

President's Message:

There is nothing like looking at a blank piece of paper and pondering how to sort several words into a prophetic message, especially at the beginning of one's office. Following a long list of strong OSC leaders like Kathy Sutton, Connie Dishon, Mike Glenn, Deborah Schwytzer, Becky Steinmann, and many, many others is exciting but difficult. Their messages and imprints have been enormous. Their abilities to capsule issues affecting emergency nurses have been staggering. Enviously, I stare at the keyboard and wish I could tap into several OSCENA past presidents' minds, especially Mike Glenn's. Not only is Mike an excellent leader but he writes like a "warm knife passing through butter" - his message is always clear and the direction charted. Another past president, Becky Steinmann, led us through a year of great collaboration and she wrote the words "we can do together things we cannot accomplish alone". Years later those words continue to profoundly influence my professional and personal life. As my tenure begins, my words are tainted with recall of how emergency nurses were affected on September 11, 2001 and with those thoughts emerge questions of how we can navigate as a state organization through the remnants and ramifications of that life-changing day. In addition to staffing, trauma system development, diversion, etc., questions related to emergency nursing include statewide disaster preparedness from an emergency nursing perspective including: taking care of our own with CISM in the event of a major event. Including our strategic action plans developed in 2000, these are but a few of the issues that committees will be addressing. The task... thoughtful consideration, planning, implementation, and

evaluation - something emergency nurses do very well.

Our strengths are many, our charge is enormous. As we move into the New Year I am requesting that you get involved, or increase involvement in your Emergency Nursing Association Chapter.

In parting I would like to resurface some words that Mike Glenn wrote in 2000, "Active membership and mentoring of the leaders of tomorrow is so very important. If we do anything to invest in our profession, let's pay special attention to those that are willing to get involved and step up to the leadership plate. We have colleagues in some very unlikely places. It is our job to seek them out and offer them a place in our organization. The future of emergency nursing is in our ability to communicate to others what we do and why we do it. When this information circulates just between ourselves, we are most certainly preaching to the choir."

Some ways of involvement and leadership include:

- Stay informed, read the newsletter, contribute to the newsletter, and read the ENA Website - ohioena.org. Mike Glenn and a small committee will be guiding the development of this work. If this is an area of interest - get involved. Call Mike or me to get started.

- Attend *Emergency Nursing '02 Focus on the Future*, April 27, 2002 and bring a potential new member.
- Join a committee.
- Write an article for the Buckeye Beat or The Journal of Emergency Nursing.
- Make your opinion known - e-mail or call contacts available on the website.
- Take an ENA course.
- Attend Leadership in the spring and/or Scientific Assembly in the fall.
- Attend your local ENA Chapter meetings.
- Get involved in your regional trauma system development.
- Offer to be available to testify as an emergency nurse for related topics. Sue Cook, Sally Betz, and Vickie

Check out our Web Site:
www.ohioena.org

Graymire recently testified for the EMS Board as emergency nurses – they were profound and powerful!

- Share your expertise – lecture at local, regional, national emergency nurses conferences.
- Incorporate illness and injury prevention into your chapter/work/home lives. For example, make sure the kids in your neighborhood wear helmets, etc. Become active in ENCARE.

In closing, I would like to thank Deborah Schwytzer for her leadership through a difficult year. I would also like to recognize Dee Hart for her continued coordination of the Buckeye Beat, which she founded. Join me in thanking them for their time and effort in enhancing the lives of emergency nurses.

■ Kathy Haley, RN, CSN, CEN, President

Ohio State Council Emergency Nurses Association February 2, 2002

Deb welcomed everyone and had them introduce themselves. Credentialing was completed. 12 members present.

Deb held induction of officers. She thanked those who have completed their roles in office. Deb welcomed and swore in James Johnson, Member-at-large, Marie Garrison - Treasurer, and Kathy Haley as President. Kathy presented gifts and thanks to the other officers. Kathy reviewed the agenda and asked for additions/corrections. Minutes were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote. Marie reported on Treasurer's report with year-end balance. Action: we should re-activate the ad hoc committee for financial advisement and have them review what we should do with our finances. Two other related issues Kathy asked about: what are we doing for IRS issues. Need to know if any of the chapters are carrying their own EIN#, they should be under our umbrella tax number.

Committee sign up - Kathy asked that we have members decide which committees they want to help with. She reviewed the committees and made recommendation on forming a couple of ad hoc committees. One being Disaster - to address issues with the governor's task force on health and emergency preparedness. There is a nurse position on the emergency preparedness subcommittee and we would like to send a representative to this. Second ad hoc committee for the Web page - to maintain the viability of the web page. Mike offered to serve as the Web master and we could support him. Another ad hoc would

be the SOP development. How we do business and be able to pass it on to the future officers. We would like to get very detailed especially in finances. Resurface the finance committee and update them.

