

## President's Message:

Summer is over now and it is time for us to get ready for the influx of fall and winter activities. Both in our professional and personal lives we will begin to rev-up for the holidays and the fall season. At this time we should all keep in mind that as we provide the best quality care for our clients we also need to take care of our #1 client-ourselves. Only through activities which maintain our personal physical, mental and social health will we be able to meet the needs of our clients.

In September, many emergency nurses will be attending the national meeting of the Emergency Nurses Association. The agenda of the program and the general assembly look to be very diverse and enlightening. I hope that when all attendees return, they will be able to be refreshed and have an enhanced spark for our professional and particularly the specialized care that we provide to the clients we care for. I hope that also many will return with a motivation to increase our involvement in our professional organization. Remember that the "ORGANIZATION" IS YOU! Become more actively involved! Stimulate changes as needed and become a voice for the future.

Have a safe, healthy and productive fall season.

■ Debbie Schwytzer, RN, MSN, CEN, President

## **Ohio State Council Board Meeting August 18, 2001**

Debbie welcomed and had everyone introduce themselves. Debbie asked for any changes to the minutes, Minutes approved as written. Marie reviewed the treasurer's report and investment report. Treasurer's Report accepted. Marie reported on the working progress with the bookkeeper. Marie requested any input on what we might want to do with our investment funds.

Debbie reported on financial aspects in news from National. They did better on the Leadership Conference and have made some purchases for National Conference that will save funds. Most of the national Workgroups will be reinstated that were on hold from last year. They are also planning on renting some of the new building to obtain funds.

The non-profit tax application for OSC has been submitted to the IRS but there is no report back as of this date.

### CHAPTER REPORTS

Greater Akron Area - Dee Hart - next meeting in September, they had a successful Symposium in May.

Greater Cleveland - Dona Laing - had Chapter meeting last Wednesday. 3 TNCC scheduled the remaining part of the year. No ENPC scheduled. Next meeting at UH October 17 with Brain attack protocol as lecture. Christmas social first Wednesday in December at the Marriott at 150th and I-71, 6 p.m.

Greater Cincinnati - Debbie Schwytzer - next meeting September 11. Next TNCC at Bethesda Oak August 29 and 30. Nurses Day Luncheon scheduled October 9th at Montgomery Inn.

Greater Miami Valley - Chris Bennett - just had a meeting with speaker on new strategies in AMI with new drugs. Next meeting at Grandview in October. TNCC and ENPC being conducted mainly by individual institutions.

Seagate - No report

Eastern Ohio - No report

Central Ohio Chapter - Deb Zang - last meeting on geriatrics, two TNCC recently and TNCC and ENPC coming up. Next meeting is September 19; October 25 is at Mt. Carmel East for (Emergency Nurses Day) END Conference with CEU.

Southern Ohio - No report

Lakeshore - Peg Kunsman - last meeting August 7 had lecture on mechanism of injury. October 13 scheduling a 1/2 day seminar to celebrate END. Four speakers including Gina Gavlik, Greater Cleveland Chapter President who will speak on diabetes have been planned. Cost will be \$10.00, and time is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. TNCC scheduled October 27-28 at EMH. No ENPC scheduled as of this date. ENCARE program held in May that did well. Goodbye to Becca Steinmann who has recently moved to IL. Peg made a motion to send a 5-year membership to Becca to express our regards.

Heart of Ohio - Deb Deedrick - meeting in September with lecture on the SANE Program by Deb Zang. Recent TNCC successful.

### LIAISON REPORTS

ACEP (American College of Emergency Physicians) - Mike Glenn - No Report. Needs someone to take his place as

representative. Next meeting is September.

EMS Board (Emergency Medical Services) - Kathy Haley via Mike - update - discussion between State Board of EMS and Nursing Board re: function of EMS Providers in hospital setting. NHTSA coming to Ohio in November to make evaluation and review of EMS system at State level. Grants committee review/revise system to distribute money to EMS systems for education etc. Changing system for providing funds to second and third priority items. Mike reviewed more details of this. January 2002 reporting system for Trauma Registry goes live for data retrieval. EMS Board adjusting length of meetings to cover data they need to address.

OAEMS - Deb Zang - No report

ONA (Ohio Nurses Association) - David Shields - if we have something to discuss we will contact, no established meeting.

