

2008 PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Laura Giles



Do you remember what it was like to be a new Emergency Nurse? When you started your first position in an ED were you welcomed with open arms by your fellow RN's? Did you feel your orientation was adequate, or did you find yourself trying to find the right way to do things by trial and error?

As I write this we are celebrating Nurses Week and I am remembering the excitement, and FEAR I felt at my first ED job. In some ways I was lucky when I started in 1970. No one else had any experience, so none of the RN's I worked with said things like "You are useless since you don't know anything". This was before Anita Dorr and Judy Kelleher got together to found EDNA, ENA's original name. We figured things out by asking the residents and the nurse who had one more week of experience than we did. The residents were learning via the "See one, do one, teach one" method. There were no Emergency Medicine attendings, nor were there EM residencies. Needless to say, emergency care was not as sophisticated as it is now.

As we became more experienced in emergency care, some nurses thought that their knowledge was meant to be shared with others (e.g. Anita Dorr and Judy Kelleher). Didactic education became an important part of orientation to the ED. The buddy system for learning your job with an experienced ED RN was integral to an effective orientation. But here was where some nurses went down the "dark path". Sadly, new nurses were placed in a situation akin to "hazing". The feeling of being incompetent or stupid because your orientation partner said mean things to you or left you to figure things out because it "was time" and "that's how I had to learn" burned out the happy excitement of the new ED nurse. Nurses left the ED because they were fearful of being in a tense clinical situation without support, and mean nurses started to notch their belts with the orientees they had "gotten rid of". They thought of themselves as the experts but they really were bullies.

In 2008, the mean nurse bullies still drive away the young and eager (and the experienced and adept) just because they feel the need to intimidate. The nursing profession, especially in high stress areas such as the ED must take ownership of this phenomenon, now known as "horizontal violence". Remember your first ED job or your first nursing job and how you felt as you learned your responsibilities. Nurture the next generation of nurses. Share the excitement they feel and remember with them why you wanted to be a nurse. Protect and lead by example. Intervene when you see or hear a bully undermining a new nurse. We must promote the nursing profession and stimulate young men and women to join our career...and it has to start with us and in our departments the very first day a new RN joins the staff. To quote my friend and colleague Suzanne Pugh, think to yourself "What would Florence do?"

BECOMING CEN CERTIFIED: THE FIRST STEPS

Meg Barry, Manhattan-Bronx Chapter

Having recently presented a CEN Review lecture at Setting The Pace 2008, I was surprised to discover that many nurses do not know the process of becoming certified. The following is a review of the process, with some added suggestions.

Test Preparation:

1. Obtain the CEN Exam handbook either through the website, ena.org or by calling 800-900-9659.
2. Complete the application and mail to:
Board of Certification of Emergency Nurses (BCEN),
915 Lee Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016-6569
3. Schedule an exam date by calling the toll free number. The exam is computerized and you will need to select an exam site. Ask for the phone number and directions to get to the testing site. Always reconfirm 6 weeks in advance of the test.

The Test

1. The test consists of 175 questions, 150 real test questions and 25 practice questions. The practice questions are scattered throughout the exam so you need to answer all 175 questions but will be graded on only the 150 'real' questions.
2. There is a 3 hour time limit.
3. No computerized calculators or beepers are allowed.
4. The computerized testing is very easy. Even if you feel you are not computer savvy, don't be concerned. The key board is clearly labeled so answering the multiple questions is simple.
5. The benefit of computerized testing is that you will know your score before you leave the testing site.

Studying For The Exam

1. Have a plan on how you are going to study for the exam. There are many good emergency nursing books and CEN review books available. Go on the internet and search for emergency nursing books. The 6th edition of Emergency Nursing Core Curriculum, which is an excellent reference, was just revised. To obtain, visit www.ena.org and click Marketplace. In addition, the ENA has published a CEN Review.

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You can contact us via the website:
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Click on Contact Us.

Deadlines for the next newsletters:
September 1, November 22, 2008

Do you have a clinical question?

Send it to us.

One of our expert clinicians will answer it in a future newsletter

CALL FOR NEW TNCC AND ENPC INSTRUCTORS

Joanne Fadale, RN, BSN, FAEN (candidate)-NYS Trauma/Pediatric Chair

New York State is a very large state with many nurses in need of the Trauma Nurse Core Course and/or Emergency Nurse Pediatric Course. If you are a current provider of either course and have a desire to teach, the time is now. The New York State Council will be sponsoring two instructor courses. The first course will be held in Rochester, NY, August 1, 2008. The second will be held in Queens, NY, November 14, 2008.

