

# COUNTERSHOCK

Illinois Council Emergency Nurses Association

Summer 2001

## President's Message

By Darcy Egging

### "The Challenge"

As you receive this newsletter half the year is gone, my how time is flying. Once again, I was challenged with the task of developing something profound to share with you in this issue. So after thinking for several minutes, I decided to share an update and end with a challenge.

What has happened so far this year?

1. I am very happy to report Illinois State ENA has a statement of financial direction. This is a first for our state. It is the hope of the board to secure our future for many years to come.
2. Our first teleconferenced state board meeting occurred. Two sites linked up, one in Bloomington and the other in Herrin. The original hookup was at Loyola. Through the efforts of Evelyn Lyons, Vicki Keogh and Paula Tanabe in the Chicago area, Rita Schlomer in Bloomington and Linda Angrola in Carbondale this successful venture launched the Council into the techno-world. Many people expressed interest in their hospital being a site; I honestly tell you we need to look at the cost and location of each hookup. The value of this technology is to strategically link the state so ALL members have the opportunity to attend and not to travel great distances.
3. The council was asked to become a member of the SANE task force. The state of Illinois is currently looking at ways to implement the program and our input is requested. I believe this is a wonderful opportunity for our organization to shine and become a resource for the future.
4. An Issues Forum was conducted in Bloomington. The important information I came away with, was the uniqueness of rural practice versus urban and suburban practice. We as a state need to explore this issue more in upcoming forums and educational offerings.

Although this doesn't appear to be earth shattering, it represents many people and interest. It shows our state organization is moving forward.

Now for the challenge I promised. **The challenge to each and every one of you is recruit one new member to our organization.** Our current membership is 949. I know there are many other emergency nurses out there struggling each day to provide the best possible care of their patients. How do we represent these individuals if we don't know their needs? I heard there are significant staffing issues, there are always JCAHO issues, rural versus urban issues, and probably many others of which I am unaware. I want this

organization to truly represent the emergency nurses of this state. This is where each of you comes in, go out and recruit a member, so lets hear from everyone.

## **EVENTS**

### **State Council Meetings**

**August 25** – Illinois State Council meeting 10:00 – 12:00 n at OSF St. Joseph’s Medical Center, Bloomington. Contact Darcy Egging (630) 554-3432.

**November 10** - Illinois State Council meeting 10:00 – 12:00 n at Loyola University Health Systems, Maywood. Contact Darcy Egging (630) 554-3432.

### **Educational Opportunities**

**June 8 & 9** – *ENPC* at Loyola University, Maywood. Contact Colleen Andreoni (708) 216-8347.

**June 12,14, & 19** – *TNS Review* at Hinsdale Hospital, Hinsdale. Contact Colleen Andreoni (708) 216-8347.

**June 21 & 27** – *TNCC* at Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago. Contact Marge Nevison (773) 880-3808.

**June 28 & 29** – *ENPC* at Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago. Contact Marge Nevison (773) 880-3808.

**July 19 & 20** – *ENPC* at Proctor Hospital, Peoria. Contact Theresa Hoadley (309) 691-1000 x3074.

**August 20 & 27** - *ENPC* at Good Samaritan Hospital, Downers Grove. Contact Mary Gramley (630) 275-5168

**September 7 & 10** - *TNCC* at Loyola University, Maywood. Contact Colleen Andreoni (708) 216-8347.

**September 25 & 28** - *ENPC* at Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago. Contact Marge Nevison (773) 880-3808.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Congratulations to the following state members:

**Karen Feiden** received a free membership at the April State Council meeting.

**Shane Purley, Rita Schlomer** and **Laura Turro** appointed as representatives to the Illinois Coalition of Nursing Representatives. The group will examine the nursing shortage.