OSTNC (Ohio Society of Trauma Nurse Coordinators) - Nancie Bechtel - No report

Forensic Nurse Examiners - Deb Zang - meeting last weekend in Cincinnati - manual is completed. Their National Conference is two weeks after ours in Orlando - new officers - Jan Markowitz new President. She is from Akron.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trauma Committee - Dee and Nancie - proposal to do a combined TNCC/ENPC Instructor course later this year in central Ohio with December 8 suggested date. Areas of state where trauma education is being updated may need to have more instructors. Course Directors: Any potential instructor candidates, please send Dee a list ASAP. Report from Nancie re: State Trauma Committee - meet every other month on second Wednesday has three sub committees - hospital, prehospital and airmedical transport - Mike reviewed what they are doing.

Education - David Shields - Symposium is April 27, one day because of concerns for scheduling of staff. Still working on speakers. Have most slots filled. Conference will be at Mt. Carmel East. David and Jim discussed other details. Flyers will be sent after the first of the year.

Government Affairs - Deb Zang - has data on some of the laws in the Senate/House, Medical board had a hearing on unlicensed personnel administering medication, a nurse from Cleveland Clinic spoke to the Senate re: Nursing Shortage. Federal Government did pass Patient Rights Law. Child restraint legislation proposal changing current law - requiring change to 80 lb. limit, increase the fine and providing more information on using booster seats. Another issue to require out of state travelers to comply with our laws. Also Good Samaritan law - cover those who try to help teach about how to use child safety seats. Mike discussed some more actions from the trauma Legislation that may require our involvement in helping to educate the legislators about medical issues.

Membership Development/Delegate Selection - Deb Zang - 14 confirmed delegates at this time for National ENA Conference. Membership 913 as of June. Deb reviewed numbers per

chapter.

Newsletter - Dee Hart - next deadline is August 27. Any item welcome.

Nursing Practice - Kathy Sutton - No report

ENCARE - Deb Deedrick - Deb is now the Chair for Ohio. Mike reviewed items from National: Dare to Care Program (Alcohol related) is being revised. National looking for stories, pictures etc. of effects of alcohol and injuries on our patients. Operation Safe Kids - seatbelt safety program gone to NHTSA for approval of two-day program. Bicycle program is available with resources. A gun safety program is being edited with a self-training program for nurses and resources are nearly ready. Domestic Violence prevention program on hold. Injury prevention program also on hold. Important to lobby for ENCARE program in our state at National Conference. Injury Prevention - Ohio had recent assessment of our programs and process by outside National Program. Mike reviewed about the Ohio Injury Prevention Commission under the Dept. of Health.

## OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws - approved in November - copies available for members.

Website - development site - home page is the test site for now [Http://members.tripod.com/clholmes/index3.htm](http://members.tripod.com/clholmes/index3.htm) Mike continued discussion and review of what we can do with this. Suggested that the Executive Board have access to the Web site to update. Dona made a motion that we have 5 copies of the program for the Executive Board members to update the site. Seconded by Liz Pulley. Discussion. Update committee lists and officers, etc. send to Mike so he can get site live. Motion carried. Passed unanimously.

Nomination to EMS Board for Nursing Representation - Debbie received one letter of interest, Kathy Haley will have letter sent to recommend that she continue on EMS Board.

Silent Auction - Dona Laing - reported on jewelry she purchased. Dona will deliver to National.

## NEW BUSINESS

National Bylaws and resolutions that are being proposed - Deb reviewed.

Proposed Bylaw change - Mike - from Kathy Haley - re: term of office for President. Proposal by Kathy Haley, seconded by Nancie Bechtel - OSCENA Bylaws will be changed to reflect that the OSCENA president shall serve for a term of 2 years and President-Elect will serve a term of one year with that year alternating with the year of Immediate-Past President. Discussed from State President's meeting. Debbie reviewed what other states are doing. Discussion. Benefit - continuity of programs and projects, and liaison relationships, etc. Con - being committed for a 4 year term with positions of President-elect. Vote called, 11 votes for, 1 against, and 1 abstains. This will be posted in the next newsletter and input will be gathered by Board members from their respective chapters and final vote will be voted on at January Board meeting.

Marie made a second motion - have a visual framework for proposed membership of Board to accompany by-laws change at November meeting. Dee second. Discussion, motion passed.

Nominations for 2002 meeting - Mike - will make a Conference call next week. Ballot will be mailed to Board members and results to be reported at November meeting.