The Instructor Course is a 7.5 hour course with additional time required for reverification of provider status either as a TNCC Provider or ENPC Provider. The Instructor Course is designed to prepare providers with instructor potential to become instructors. The TNCCI/ENPCI courses emphasize appropriate teaching strategies as well as correct evaluation methods.

Participant Requirements:

Must be a Registered Nurse with a current license and who is currently verified as TNCC/ENPC Provider. An Instructor Candidate may attend only one of the courses, either TNCCI or ENPCI .

Instructor Course Admission Requirements:

- 1. A letter furnished by a Provider Course Director stating that the Course Director will assist the participant with the mentoring necessary for completion of Instructor Candidate requirements.
- 2. A copy of current TNCC/ENPC Provider status.
- 3. A letter of recommendation from the TNCC/ENPC Provider Course Director indicating instructor potential.
- 4. A copy of current RN license.
- 5. Registration fee.

Pre Course Test Requirements:

Instructor candidates must reverify as a TNCC/ENPC Provider achieving at least 90% on the Provider exam and 85% of the total points on the provider skill stations. Candidates for the TNCCI are required to be current as a provider in the TNCC 6th edition.

Achievement of Instructor Candidate Status requires that the participants demonstrate their ability to lecture, teach and evaluate selected psychomotor skill stations. To become a fully recognized instructor, the Instructor Candidate must be successfully evaluated at a subsequent Provider Course. The evaluation must be done by a current member of the State Trauma or Pediatric Faculty.

Maintenance of Instructor Status

An instructor who has completed the course remains verified as an instructor and a provider by participating as an instructor in at least one (1) Provider Course every 18 months and maintaining an average QA score of 3.0 or greater. Instructors are personally responsible for carefully monitoring the dates of their last course taught to maintain eligibility to teach.

Bridging Instructors

Instructor bridging is the process whereby an instructor in one course can become an instructor in the other course by meeting eligibility criteria.

Eligibility criteria for instructors bridging from one course to another:

- 1. Instructor status must be current.
- 2. Provider status must be current in the course to which they are bridging.

Course fee: ENA member \$250.00
Non ENA member \$350.00

RN potential Instructor Candidates should submit all required materials identified in the Instructor Course admission requirements above to:

Course Date-August 1, 2008
Rochester, NY
Susan Knapp, Course Coordinator
7754 Roder Pkwy
Ontario, NY 14519
rknapp5@rochester.rr.com
Deadline July 2, 2008

Course Date- November 14, 2008
Queens, NY
Joanne Fadale-Course Coordinator
4026 Sheldon Rd.
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Tjjmf40@aol.com
Deadline October 14, 2008

Candidates meeting the eligibility requirements will be notified. Directions to the course facility and materials will be sent to the candidates.

SAVE THE DATE

Setting The Pace 2009
“Meeting Today’s Challenges, Preserving The Future”
will be held April 23-24, 2009
in Saratoga, New York.
For registration information, speaker proposals,
exhibitor packets or other information,
please contact Susan Chalupa Breese
48 Winding Brook Drive, Fairport, NY 14450
or by email at sbreese@rochester.rr.com.