### **Call for Candidates**

The following positions are open for Illinois State Council. If you are interested please submit a letter of intent with a brief statement declaring position sought and why, history of ENA involvement and a resume or CV by **July 1, 2001** to:

Paula Tanabe  
417 S. Jefferson, #408

Chicago, IL 60607

### **President – Elect**

#### *Qualifications:*

- Current national association member
- Current Illinois RN licensure
- Demonstrated active participation at the state level

#### *Responsibilities:*

- Perform any duties assigned by the president for the state council.
- Succeed to the office of president at the expiration of the president's term. In the event the position of president becomes vacant, the president-elect serves the unexpired term and the term for which elected.
- Serve as liaison to committees as assigned by the president.
- Collaborate with the president in development of charges to the board and committees.
- Recommend committee chairpersons for the upcoming year.
- Assist the board in preparing and approval of the state budget.
- Attend all state board and council meetings.
- Be a delegate to the national meeting.

#### *Term of office:*

President-elect serves for one year, January 1 through December 31. This is followed by term of one year as president and one year as past president. The overall commitment is three years.

### **Director**

#### *Qualifications:*

- Current national association member
- Current Illinois RN licensure
- Demonstrated active participation in ENA

#### *Responsibility:*

- Assist with council business and coordinates activities of the council.
- Liaison to committees as assigned by the president. Continued communication with committee chairs and meeting attendance to serve as a resource person.
- Attends all board and council meetings.
- Coordinates selection of a member for scholarship to national assembly yearly.
- Supports the president and board in implementing the strategic plan.

#### *Term of office:*

Serves a term of two calendar years, January 1 through December 31.

## **CALL FOR DELEGATES**

### **ENA General Assembly**

The National meeting for ENA is held in Orlando, FL. The General Assembly is September 12 & 13 and the Scientific Assembly is September 14 – 16, 2001. Delegates from Illinois are needed to help frame the future of the National Organization. A stipend is available to help offset the additional expense for delegates.

Delegates are selected by the following point system. Please submit your points by **July 15, 2001** to:

Julie D'Agostino  
1540 North Hickory  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

**Points are earned as follows:**

**5 Points** – local officer, local committee chair, national committee member, national SIG member, faculty for ENA educational activities, newsletter contributor, attended annual meeting, attended local or SIG meeting.

**10 Points** – national board member, national committee chair, state committee member, chair national SIG, state SIG member, program planning of ENA educational activities, attended state meeting, CEN certification, intraorganization interaction (INA, SNAPI, NEMSCA< etc.), Lobby Day participant, active involvement in the legislative process.

**15 Points** – State board member, state committee chair, chair state SIG, newsletter editorial activities, published emergency nursing article, conducted research related to emergency nursing, consulting activities related to emergency nursing.

**ENA SCHOLARSHIP TO SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY IN ORLANDO**

By Julie Bracken

Again this year Illinois State Council ENA wants to support the membership by offering two scholarships to attend National Scientific Assembly in Orlando, FL, September 14 – 16, 2001.

To apply for the scholarship you must be an Illinois State Council ENA member and submit written response to the following criteria:

- Have you attended an Annual Meeting in the past?
- Describe your contributions/Activities in your community or institution for each of the following areas: Clinical practice, education, research/quality improvement and leadership/management.
- Describe your involvement in ENA.
- Explain how your attendance at this meeting will enhance your professional growth.
- Explain your plans for sharing the information acquired from the Assembly (who, where. how).

Points are awarded for the above criteria. All applications must be postmarked by **July 15, 2001** and are evaluated by an objective team prior to the Annual Meeting.

Mail applications to:

Pat Hickey  
4168 W. Berry Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60641

If questions call in the evening, (773) 545-2927.

## **Injury Prevention Institute**

### ***First There, First Care***

Rural areas have fewer people but higher fatality rates, and national statistics show the majority of motor vehicle fatalities occur on rural roadways. Many motor vehicle fatalities result from airway obstruction and blood loss, both of which may be treated by trained bystanders. Many motor vehicle deaths are attributed to the lack of early intervention. In rural areas, serious delays occur between a crash and the call for EMS. Additionally, it takes longer for first responders to arrive on the scene due to the distances they must travel. We know every second counts in an emergency, therefore trained bystanders can make the difference – but only if they take action.