■ Dee Hart, RN, BSN, OSC Secretary

## **Emergency Nurses Day 2001 Celebration**

The Central Ohio Chapter ENA is sponsoring our 2nd annual Emergency Nurses Day Celebration October 25th at the Siegel Center for Health Education at Mount Carmel East Hospital in Columbus. Topics include; "Are We Having Fun Yet?", Diabetes Update, Family Presence, Hyperbaric Oxygen - New Uses in the Emergency Setting, Controversies in Trauma Care, Patient Packaging by Medflight, Gang Awareness, and Autopsy - The Final Consult. The cost of the program is \$20.00 for members and \$30.00 for non-members, which includes lunch, CE's, exhibitors and possibly a visit by the Medflight helicopter and crew. Flyers will be out soon. For more information contact David Shields at 740-469-7219 or by e-mail at Dshieldsrnsncen@aol.com. Hope to see you there. Bring a friend.

■ David Shields

## **Notice to ENA Members**

Proposed Ohio State Council (OSC) Bylaws Change:

OSCENA President shall serve for a term of 2 years and President-elect will serve a term of one year and that year will alternate with the year of Immediate-Past President.

This will keep the same number of members on the Executive Board - 6. Many other states are doing this because of lack of continuity in activities.

Benefit - Continuity of programs and projects initiated by the President, and liaison relationships, etc. Con - being committed for a 4 year term with filling positions of President-elect and Immediate past-President.

For information or questions, feedback and comments contact Debbie Schwytzer, 5364 Thrasher Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45247; Deborah.Schwytzer@ec.edu, or (513) 574.7971.

### **National ENA General Assembly**

September 12-13, 2001

### **National ENA Scientific Assembly**

September 14-16, 2001 • Orlando, Florida

## ***Ohio State Council Newsletter***

Submission Deadlines

November 19

Send items for publication to the editor.

(see return address)

## ***Ohio State Council 2002 Educational Conference Update***

Mark your calendars and request the day off for the annual 2002 State Council Educational program slated for Saturday, April 27, 2002. The education committee has made some changes for this upcoming program. First, you told us it is hard getting two days off for a conference and week days are hard to cover for time off. We have taken suggestions and have come up with a Saturday date and will only offer a one day program. The conference will be held at the Seigel Center for Health Education and the Mount Carmel East Hospital campus on the east side of Columbus, just off I-270 and Broad Street. Parking is free and access is easy. As always, the speakers will be excellent and diverse and we will have the same caterer as past years with great food. There is a hotel nearby for those who wish to arrive on Friday evening. Watch for more news of this event in future issues of our newsletter and for the flyer after January 2002.

■ David Shields

## ***Report on the Trauma Registry Advisory Sub-Committee***

The Trauma Registry Advisory Committee continues to meet every month to formulate the rules which will govern the registry activities. Definitions within the rules have been determined.

Dr. Barry Knotts of St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center has been named chair of the committee.

The fields which are now in the registry have been reviewed and updated. These fields contain the information each hospital, nursing home or rehab center must report to the state on a quarterly basis. From this information, we are able to get a view of who gets injured, where the injury occurs, and hopefully in the future, what the patient's outcome is. This information is then risk-adjusted to take out individual characteristics that might make the patient, hospital or provider identified and to equalize their status to make the playing field equal — that is to be able to compare apples to apples.

Gerry Berenstein came to the June meeting to help with

registry questions. She is a guru who has been doing registry work since it began. Additionally our legal counsel, Heather Reed, has helped formulate much of the registry work for committee consideration.

The registry data base has been reviewed to determine if there are any fields to be eliminated or added, to form definitions for the fields and to simplify the job where possible. These changes will be in place hopefully in early 2002.

One problem the committee is still struggling with is the development of a unique identifier — a number or letters to be used on all patient papers from the time on the squad to the transfer to a hospital if any. The exact mechanism has not been developed. It has to be a number that will not directly identify the patient and providers upon viewing it.

Next month we will review the data sheets from PM&R to see what information they collect and report currently. Much discussion was held on doing FIM scores as a way of measuring outcome. Most hospitals do not do them unless they are Level I or II Trauma center. Doing the scores does require some training and at this time it is not provided on a widespread basis and the information currently in this section of the registry may not be accurate.

If you have any questions on the Registry please call Ann West at 419-483-3859 or E-mail her at: annlwest@hmcltd.net.