COURSE SCHEDULE

COURSE	DATE	PLACE	CONTACT
TNCC	June 7/8	Western Chapter	Joanne 716-574-7336 tjjmf40@aol.com
TNCC	June 21/22	Montefiore, Bronx	lkosits@montefiore.org
TNCC	June 20/21	Mark Twain Chapter	teeter@aomc.org 607-737-4426
TNCC	July 30/31	St. Mary’s-Amsterdam	colleen.vesely@bassett.org
TNCC	August 7/8	Bassett Healthcare	colleen.vesely@bassett.org
TNCC	August 15/16	Winthrop University Hospital	jjax@winthrop.org 516-663-8708
TNCC	August 20/21	Wilson Hospital Johnson City	alice_sturckler@uhs.org 607-763-6022
TNCC	Sept. 13/14	St. Vincent’s, NYC	lkosits@montefiore.org
TNCC	Sept. 17/18	Wilson Hospital Johnson City	alice_sturckler@uhs.org 607-763-6022
TNCC	Oct. 16/17	Utica	Fil Talerico 315-734-3097
TNCC	Nov. 8/9	Penfield Ambulance	Sue Knapp rknapp5@rochester.rr.com
TNCC	December12/13	Winthrop University Hospital	jjax@winthrop.org 516-663-8708
ENPC	June 22/27	Brookhaven Memorial Hospital	Barbara Clasen 631-687-4093 bclasen@bmhmc.org
ENPC	Sept. 4/5	Bassett Healthcare	colleen.vesely@bassett.org
ENPC	Sept. 10/11	Wilson Hospital Johnson City	alice_sturckler@uhs.org 607-763-6022
ENPC	October 4/5	Montefiore, Bronx	lkosits@montefiore.org
ENPC	October 11/12	Penfield Ambulance	rknapp5@rochester.rr.com
ENPC	October 15/17	Kingston	Mary Lou Killian mlk724@yahoo.com
ENPC	October 17/18	Winthrop University Hospital	jjax@winthrop.org 516-663-8708
ENPC	Nov. 25/26	Wilson Hospital Johnson City	alice_sturckler@uhs.org 607-763-6022
CEN Exam	June 11	Central Chapter	olsonson@upstate.edu
Trauma	June 6	Utica	Fil Talerico 315-734-3097
Conference	October 1	Immaculate Conception Center Douglaston	Mary Schmidt Roth msr4life@ix.netcom.com
Teaching Day	October 8	Genesee Chapter	gwen.williams@ViaHealth.org
EMS Teaching Day	Nov. 7	Cooperstown	agiannic@stemc.org

2008 NEW YORK STATE
ENA MEETINGS

August 2-Council Meeting- Rochester
September 24-27-National Annual Meeting- Minneapolis, MN
November 15-Council Meeting-Queens
All ENA members welcome at any Council meeting.
Bring a friend!

NEW YORK STATE TNCC AND ENPC NEWS

Joanne Fadale, RN, BSN, FAEN (candidate)-NYS Chairperson

A BIG THANK YOU to the TNCC 6th edition update instructors, Coleen Vesely, Anne Ryan, Sue Knapp, Helen Keating, Judy Jax and Joanne Fadale. The state now has 98 updated instructors thanks to their diligence, loyalty and dedication to the continuation of the program.

Twelve update courses were held in various parts of the state. As of May 1, 2008, TNCC 5th edition will no longer be taught in the state. The ONLY courses that will receive approval will be the TNCC 6th edition. Additionally, the ONLY instructors that will be approved to teach in any TNCC 6th course must have been updated by April 30, 2008.

All TNCC instructors will be sent new instructor cards. Note that if you were a current active TNCC (5th edition) instructor you will receive a new instructor card, but if you were not updated to the 6th edition by Apr. 30, 2008 you will no longer remain on the active TNCC instructor list. It will be necessary to attend an instructor course to continue teaching TNCC. Two state sponsored courses will be held in 2008, please see "Call for New TNCC and ENPC Instructors" article in this newsletter.

The New ENPC reverification course is now available and is being offered throughout the state. If you are a current ENPC Provider, you may elect to take a reverification one day course instead of the two day ENPC to be reverified. You must be a current provider and not expired.

A few changes for TNCC/ENPC Instructors from national ENA:

Course Numbers are now shorter. The last two digits which were used to represent the anticipated number of participants have been eliminated.

Course confirmations will now be sent electronically by email once your course application has been processed. The email replaces the postcards. PLEASE make sure that the national ENA Course Operations Dept. has your current email on file.

Applications for TNCC courses are scheduled to be on line with national ENA the last half of 2008. This offers an alternative to the paper application process and our courses should be processed faster.

Course Summary Reports and Final Faculty Rosters are to be sent to national ENA and the State Chair at the completion of each course. Copies of the evaluations are no longer requested.

New Instructor Numbers- All current instructors that are ENA members will have their instructor number changed to equal their membership number. The member number will be preceded by a P for ENPC and T for TNCC.

Social Security Numbers-The new computer system will only identify the last 4 digits of an individual's SS#. The scantron sheets will be revised this year to reflect this change. The faculty rosters also only require the last four numbers.