To educate Americans and raise awareness about their role as the important first link in the chain of emergency care, the *First There, First Care* program was developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The program was written for EMS and medical/nursing personnel to conduct in their respective communities. Everyone can learn to stop, help, call Emergency Medical Service (EMS), assess the situation, start the victim's breathing and stop the victim's bleeding until the first responders arrive.

The five basic life-sustaining actions of bystander care are:

- Stop to Help
- Call for Help
- Assess the Victim
- Start the Breathing.
- Stop the Bleeding.

For more information and to receive the *First There, First Care* Instructions packet and CD ROM, please call Thelma Kuska, RN, CEN, Regional Program Manager, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Region V at (708) 503-8892,ext.20.

## **TAKE CARE**

By Robin Mazzucca

Did you realize we are currently experiencing what many people refer to as the “Graying of America.”? Our large baby boomer population is rapidly approaching the age of retirement. In fact, population experts anticipate the over-60 age group will comprise at least 25% of our population by 2030. This has serious implications for Emergency Nurses—both as caregivers and as potential patients.

Members of Emergency Nurses CARE, INC. to promote healthy life-styles in people over the age of 55 and address some of their safety-related needs originally developed TAKE CARE (Thoughtful Adults Keep Enlightened). It is critical that we focus on this often times neglected but rapidly growing segment of our population. It is imperative to increase our efforts in promoting lifestyles to facilitate independent living—especially given the rising cost of health care and medications.

TAKE CARE incorporates slide presentation, problem solving, and evaluation components. The slide presentation covers population characteristics, alcohol and aging, prescription and over-the-counter medications, and highway (traffic/pedestrian) safety issues.

This is a very motivated age group. This motivation comes from the desire to remain independent. Life control issues are of the utmost importance. The TAKE CARE program provides a wonderful opportunity to share with and learn from one of the most knowledgeable groups of patients in our practice.

In addition, the TAKE CARE program is applicable too more than just the “Mature Adult.” In reality, these are many (if not all) of the same issues faced by persons of all ages who have special physical and medical challenges. This very special high-risk group of people is seldom targeted by traditional injury prevention initiatives and most definitely benefit from life safety education and injury prevention initiatives.

This group of individuals would include, but certainly not be limited to persons with physical handicaps, transplant candidates and recipients, persons with chronic illnesses such as Parkinson’s and Multiple Sclerosis, and chemotherapy recipients. These individuals - often much younger than 55, are often on multiple medications and have impairments and functional conditions mirroring those found in persons over the age of

55. Staying healthy and keeping safe are priorities for this group of individuals, yet seldom (if ever) are they a target group for this type of education.

As Emergency Care providers, we care for patients covering the spectrum of ages and needs. EN CARE provides the opportunity to address injury prevention needs to all age groups. It is imperative we not forget the injury prevention needs of our aging population. Remember the education we provide today benefits us as well. Aging is inevitable—even for Emergency Nurses!

### ***Injury Prevention during the Month of May***

For most of us, May means First Communion, Graduation parties and other endless parties. But for the emergency nurses, May means an increase of injuries and therefore an increase in emergency department visits. It is no wonder in the field of highway safety, May is a busy month.

#### **National Bike Month – May 13-19. Bike to Work Day - May 18**

Take advantage of the new EN CARE Bicycle Safety program and host a bike rodeo in your community. Promote use of bicycle helmets. Work with your local law enforcement agency. A Bike Month Organizer Kit is available to help people organize community events promoting safe bicycling.

Contact: League of American Bicyclists: (202) 822-1333 or [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)

#### **Motorcycle Awareness and You Month**

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation is producing public service announcements on drinking (motorcycle operators) and motorcycle awareness.