Kathy Sutton made a motion to add three ad hoc committees - disaster, Web page and SOP. Seconded by Connie. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously. Kathy Sutton made a motion to reinstate Finance committee to develop a financial plan and strategic plan for finances for ENA. Seconded by Liz Pulley. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously. One Liaison EMS - C a State subcommittee to emergency medical services for children reports to Public Services, Annie Self an ENA member is on that Committee. Kathy motioned that we add this as a liaison position. Seconded by Connie. Motion passed.

National News Update: ENCARE is now incorporated under ENA and is a part of the organization. TNCC/ENPC changes are a hot item at National. They will be discussing this at the National Leadership Conference. Kathy reviewed that we will be sending three people to National Leadership to bring up this issue and attend the one day meeting.

Coast Guard doing a recreational boating study - do we have an interest in participating if we are qualified? Yes we are qualified, but we will not participate this year.

Jacqueline Price leaving National, Kari Zick will be our liaison at National. There are several chapters who have not submitted their Officer reports. This should be done as soon as possible in order to get the proper communication and financial responsibilities completed. Deb Zang made a motion that we send \$200.00 to ENCARE Fun Night Auction. Motion passed unanimously. Reminder from National – Feb. 10-16 is Child Passenger Safety Week. National is looking for new director. George Velianoff is interim director.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Greater Akron Chapter - Dee Hart - Recent meeting that we set ad hoc committee for Bylaws revision. Had speaker on EMTALA and announced Spring Symposium in Wilmot, Ohio with Laura Gasparis Von Frolio as speaker May 1, 2002.

Greater Cincinnati - Debbie Schwytzer - next meeting May 9, will be a luncheon Pharmaceutical company with food preparation demonstration. Meeting 4 times a year and one is the Nurses Day luncheon.

Seagate Chapter - Judy Miller - NR

Central Ohio - James Johnson - last meeting Jan. 16. Speaker Mark Laubacher had presentation on Fomepizole: A New Antidote for Two Old Foes, (methanol/ethylene

glycol). The next meeting is March 20 topic pain management at Med Flight. Plans on personal communication with new members and other members who are not actively attending the meetings. TNCC - classes in the area have been canceled.

Lakeshore - Peg Kunsman - NR

Cleveland Chapter - NR

Greater Miami Valley - Liz Pulley - next meeting will be next week with a speaker on abdominal ultrasonography, trying various things to get more members present.

Eastern Ohio - NR

Southern Ohio - NR

Heart of Ohio - NR

Kathy mentioned that we sent a card to the flight nurse's family who was involved in the crash at University Hospital of Cleveland.

LIAISON REPORTS

ACEP (American College of Emergency Physicians) - Mike Glenn - Kathy referred to a handout on position statement on best practices on emergency preparedness.

EMS Board (Emergency Medical Services) - Kathy Haley - Kathy got re-appointed as nursing representative from ENA and will serve for 3 years. She recently attended a 3 day retreat. There were several speakers and one was on State of Ohio emergency preparedness task force. Topic of the role of the paramedic is being discussed regarding their license and what they can do in the emergency setting, could they give immunizations in the event of national disaster? With the event of the decrease in nurses, could paramedics serve in health clinics in a national disaster? Discussion. The scope of practice should be looked at with two different perspectives - one the day-to-day activities should be left as is and addressed separately. And the other issue could be to expand their scope if we are involved in a national disaster. Confer with ONA and their direction. Kathy will take our input as feedback to her meetings.

OAEMS - Deb Zang - NR

ONA (Ohio Nurses Association) - David Shields - NR - Kathy Sutton made a motion to pay for a membership for the Chairperson so that we can maintain our liaison with them. Motion tabled until the next meeting. We do currently pay for the President to have membership if they do not already have it. Fees recently went up.

OSTNC (Ohio Society of Trauma Nurse Coordinators) - Nancie Bechtel - NR

Forensic Nurses - Deb Zang - They have contacted the State Board of Nursing requesting to be a Liaison for their activities. There were a couple of issues out of the state

government that the group is addressing including areas doing forensic exams that may not be meeting the standards that they are developing. Meetings across the state and trainings to be paid for by the State Attorney General's Office. Completing the manual for a statewide resource. Discussed some other issues that are being addressed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trauma - Dee Hart - Discussed the two Instructor courses being planned. Letter to National regarding changes in TNCC/ENPC courses. Letter to Course Directors introducing ourselves and discussing QA issues. We are getting a couple of new Instructor trainers.

Education/Research - David Shields/James Johnson - ticklers are available. Flyers are being sent early next week. Discussion held to hold the state conference at another site other than central location. Jim discussed. It would need to be the local chapter to where it is held to be the main actors in the committee. Committee meeting at end of this meeting.

