President’s Message  By Diane St. Denis

What a year we are having! We have had great attendance at our meetings and we are seeing more involvement by our members to keep our chapter going strong...

This year, we had our best ENA Annual Update, CSI: Loma Prieta. We had some great speakers and had a very enjoyable day. There were vendors with some giveaways to go along with the information about their products. Our lunch was fabulous. As always, Regional Medical Center was our gracious host. We had an opportunity to see the new heliport, which is quite unique to look at!

Thanks go to our RMC members who made sure this was a great event: Julie Rossie, Leslie Chin, & Jean Parrish. Our Education/Practice Chair, Kelly Johnson, from Stanford, put together a great program with the help of her committee, including Julie, Kim Sickler (who finally had her baby), and Karen Grove. If I missed anyone, please forgive me.

Planning for next year’s Update is about to begin and we will need all the help we can get. It was a lot of work to put together this great program, and Kelly can use as many committee members as possible. Sharing/dividing up the tasks makes the whole job easier, and lightens the load for all involved. Please consider joining this committee. Kelly’s email is: kjohnson@stanfordmed.org. The theme will pertain to generational and cultural issues in Emergency Nursing.

This year, Julie Rossie and Donna Everett (O’Connor Hospital) are putting together a list of awards to be presented at our Emergency Nurses Week celebration in October. More details to follow, but there will also be some “fun” awards to go with the “serious awards,” so put on your thinking cap and plan to nominate someone... We will send out the details when they are finalized.

The General & Scientific Assembly are just around the corner. Once again, Loma Prieta has the most delegates! Those attending are (besides me): Jean Parrish, Jackie Magnuson, Karen Kosmala, Kelly Johnson, Garrett Chan, Donna Everett, Toni Robinson, Patrice Christensen, Beth Thomas, Peggy Burroughs, Jan Ogar, and Joel Todd McCoy.

Finally, now is the time to think about nominations for the 2009 Board of Directors for LPENA. This is an opportunity to promote your own great ideas about where LPENA should be going. All of you have it in you to be leaders. You will have mentors in your predecessors. Take a chance!  Diane
LPENA Submits Our First Ever Resolution to the 2008 General Assembly!

It started out simply enough... Karen Kosmala, pictured left, did a presentation on Capnography in Procedural Sedation at our monthly meeting. It was so compelling, we decided to draft a resolution for the 2008 General Assembly that would ask the delegation to make capnography a best practice.

We only had a few weeks to draft the resolution and get it submitted. Karen did the bulk of the work, writing the background, documenting all the research, and generally putting the majority of it together. All of this was done by email, with several of our members editing and making suggestions on how best to word the document.

Our original resolution was rejected, and we took the suggestions that were made and rewrote the resolution. This time it was accepted. We are asking that a work group be created to recommend evidence-based materials that can be used to support education and credentialing of nurses providing procedural sedation, and make suggestions to amend the Procedural Sedation Position Statement and submit them to the BOD.

It will be exciting to address the entire delegation and promote our cause. We are trying to anticipate the arguments that will come from the floor, and in August, Karen will do a presentation to the CalENA State Council so we can better prepare ourselves.

This has been a learning experience, and I hope in the future our chapter can again be leaders in promoting safe, quality emergency nursing care.

"Government is like a baby: An alimentary canal with a big appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other." - Ronald Reagan

Academy of Emergency Nursing Inductee...

Garrett Chan, APRN, PhD, CEN from the Loma Prieta Chapter, will be one of eight inductees into the Academy of Emergency Nursing, Class of 2008.

Garrett has a long history with ENA, and has served many years on national committees. In addition, he is a past president of our chapter.

Garrett received his BSN from San Jose State University, his MSN and PhD from UCSF. He has taught in the graduate program at UCSF and is currently employed at Stanford.

Garrett has provided many educational offerings to the chapter and has spoken nationally and internationally. His interests lie in trauma care and end of life care in the emergency department.

Garrett will be inducted in Minneapolis on Friday evening, Sept 26. If you are interested in attending the dinner (black tie optional) from 7:15 -8pm, the cost is $65/person. Contact me by Sept 1st at dianesdt@mac.com if you would like to attend. If we get 10 people, we can reserve a table for 10. I can also send you the dinner registration form should you wish to register individually. All LPENA members are invited to the induction ceremony following the dinner.

Congratulations, Garrett on all your professional achievements and successes!

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Colleague Update: Donna Everett

Donna was involved in a motorcycle crash the last week of July. She was on her way to work at O’Connor Hospital to cover a shift for a co-worker that went into pre-term labor. She was resuscitated
at VMC, then spent a few weeks in the Trauma ICU. Helmeted, she sustained minimal visible injury, but she took a bad blow to her head and has been comatose since.