Contact: National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administration: Elizabeth Piper (949) 727-3227, ext.3077

#### **National Transportation Week – May 13-19**

This week promotes safety for all forms of transportation, including mass transit, trains and air transportation.

#### **National EMS Week – May 20-26**

The theme for 2001 is *EMS: Answering the Call*. An EMS Week Campaign Kit is available from the American College of Emergency Physicians and state EMS offices.

This kit contains logo slicks, fact sheets, information on how to promote EMS and materials for educating the public to safety and emergency services. Most of these materials can be used year round.

Contact: American College of Emergency Physicians ☎(800) 798-1822 or email – [customerservice@acep.org](mailto:customerservice@acep.org)

### **Operation Lifesaver Awareness Day – May 16**

In 1999, there were over 4,000 injuries and fatalities involving trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians. Operation Lifesaver is a national, nonprofit education and awareness program dedicated to ending collisions at highway-rail grade crossings and on railroad rights of way. Most states have an Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator who works with trainers and volunteers to deliver the Operation Lifesaver's messages.

Contact: Operation Lifesaver- (800) 537-6224 or [www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org)

### **Buckle Up America Week –May 21-28**

During this week, thousands of communities address the issue of occupant protection through a combination of education and enforcement activities. The *Operation ABC Mobilization: America Buckles Up Children*, also is celebrated this week. This is a coordinated enforcement effort to locate, ticket, and fine drivers who do not buckle up children or themselves.

Contact: NHTSA: [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov) and click on the Buckle Up America logo  
ABC Mobilization: (202) 625-2570 or [www.nsc.org/airbag.htm](http://www.nsc.org/airbag.htm)

## **ECRN Updates** by Annie Moy, RN MS

### **1. ECRN Renewals**

Please check your ECRN certificate for your expiration date. This is the first year ECRN renewals are occurring. Many of you expire and need to contact your EMS Office prior to your expiration date to insure timely processing of your renewal. The following state criteria need to be met prior to renewal:

- a. Registered Nurse in accordance with the Illinois Nursing Act of 1987
- b. Successful completion of 32 hours of continuing education in a four year period.

Additionally, IDPH will send a child support statement under separate cover to the address on their database. If you moved within the last four years you must contact the state with a current address. This child support form **MUST** be completed and returned to IDPH prior to a new certificate being generated. IDPH reinstatement fee for an expired certificate is \$50.

The new ECRN certificates expires after a period of 4 (four) years.

## **2. EMS Week**

This year Emergency Medical Services Week is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> through May 26<sup>th</sup>. The theme for this year is “EMS Answering the Call”. Please watch for upcoming events at your local EMS institutions/facilities in celebration of this week. There are many individuals (First Responders, Dispatchers, EMT Bs, EMT-Is, EMT-Ps, PHRNs, ECRNs, ECPs, etc.) who work 24/7/365 caring for patients prior to their transport to a facility. Take time out of your busy day to acknowledge the contributions of all those involved in this very special arena of patient care. Thank you everyone for all your efforts in “answering the call” around the clock!

## **3. Legislative Updates Web Site**

The following is a very informative web site to flag as a “favorite” if you are interested in the status of current legislative bills: <http://www.legis.state.il.us/>

This site includes the following useful information

### **a. Legislation and Laws**

1. Legislation – Status and Text
2. Public Acts
3. Illinois Compile Statutes
4. Legislative Reports
5. Illinois Constitution

### **b. Senate**

1. Members Schedule
2. Committees
3. Rules
4. Journals
5. Votes
6. Transcripts

### **c. House of Representatives**

1. Same as Senate
2. Live Session Audio
3. Live Session Video/Audio

### **d. Legislative Resources**

1. Find your State Legislator (New!)
- 2.

## **4. IL State Do Not Resuscitate Forms**

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is implementing a new statewide Do Not Resuscitate Form on July 1, 2001. These forms are easily

recognized by EMS personnel by their “orange” color and hopefully enhance rapid identification and adherence to the wishes of the patient and/or designee. Please contact your EMS office if you would like to have more information on or to view this form.