■ Ann L. West, MSN, CNS, RN, CEN

## **Legislation**

If you are a legal eagle, then I hope you will appreciate this article. In this article is current pending legislation. If one of these bills perks your interest, please contact your legislator and tell him or her how you feel.

Senate Bills that may impact your practice:

- SB 13 Requires school age children be immunized against chicken pox.
- SB 40 Emergency Room Assault extends the offense of disrupting public services and misconduct at an emergency to activities of emergency facility personnel. It increases

## **Ohio State Council (OSC) Meeting Dates for 2001**

November 10

All meetings  
held at ACEP office:

3510 Snouffer Road, Suite 100  
Columbus, OH • (614) 792-6508

## **2001 Ohio State Council Officers**

**Debbie Schwytzer, President**, Deborah.Schwytzer@uc.edu  
5364 Thrasher Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45247

**Mike Glenn - Immediate Past-President**, Mt. Vernon

**Kathy Haley, President-elect**, Columbus

**Dee Hart, Secretary**, Suffield

**Marie Garrison, Treasurer**, Westchester

**Members-at-Large:** Deb Zang, Columbus and  
Peg Kunsman, Rocky River

the penalty for disorderly conduct if committed in the presence of an emergency facility person performing duties in an emergency facility, and specifies that pattern of conduct in menacing by stalking includes actions obstructing an emergency facility performance of authorizing acts.

- SB 79 Authorizes Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board to license ambulettes and renames the board to "Ohio Ambulance and Ambulette License."
- SB 127 Prescription Drugs creates a prescription program, requires the Director of Job and Family Services on making specific determination, to establish maximum retail prices for prescription drugs, authorizes the director to act in the event of severe shortage of prescription drugs, and authorizes a civil action for violation of certain prohibitions regarding pricing of prescription drugs.

Actions of the House

- HB 40 Spinal Cord Injury Fund imposes an additional court cost of \$1.00 in cases involving a person who is convicted or pleads guilty to a motor vehicle speeding violation, creates the Spinal Cord Injury and Head Injury Cure Research Fund, and requires the additional court cost be deposited in that fund. Court cost would be increased by \$1.00 for cases concerning motor vehicle violation, with the additional money raised going to the research fund. The bill would raise 1.75 million dollars for the fund, with most of the money staying in Ohio and funding research at Ohio State University.

Funding a cure for spinal cord injuries is crucial, because one American becomes paralyzed every 30 seconds; it costs 10 billion dollars a year to care for those who sustained a spinal cord injury.

- HB 170 Inmate Health Care: The substitution alters the definition of confinement, allows for claims to be filed for payment by a 3rd party provider and requires the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (DRC) to establish a schedule of health care benefits available to

those in the custody of the department, and establishes a program encouraging preventable health care services. The legislation will allow the state to be reimbursed in cases of serious illness.

- HB 221 Prescription drugs. This bill would set up a system under which such unopened medications could be redistributed to the low income, elderly, or other persons who need them.

Also of interest to ENA members on August 7, 2001, nurses testified in front of the Ohio Medical Board regarding medication administration. Nurses are opposed to unlicensed persons administering medication. The Board is listening to the nurses and hopefully will side with us.

Ohio Nurses Association participated in a round table discussion concerning the potential creation of a medication technician. Many organizations participated from LPN, Long-term Care, MR/DD, Home Care. Discussions included the creation, regulation, and opinions of this type of job.

Hope some of this is interesting to you.

■ Deb Zang

## **EMS Board**

The summer months are amongst the busiest for the State EMS Board and the Division of EMS. School calendars ending in June mean a large number of EMT graduates testing for their state certification. From January through June 2001, nearly 6,500 new EMTs at all levels were certified through the Division. The number of active EMTs reflected in the state records stands at 38,696. The Trauma Committee is continuing its work on achieving a two-year implementation of new rules relative to the Implementation of the "Trauma Bill." The EMS Board Grants Committee is working hard to streamline the grants process (look for grants on-line in 2002!) and to draft rules that expand the grant program as required by the trauma legislation, with a particular look at injury prevention. The Board's Education committee is struggling with the elements of the USDOT Intermediate '99 curriculum and how to implement this in Ohio. Chief among the ongoing concern is Ohio's strong volunteer fire and EMS network and their worry about the burden of additional training hours. The Board will probably not see a resolution to this discussion until late this calendar year. Finally, the Board voted on Medical Director qualifications at the July meeting in an effort to take a first step towards a quality initiative for medical direction as required by the trauma legislation passed in 2000. The Board approved qualifications including: a valid Ohio medical license; active in the emergency care of patients; active in PI, education and protocol updates with the EMS Agency; ethical standards and no conflict of interest; and three years to achieve recognition for taking an ACEP EMS Director Course or a course offered by the National Association of EMS Physicians.