An ENPC Reverification Course CD was issued to all current instructors. Courses can be offered immediately. If you are a current instructor, contact national ENA course ops immediately if you have not received the materials. The CECH hours for the new one day course were added to Appendix H of the TNCC/ENPC Admin Procedures on the ENA web site. Please note that there was a typo made on the CECH calculation so if you printed your procedures early on in the year the number has changed to 6.5, so please check your copy of the procedures.

All ENPC/TNCC instructors are encouraged to sign up to receive the monthly Course Bytes sent out by the national office email. It shares the most current information and procedural changes for all courses. If you wish to receive them, email CourseBytes@ena.org with your name, current home address and home and work email addresses.

The NYS Council Trauma and Pediatric Committee anticipate a very busy remainder of the year. The new courses are exciting offering new clinical information and skills.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to our EMS colleagues who celebrated National Emergency Medical Services Week May 18th to 24th. We thank them for their extraordinary efforts and dedication.



STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER

The recipient of the New York State Council ENA Setting The Pace 2008 scholarship was **Christina Velez**.

She writes:

"I have spent the last two years working in healthcare as an Emergency Medical Technician and then as a Patient Care Technician. During the same time, I received a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and am currently preparing for graduation from New York University College of Nursing. Despite all this, one of my most memorable experiences has been my trip to Saratoga Springs, New York for the Emergency Nurses Association's Annual Conference.

As a "perpetual student," I found it difficult to prepare for the transition from full-time student to full time nurse. I always wondered where I would go to learn once the classroom doors close. What environment would there be for me to meet with a group of people to think, share and learn? I do not worry anymore because I have found what I was looking for at the conference. I was welcomed

with open arms by wonderful nurses from all across the state and found comfort in meeting so many people who, like me, have a passion for the pursuit of knowledge. I am grateful to the men and women who have shown me just how much fun the Emergency Nurses Association can be!"

Congratulations to Christina!

We wish her a gratifying and successful nursing career!



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NASSAU QUEENS CHAPTER NEWS

Mary Schmidt Roth

The Nassau Queens Chapter ENA had a successful dinner meeting at Carlton on the Green. Those who attended enjoyed a great dinner and a discussion on treating depression in the ED.

The annual conference for the chapter is being held on October 1st at Immaculate Conception Conference Center in Douglaston. Topics will include trauma and legal issues, among others. If you are interested in helping with the program or in attending, contact **Mary Roth at: msr4life@ix.netcom.com.**

The chapter is preparing an updated CEN Review for presentation in the near future. If you are interested in such a course, contact **Judy at: Jjax@Winthrop.org.**

Looking ahead, we are considering ideas to celebrate Emergency Nurses Week. As part of our celebration, we send letters and cookies to our local ED staffs. If you have any ideas, we would love to hear them. Let us know at: **msr4life@ix.netcom.com.**

TNCC and ENPC are ongoing. Check the course listing in the newsletter for dates.

*New York State Council of the Emergency Nurses Association
Would like to thank the following for their support of
SETTING THE PACE 2008*

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CONFERENCE BASKET RAFFLE A SUCCESS

Mickey Forness

The annual basket raffle held at the Setting the Pace 2008 conference was a great success.
Fundraising for 9/11 scholarship totaled \$2250. The selection and variety reached new heights this year with more than 50 baskets donated. Included were wine baskets, several lovely pieces of jewelry, including some from Tiffany & Co., the usual lovely Coach bag, a lobster fest basket, an iPod, and many others.
The exhibitors provided a textbook and tickets to a Yankees game.

In addition, a scholarship for Setting the Pace 2009 was won by Meghan Jenks from Albany Medical Center.
An ENA membership was won by Mary Zellner from St. Luke's in Cornwall.



Thanks to all those who contributed to this wonderful event and an invitation goes to all members to come and join us next year to participate in the fun.

2008 ENA ANNUAL MEETING IN MINNEAPOLIS

Join national and international ENA members in Minneapolis for the annual meeting September 24th to 27th. See the Journal of the Emergency Nursing or log on to the ENA website, ena.org for more information.

If you would like to be a New York State delegate to the business meeting, please complete the delegate application form and submit it to Laura A. Giles, 5021 39th Street, Sunnyside, New York 11104-4716 by June 30, 2008. If you need a form, please e-mail pparker39@optimum.net.