The DNR form is available for downloading in English and Spanish versions. This form can be copied on “orange” colored paper to be in compliance with the state. Please bookmark this site for rapid reference:

<http://www.idph.state.il.us/public/books/DNR.pdf>

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Membership Committee wants every emergency nurse to be an ENA member. We see that through ENA, emergency nurses have an avenue to grow both personally and professionally. We join our voices in support of emergency nursing advocacy and legislative issues. Together, we can make a significant difference for the emergency patients of Illinois.

How do you get the most for your membership dollars? Get involved! Look at the committees reporting in this newsletter, and find a group to meet your needs and interests. Attend the Spring Symposium, and other ENA continuing education programs, and help your practice grow and develop. You are also invited to attend ENA State Council meetings. Network with other members, and see how they handle the same issues/problems that you face. For a small time commitment, you can have a voice in this dynamic emergency nursing organization.

Share the benefits of ENA! Ask an emergency nursing friend/colleague to join ENA. Membership materials are available from either Membership Co-Chairs (see below) or contact the national office to join by credit card at 1-800-243-8362. Together, we have an opportunity to shape the future of emergency nursing practice!

Deb Mirco (847) 934- 1849, on-line a [Dmirco@AOL.com](mailto:Dmirco@AOL.com)  
Barb Bollenberg (630) 853-3517, on-line at [ChangeRN@AOL.com](mailto:ChangeRN@AOL.com)

## **TRAUMA NURSE SPECIALIST COURSE**

The following two Trauma Nurse Specialist Course (TNS) were omitted from previous newsletters:

TNS Course (Monday & Tuesday) – September 10-October 16 at Cook County Hospital, Chicago. Contact Joan Duda (312) 633- 3221 .

TNS Recertification Classes – October 22, 23, & 29 at Cook County Hospital, Chicago. Contact Joan Duda (312) 633- 3221 .

## **CALL FOR SPEAKERS FOR SPRING SYMPOSIUM 2002**

The Spring Symposium Committee wants to develop a program reflective of the current trends and issues facing emergency nursing. Therefore, proposals for speakers are requested. Please forward your proposal consisting of brief biographical information and a topic outline for approximately 50 minutes of content by **July 15, 2001** to:

Julie Bracken  
2616 West 99<sup>th</sup> Street  
Evergreen park, IL 60805

For questions please call (312) 633-7683 days or (708) 636-3156 evenings or [juliebracken@msn.com](mailto:juliebracken@msn.com).

## **CEN**

Illinois ranked tenth this year in the number of Certified Emergency Nurses. The BCEN is challenging all states to make the top ten list. Please renew your CEN and encourage your emergency-nursing colleagues to attain certification.

The top ten are:

California  
Texas  
Pennsylvania  
New York  
New Jersey  
Florida  
Ohio  
Washington State  
Massachusetts  
Illinois

## **Patient Care Manager, Emergency Services**

RN with minimum 5 years experience required. Strongly prefer leadership experience. Opportunity in new state of the art hospital located in Green Bay, WI, scheduled to open in Sept of 2001. This facility is part of Aurora HealthCare, the largest system in Wisconsin as well as the largest private employer. 108 beds, all private rooms. Latest technology for diagnosis and treatment, tertiary services, full service emergency department staffed 24/7. ER has 20 beds, 7 equipped as critical/trauma exam rooms. In-department radiology room, biohazardous isolation room and an EMS lounge. Will supervise 21-25 FTE's. Green Bay offers a high quality of life and a very reasonable cost of living. For more information, contact or send resume to Laura Brace

Laura Brace, Recruiter  
Flannery, Sarna & Associates  
Waukesha, WI 53188

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