There is some beginning discussion about paramedic scope of practice in non-emergency setting. Staff have met with the Ohio Board of Nursing recently.

The EMS Board meets next September 19 and November 14, 2001. Look at the EMS website for meeting dates and locations and a clearinghouse of additional information.

■ Kathy Haley

## **The Forensic Corner**

Hello to everyone. I hope this finds you all well and I hope your summer was great.

In this issue of the newsletter we will talk about another arm of the forensic nurse; the domestic violence nurse. In the DOVE program at Summa Health System we have a few branches of forensics we deal with on a daily basis. As discussed in the last issue we care for sexual assault survivors, we also take care of survivors of domestic violence.

What type of education is required to become a Domestic Violence Nurse Examiner (DVNE)? Training for SANE involves 90 hours of didactic and clinical training. In the DOVE unit the nurses are required to be a SANE for a year before becoming a DVNE. The training for domestic violence consists of an extra 24 hours of specific education geared toward domestic violence issues. This training will include the legal aspects, the physical concerns, and perhaps more importantly, the psychological issues that the domestic violence survivor will be exposed to.

One of the most difficult aspect of caring for the domestic violence survivor is understanding what your limitations are as a nurse. We are the "angels of mercy", we are the one to fix everyone's problem, and we are the first contact most of these survivors will have with someone who can actually offer a helping hand. We as that contact need to understand that these clients will not always do as we suggest. There are issues that are involved in the cycle of violence that are very difficult for us to grasp and understand as caregivers. Sometimes the most important thing we can do is to listen, assure their immediate medical needs are taken care of, and offer the appropriate referrals for the survivor.

What types of services do we as a DVNE offer these patients? When the staff evaluates a patient and the determination is made that this is a situation of domestic violence the nurse is contacted. The DVNE will respond to the appropriate unit and talk with the patient. It will be determined at this time if the client would like the intervention of the DVNE. When the patient agrees to interact with the nurse there is a brief medical exam completed followed by a history of the actual assault. The nurse records the name of the assailant, what occurred during the assault, and what has happened since the assault. There is also photo documentation done using a Macro-5 Polaroid. The old saying "a picture is worth a thousand words" is so true for the domestic violence patient. This case may not go forward in

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the criminal justice system for weeks or even months, by that time the physical injuries have most likely healed and are not visible. Trying to convince a jury of the severity of injuries using only verbal skills and chart documentation is not as compelling as actually showing the injuries as they appeared on the day you saw the client. We assure the patient has the appropriate referrals and that the patient has a safe place to go when discharged from the hospital. We also assist with the intervention of the police department. It has been found through our experience that most survivors will allow police intervention at the time of our interaction. We attribute this anomaly to the fact that we are able to provide that one-on-one attention to these survivors. We, as consulting nurses, do not have the added responsibility of caring for our other 6 or 8 patients. We, as the nurse examiner, are then the hospital representative most often called to testify in the criminal justice system.

We have had much success with the positive outcomes of the cases we have assisted with in the past months since the opening of our DVNE unit in November 2000. We look forward to continuing the collaborative care offered to our domestic violence survivors and work toward a less violent society.

You can contact me via E-Mail at [PiercyD@summa-health.org](mailto:PiercyD@summa-health.org), or mail at Debbie Piercy-DOVE Program, 444 N. Main St., Akron, OH 44310, or by phone toll free at 1-877-742-DOVE (3683), and just leave a message and I will call you back. Looking forward to hearing from you!

■ Debbie Piercy, BSN, RN, CEN, SANE, DVNE

## **August 2001 Membership Report**

<b>CHAPTER</b>	<b>NUMBER OF MEMBERS</b>
AKRON	106
CENTRAL OHIO	147
CLEVELAND	117
EASTERN OHIO	47
CINCINNATI	145
GREATER MIAMI VALLEY	138
HEART OF OHIO	31
LAKESHORE	49
SEAGATE	113
SOUTHERN OHIO	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>913</b>