BUFFALO RESEARCH PROJECT

Buffalo General Hospital Emergency Department of Kaleida Health is conducting a research project to determine the amount of information obtained at triage by Emergency Departments in NYS. The information can be emailed or scanned and sent to mgraham@kaleidahealth.org.

Thank you for participating in this project.

ENA NATIONAL ELECTIONS

The New York State Council encourages all members to vote for our national officers. All ENA members with an e-mail address on file at the ENA National Office should have received voting instructions by e-mail. All others should have received a paper ballot.

Candidate information may be found on the ENA website, ena.org. Click on “Meet the Candidates“, then click on the candidate’s name to access information on that candidate. You can also send an e-mail to any candidate.

If you have not received either a paper or electronic ballot, please contact the National Office at 800-900-9659, extension 4095 or by email at execoffice@ena.org.

Voting ends Friday June 13, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. Central time.

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2. Ask yourself “How do I study best?” Some people study better in a group and some study best by themselves. Set up a schedule of when to study and how you are going to do it and stick to it.

My Advice

1. If you have never taken the Trauma Nurse Core Course (TNCC) or the Emergency Nurse Pediatric Course (ENPC), do so. Both of these courses stress primary and secondary surveys, which are the standards of care for the acute patient in the emergency setting.
2. If you have taken these courses, review the provider manuals.
3. If you do not have much exposure to pediatric patients or feel that you are lacking in pediatric emergency experience, I recommend taking the ENPC. The course will give you an excellent review of the care of the emergency pediatric patient.
4. Review your ACLS book.
5. Remember, this is a national exam. Some nurses seem to forget that fact and answer the questions according to their own hospital protocol. For example, your hospital may be participating in a research protocol for caring for the acute stroke patient. However, questions involving the care of the acute stroke are going to be based on the national standard, not your research protocol.
6. Don’t tell anyone when you are taking the exam. Just make the appointment and take the test on a day off.
If you pass, wonderful! Tell everyone! If you should not be successful, you will be given an opportunity to take the exam again for a reduced rate within 6 months.

Don’t give up. Try again.

I encourage every emergency nurse to become certified in his/her specialty.

AUGUST MEETING IN ROCHESTER

The next NYS Council meeting will be held in Rochester at the Woodcliff Hotel and Spa on Saturday, August 2. A cocktail reception is planned for Friday evening.

Room rates for July 31 and August 1 are \$142 for a dbl. or king room and are guaranteed until July 10. Ask for the NYS Emergency Nurses Association room rate.

A complimentary shuttle is available from the airport, bus or rail station. Please arrange with the hotel in advance. Woodcliff is an elegant hotel with many amenities and close to the Marketplace Mall.

Please contact Sue Knapp at rknapp5@rochester.rr.com or 315-524-4883 if you have any questions.

FAQ’S FOR TNCC/ENPC INSTRUCTOR FACULTY

Joanne Fadale, RN, BSN, FAEN (candidate), NYS Trauma/Pediatric Chairperson

Q. *Does NYS have Regional, State or Instructor Faculty?*

A. The new Trauma Nursing Core Course & Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course Administrative Procedures posted Oct. 1, 2007 define instructors teaching the Instructor Courses as Faculty.

Q. *Who can become Faculty?*

A. A current ENA member, who is currently a TNCC/ENPC Provider and Instructor. The Instructor must have taught at least four (4) Provider Courses in the past four (4) years (TNCC or ENPC). The Instructor must have also served as Course Director in at least two (2) courses in the past four (4) years maintaining a cumulative course evaluation score of 3.5 or higher in the past year.

Q. *How can I become a Faculty member?*

A. Instructors who meet the Faculty eligibility requirements and wish to become Faculty must submit a letter of intent to the State Trauma/Pediatric Chairperson and/or the State Council President. Eligible Faculty candidates will then observe the next scheduled Instructor Course in the state. The next step includes the Faculty candidate teaching at a subsequent Instructor Course.

Q. *What is the term of serving in the Faculty status?*

A. Faculty must maintain their Instructor status, which means they must participate as an Instructor in at least one (1) Provider Course every 18 months. No additional teaching requirements are necessary to remain as Faculty. NYS requests that Faculty in the state participate and/or hold Instructor Courses as the need for additional instructors is identified.

Q. *If I become a Faculty member in TNCC do I automatically become ENPC Faculty?*

A. No, Instructor Faculty becomes eligible in either TNCC or ENPC. A bridging process is in place whereby a Faculty in one course may become Faculty in the other by meeting eligibility criteria and completing course and teaching requirements.