Government Affairs - Deb Zang/Debbie Schwytzer - working on state legislation regarding mandatory overtime and the nursing shortage. ONA had a problem with this. Deb discussed a letter she received and how ONA is addressing this and how ONA is addressing nurse/patient ratio in the state of Ohio.

Membership Development/Delegate Selection - Deb Zang/Peg Kunsman - Dropped 4 members. Reported on numbers per chapter. Has the application set up and point system reviewed for delegates for National Conference. Deadline is June 1 for application.

Newsletter - Dee Hart - Next deadline Feb. 11 - any articles accepted. Looking for updated address list.

Nursing Practice - Kathy Sutton/Marie Garrison - NR
ENCARE - Deb Deedrick - NR

Kathy asked that committees write a description of what they did in 2001 and use the Millennium Strategic planning as a guideline.

OLD BUSINESS

Financial Situation - we spent very little last year because of the flux of the budget. The Executive Board

Next OSC TNCC Instructor Course

April 20, 2002, Akron, Ohio

For questions contact Dee at deehart@raex.com.

Class limited to 12.

2002 Ohio State Council Officers

President – Kathy Haley, Columbus

Immediate Past-President – Deb Schwytzer, Cincinnati

Secretary – Dee Hart, Suffield

Treasurer – Marie Garrison, West Chester

Members-at-large – Peg Kunsman, Rocky River and James Johnson, Reynoldsburg

discriminatory fashion no matter how unpleasant the interactions might be ie: the toxic sock syndrome. Above all the patients must not hear us make any derogatory comments. Any actions that can be viewed as discriminatory may place the hospital at risk of an EMTALA investigation.

To stay out of trouble: 1. Don't turn anyone away. 2. Don't suggest the patients don't need to be seen or should be seen elsewhere. 3. Don't mention co-payments, at least until after treatment. 4. ENCOURAGE people to stay. 5. If a patient leaves before being seen by a physician - document everything you can about the incident. 6. Don't let any private physician giving orders for treatment over the phone believe that his patient will not be seen by an Emergency Physician. 7. Treat everyone with the same care and professionalism and 8. Remember: "loose lips sink ships".

■ Submitted by Dee Hart, RN, BSN, CEN, Editor

Ohio State Trauma Issues

Trauma Committee and Subcommittee 2002 Meeting Schedule: The 2002 meeting schedule for the Trauma Committee is available on the EMS web site. The committee plans on continuing to meet the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30 pm. The subcommittees schedule has not been posted but will be as soon as it is ready. Again there is no planned change to the routine schedule. The Air Medical, Prehospital and Hospital subcommittees meeting the morning of each scheduled Trauma Committee meeting. The Trauma Registry Advisory Committee meets on the 4th Thursday of each month.

Proposed Trauma Triage and Registry Rules: The EMS Board, as required by law, conducted a special public hearing on January 16, 2002 to consider how the proposed

triage rules might affect over and under triage. A number of people testified in support of the current proposed rules and the EMS Board voted to accept the proposed rules for filling with JCARR (JOINT COMMITTEE ON AGENCY RULE REVIEW). A final public hearing will be conducted by the EMS Board, tentatively scheduled for March 20, 2002. Watch the EMS web site for more details on the time and location of this hearing.

Guidelines for Operation of Air Medical Services: the Trauma Committee and the Air Medical Subcommittee have completed their work on the draft guidelines for the operation of air medical services. This document will be forwarded to the EMS Board for their consideration. A draft version of this document will be posted on the EMS web site in early February.

Trauma Registry Draft Revisions: The Trauma Registry Advisory Committee is close to completion of the proposed revision to the Ohio Trauma Registry data dictionary. The most recent version of the draft dictionary will be posted on the Web site February 1, 2002.

The Register: The December 2001 issue of the quarterly newsletter of the Ohio Trauma Registry has been mailed. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please send me your mailing address. The Register is available on-line as well. If you would prefer to receive the Register electronically rather than mailed, please send me an e-mail message indicating such. On-line issues of the Register can be found at: http://www.state.oh.us/odps/division/ems/ems_local/emsnewsletters.htm

EMS/Trauma Grants: As you know, passage of the trauma legislation also created several new categories of possible grant funding for the EMS Board. The new categories are:

1. Entities that research the causes, nature, and effects of injuries, educate the public about injury prevention or implement, test and evaluate injury prevention strategies.
2. Entities that research, test and evaluate procedures that promote the rehabilitation, retraining and reemployment of adult or pediatric trauma victims and social support mechanisms for pediatric or adult trauma victims and their families.
3. Entities that research, test and evaluate medical procedures related to adult and pediatric trauma care.

Please consider submitting a research proposal in one of these areas, the EMS Board is looking for good research proposals to consider for funding. The application for these grants can be found on the EMS web site home page. For more information, contact Mike Glenn, 614-728-6853.

■ Nancie Bechtel, NBechtel@cma-ohio.org