Currently, Donna is on the 2nd floor at VMC in the Brain Injury Rehab Unit. She seems to be waking up, and it is obvious she doesn’t like her trach. She is looking in the direction of voices instead of just opening her eyes to voices. Art, her devoted husband, says she has been nodding “yes” to certain questions. Progress is slow, but steady. She has a long way to go, so keep her in your thoughts & prayers.

A little bit about Donna... Donna has 3 grown daughters, Caren, Kimberly, & Tracy. They have been here to see her, but have jobs and obligations at home in North Carolina. The goal is to get Donna well enough to fly home to complete her recovery.

On that note, Art, has been in touch with the folks at Pitt County Memorial Hospital in North Carolina. They are prepared to arrange for Donna’s rehab once she is able to return home. Her case worker at VMC has also spoken to them and will assist in the transition when the time is right to let her fly.

A brief history on Donna herself... Donna came to the Bay Area as a traveler. After working for several contracts at O’Connor, she decided to quit the travel agency and work as a per diem. Previous to coming here, Donna had other contracts that took her to other hospitals across the country, and she even did a stint as a ship’s nurse, if I recall correctly.

Donna joined LPENA, and it didn’t take long for her to become a regular at our meetings. Her vast experience made her a great resource for us. She also sells Beauti Control products, and at the October meeting at El Camino to celebrate Emergency Nurses Week, she set up a table to sell the products and donated 100% of the profit to LPENA. She is a great supporter of our chapter and of Emergency Nurses in general. She was planning to be a delegate at the General Assembly this year, but maybe we will see her next year.

I can’t wait until she is able to show us her sharp wit and kind heart again.

If you would like to send a card, you can mail it to her husband:

Art Everett
15200 Monterey Road Sp 246
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Keep Art in your thoughts, too. He also has a long road ahead of him, and he has been by Donna’s side the entire time.

To the staff at O’Connor Hospital; I know this affected all of you, too. Thanks so much for being available for Art. He let me know how supported he felt.

In Search Of...

Janet Neff, Stanford Trauma Program Manager, and long time ENA supporter, is looking for a CEN pin... not the new one, but the old style. I am sorry I don’t have a picture of it, however, you “mature” CENs will know what it looks like. Janet’s was on her badge that was lost along with several other items. She thinks there is someone out there with a spare....

You can contact her via phone or email:

w: 650-723-0563
Neff Janet
She will be most appreciative!

ELECTIONS for 2009 officers will be held at the September meeting. The meeting will be at Dominican Hospital, 1555 Soquel Dr, Santa Cruz, CA 95065 on Thursday, 18 September.

The officers that we vote on are President-Elect, Secretary, & Treasurer. Should you be unsure about how to do the finances, we can vote on a Treasurer-elect, and you may work along side our current treasurer, Jean Parrish, for a year.
There is also a Director at Large position that was appointed and is part of the board of directors.

Karen Kosmala has asked to be the Chapter Representative to the State Council for another year. If you think you might interested in that position, you are welcome to attend any of the State Council meetings to see if this is what you expected it to be. There is some travel involved for 4-5 meetings per year. Travel costs (not hotel) are reimbursed.

We are also looking for people to get involved on committees. The Education Committee can always use help. It is a big job to put together our annual update class, and the more people that help, the less there is to do for each person.

Anyone interested in putting together a newsletter? We are only obligated to put out 1 newsletter a year, but I try to get out 3-4 so we can reach our members who live too far away to attend our meetings on a regular basis. Don’t think you can do that? How about writing an educational article for each issue. A one page article that contains evidence-based practice issues could be submitted.

Awards committee... Donna Everett was going to work with Julie Rossie to come up with some award winners for our October Emergency Nurses celebration. Not sure if we will get it accomplished this year, but for sure, we should do it next year. This could be a lot of fun!!!

Being involved in your professional organization(s) is a great way to better your practice, advocate for your patients, and follow the trends. There are networking opportunities and ways to share best practices with colleagues. Take this opportunity to grow as a professional nurse.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

--Margaret Mead, American cultural anthropologist

Think back to CSI: Loma Prieta

Wanted: Dead or Alive

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CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

President: Diane St. Denis
President-elect: Julie Rossie
Secretary: Leslie Chin
Treasurer: Jean Parrish
Director-at-large: Cathy Marlatt
Chapter Rep: Karen Kosmala
Membership: Martha Peck
Education/Practice: Kelly Johnson

Chapter Chairs/Leaders/ Experts:
Trauma: Janet Neff
EMS: Jan Ogar
Gov’t Affairs: Jan Ogar
Injury Prevention: Eileen Hoover
Patrice Christensen
Newsletter: Diane St. Denis
Communications: Jackie Magnuson