Interested Instructors may submit their letter of intent anytime to:

Joanne Fadale- NYS Trauma/Pediatric Chair
4026 Sheldon Rd.
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Tjjmf40@aol.com

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FROM THE CHAPTERS

Brooklyn Staten Island had three members who attended the Legislative Breakfast. The topic of their April 30th meeting was “Identification and Management of Missed Injuries in Trauma.” Their education day was held in Brooklyn on May 14. They are participating in Community CPR, Safe Kids and Elderly Home Safety programs.

Central Chapter hosted a CEN review on May 11 & 12 and will hold the CEN exam in their area on June 11. They are sponsoring ENPC & TNCC courses throughout the year. Please check their website at CNYena.org for chapter and course information.

Chatt held a CEN review class on May 3. They will offer a TNCC class during the fall.

Genesee Chapter held a dinner meeting on Stroke Management in March. A CEN Review Course was held on May 3. Their teaching day will be October 8, 2008.

Manhattan – Bronx sponsored a TNCC class at Lincoln Hospital in the Bronx on May 3 and 4.

Mark Twain Chapter sponsored three Registrations for the State Conference. They have updated 6 TNCC instructors. A meeting was held on May 13. The next meetings are in September and November. An e-mail campaign is in progress to contact members that haven’t been active.

Mid Hudson had two members attend the Legislative Breakfast in Albany. A chapter meeting was held May 2 in Poughkeepsie.

Mohawk Chapter is hosting a Trauma Conference on June 6.

Nassau Queens Chapter held a meeting in April; the topic was “Depression.” October 1st is the date for their “Emerging Issues for ED Nursing” conference to be held at the Immaculate Conception Center in Douglaston. A TNCC course was given in March and an ENPC class in May. The chapter sponsors ongoing Safe Kids and Geriatric Safety programs.

Suffolk Chapter had several attendees at the Legislative Breakfast and has held two Teddy Bear clinics for local kindergartens. A meeting was held on May 12 at Stony Brook with an EMS update and lecture on Neuro Trauma. The next meeting will be held tentatively at Mather Hospital on September 8. A Christmas party meeting will be held on December 8.

Southern Tier has increased their membership by 50% since January, 2007. Four members attended Legislative Breakfast in January. In February, they held a “meet and greet” for new members and in March sponsored a financial planning seminar. They sponsored a booth at the area Trauma Teaching Day in April to promote the Chapter and recruit new members.

Western Chapter had three members attend the Legislative Breakfast. They have recruited 11 new members. A dinner meeting was held in Feb. and a Burn Lecture on April 9. Their meetings are scheduled bimonthly. TNCC and ENPC classes are provided by a Bioterrorism Grant.

Please see course schedules for dates of classes and conferences.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

The New York State Council of the Emergency Nurses Association (NYSCENA) has a newsletter circulation of 2300.

It is published quarterly and is mailed to all members and Emergency Departments.

We accept paid advertisements meeting the following criteria:
Products which relate to emergency nursing
Services relating to emergency nursing
Recruitment advertising for Emergency Nurses

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For further information contact:

PHYLLIS PARKER
pparker39@optimum.net

HIGHLIGHTS FROM “SETTING THE PACE 2008”

Laura A. Giles

Setting the Pace 2008 began with two excellent pre-sessions and over 50 registrants. Meg Barry presented a CEN review and Nicki Gilboy gave her class on Emergency Severity Index (ESI) triage. Meg is the Clinical Educator at the Columbia site of NY Presbyterian and has an engaging and informal method of getting the information to her audience. While you are laughing you are learning. Nicki Gilboy is one of the members of the ESI research team so her knowledge of ESI is comprehensive; after all she “wrote the book”. Many of the students left after her class saying “I understand ESI much better now; I will be bringing this back to my job”.

Gail Pisarcik Lenahan was the Keynote speaker. Gail is currently one of our national ENA Directors and was the editor of the “Journal of Emergency Nursing” for many years. Gail presented a reflection of the nursing literature of the last decades during her lecture “Sharing the Wisdom and Advocacy of Emergency Nurses through Nursing Literature”.



