the midst of a tremendous drought and temperatures in the triple digits for more than a month. Have you prepared for a disaster? Do you have a minimum 3 week supply of medication? How about water, both potable & non-potable? Flashlights? Children’s supplies: diapers, vitamins, formula, toys? What about pet food, pet medications, water & food bowls, travel crates & leashes? How about tents & sleeping bags, camp stove & propane? Do you have a single person that everyone can check in with if you can’t find other family members? There are many resources out there, but one most well known for disaster preparedness is the American Red Cross (http://www.redcross.org/). Their website has lots of info for you. Check it out.