I saw many of the audience smiling with recognition at particularly memorable articles. One point Gail made has stuck in my brain and it makes me think, once again, that my career choice of nursing was right; she said, and I am paraphrasing here, that nursing journals publish articles about our mistakes so others may learn from our errors. She stated that other editor colleagues of medical journals report that these types of articles are not routinely submitted or published in their journals. Gail also emphasized the importance of story-telling in our clinical practice as it is an effective method to convey experiences that will remain with the listener.

Conference participants then selected one of two presentations: Gail Lenahan, wearing her other hat as psychiatric clinical specialist, gave tips on triaging and caring for the psychiatric patient in the ED and Deborah Mack, Infection Prevention Manager at Saratoga Hospital, presented an update on infectious disease challenges in the emergency department. The rooms were filled to capacity and both presenters left their audiences wanting more.



We spent time with our wonderful and supportive exhibitors at our opening reception and stocked up on our pen supplies. A number of the Reverse Raffle items were raffled at this reception and the food was elegant and tasty.

The next morning began with a delicious continental breakfast with our exhibitors and more top quality educational offerings. Dr Stephen Gomez, Director Emergency Medicine, United Health Services Hospitals, spoke on “The Initial Evaluation of Elder Abuse” and challenged many emergency nurses to find an effective balance between protection and the patient’s self determination. Audrey Sealey, RN PhD, Brooklyn Staten Island Chapter President, presented “The Nurses Duty to Intervene; Initiating the Chain of Command” which emphasized the nurses’ obligation to take practice

issues that are not resolved to the nurse’s satisfaction to the highest member in the hospital’s chain of command in a timely fashion. The next concurrent presentations were by Dr Gomez on “Challenging Pediatric Cases” and Audrey Sealey on the “Use of Factor VII in Trauma.” Both presented timely and up to date information.

Our Awards Luncheon followed in Bookmaker’s Restaurant presided over by NYSCENA President-Elect Sue Chalupa Breese. The Ginny Hens EMS award went to Josh Kulp. The NYSCENA Educator of the Year was awarded to Ivy Budhai-Henry, Educator, Brookdale Hospital, Brooklyn NY and Director, NYSCENA Board 2008-2009. The Anita Dorr award for Emergency Nursing Excellence, named for our ENA cofounder and fellow New Yorker, Anita Dorr, was presented to Mary Ellen Jennison, past president NYSCENA. Maria Lay was selected for the Special Recognition Award for all the special things she does for ENA.



In the afternoon, Sue Hohenhaus presented” Preparing for Safe Pediatric Emergency Care.” Sue has been a contributor to the Journal of Emergency Nursing for many years and is a nationally recognized speaker on pediatric emergency issues. Mary Ann Teeter spoke on hypothermia during her presentation “To Chill or not to Chill; Reviewing the Research on Hypothermia.” Literature regarding improved recovery with post cardiac arrest patients and those with spinal cord injuries was reviewed.

Sue Hohenhaus closed the educational conference by continuing the theme of storytelling in her closing address “ It’s a Beautiful Day for Emergencies: Stories from an ED Nurse on the Road.” She brought our unique role as emergency nurses to the forefront in her poignant and funny stories and reflections on emergency nursing.



Finally we had an opportunity to “WIN BIG” at the reverse raffle. Every year it seems there is one BIG winner and this year it was Nicole La Rouge. The tickets Nicole and others purchased enable us to support the NYSCENA 9/11 scholarship fund. This scholarship is awarded to an EMT, firefighter or police officer studying for a nursing degree. We thank the organizers of the raffle- Mickey Forness, Jackie Glendenning, and Carole West.

This year’s conference was a great success due to the hard work of the Conference Committee: Janice Francischine Syers, Conference Chair; Kathy Conboy, speaker coordinator; and Sue Chalupa Breese and her team, Sue Knapp and Deb Taylor, Registrations; Mary Ellen Jennison, speaker coordinator and, as always, Bob Breese, AV expert extraordinaire, who performed his miracles. Thanks to these dedicated folks who slave, agonize and stay up late many, many nights to present an organized and top quality educational conference.



Ginny Hens EMS Award Winner Josh Kulp (r)



Mary Ellen Jennison (l) Anita Dorr Award



Ivy Budhai Henry (l) Education Award with Sue Chalupa Breese



ENA member John DiDonna and Hattie’s Restaurant owner, Jasper Alexander in Saratoga Springs



Carole West accepting Special Recognition Award for Maria Lay