



# BUCKEYE BEAT



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**VOLUME XX, NUMBER 5**  
PRESIDENT, GORDON GILLESPIE

OHIO STATE COUNCIL, INC.

**MAY 06**  
DEE HART, EDITOR

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It is important for emergency nurses to be aware of their risk for violence in the workplace. From 1993 to 1999 there were over 400,000 nurses that incurred an act of violence while in the workplace.<sup>1</sup> Emergency nurses are among the highest risk groups for health care workers experiencing violence.<sup>2</sup> Causes for violence vary and may be related to the environment of providing care to patients with acute or chronic confusion due to illness, injury, or substance use. Patient's visitors are another source of violence.

Ergün and Karadakovan<sup>3</sup> define violence as verbal threats or physical acts that prevent someone from working at normal capacity. Emergency nurses that experience a violent act may experience anxiety, vulnerability, guilt, anger, and sadness.<sup>3,4,5</sup> Violence is more likely to occur during evening and night shifts and from patients under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.<sup>5</sup> There is also a gross underreporting of the violence by nurses where minor injuries occur.<sup>3</sup>

While the causes and sources of violence are becoming more known, little has been done to reduce the violent

acts. I have been a victim of violence and injury multiple times in my professional career while working as an emergency nurse during the night shift. But I have also been a victim of violence and injury while working day shift in a pediatric emergency department. Like the majority of nurses, I kept silent about the violence. I assumed it was part of the life of being an emergency nurse. I now realize that violence no matter how small should not be accepted.

I challenge everyone to work with their emergency department leadership to develop and initiate interventions aimed at reducing violence in their workplaces. In addition, we should support our emergency nursing colleagues when they experience violence or are injured by violence. And most importantly, we should serve as a witness and advocate for our fellow emergency nurses just as we would for any patient that needs our support and advocacy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gordon Lee Gillespie, RN, MSN,  
APRN,BC, CEN, CCRN

## References

1. Duhart DT. Violence in the workplace, 1993-1999. Bureau of Justice Statistics Publication No. NCJ-190076. 2001.
2. Gerberich SG, Church TR, McGovern PM., Hansen HD, Nachreiner NM, Geissner MS, et al. Risk factors for work-related assaults on nurses. *Epidemiology*, 2005;16:704-9.
3. Ergün FS, Karadakovan A. Violence towards nursing staff in emergency departments in one Turkish city. *International Nurs Review*, 2005;52:154-60.
4. Brysiewicz P. Violent death and the South African emergency nurse. *International J Nurs Studies*, 2002;39:253-8.
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# OHIO STATE COUNCIL EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 1, 2006

## Teleconference

Gordon Welcomed all present  
Gordon Gillespie  
Carol Klekota (Cleveland)  
Dee Hart  
Marie Garrison  
Connie Dishon  
Liz Pulley  
Debbie Schwytzer

Gordon asked to review minutes he sent out – Connie made a motion to accept, seconded by Liz and unanimously passed.

Treasurer's report – Debbie – we have \$89,631.31. Discussion about direct deposits from National and how to list them in accounts because we are not getting information on what the funds are being deposited for. Dee made a motion to accept treasurer's report, seconded by Carol and unanimously passed.

Financial report – non at this time

## Chapter Reports

Greater Akron Area – Dee – we are planning our fall symposium (not spring this year), working on getting a website and increasing membership by restructuring some things we are doing.

Central Ohio – NR

Cleveland – Carol – she held 2 TNCC for chapter and working on funds for scholarship fund in memory of Dona Laing.

Eastern Ohio – NR

Greater Cincinnati –

Gordon/Debbie – Symposium May 17 for the Second Annual Symposium at Bethesda North

Heart of Ohio – NR

Greater Miami Valley –

Connie/Liz – next meeting at State Symposium then June meeting with speaker on Pediatric IVs

Lakeshore – NR

Seagate – Gordon met with their new Board and they now have officers and have talked with local hospitals and are working on getting membership increased. They have a meeting in June with speaker on Infectious Disease. Janice Kraybill is their new President.

Gordon informed us that in last mailing from National Ohio has no outstanding chapters – we have 10 chapters.

## **Liaison reports**

ACEP- Gordon has spoken with them and will be renewing the contract for use of their office space soon.

IAFN – NR

EMS Board – NR

Trauma Committee – NR (Nancie Bechtel on teleconference momentarily, unable to give report)

Gordon related that Vic Graymire reported on the Registry committee and that she will end her term in December and would like someone from ENA to replace her.

OSTNC – NR

ONA – Debbie Schwytzer – Their council meeting is next Fri.

## **Committee reports**

Trauma – Dee – upcoming TNCC/ENPC Instructor Class – 10 for TNCC, 6 for ENPC, will discuss there about setting up another course later in summer.

Communication – Dee/Gordon – website doing well, Deadline for next newsletter is April 14.

Education – Connie – she reported on upcoming Symposium – one speaker cancelled out last week and she has a replacement. Registration is at 73, and 6 for pre-course.

Finance – NR

Government Affairs – Debbie – reported that National ENA and ACEP are working in the Immigration Bill before the Legislation because according to HIPPA we wouldn't be able to treat

some patients, and we need to be able to treat anyone who comes to our doors. New study shows the number of nurses is growing over the last 5 years, the average age was 45.2 now it is 46.2; average salary is \$57,784 over the nation.

Nurse Practice – NR

Membership – Marie – we now have more than 1000 members and Marie reviewed what each chapter has.

Nominations – Gordon asked for anyone interested in working on this committee.

CEN Grants – Marie has not received any applications so far.

Chapter Management – Gordon reported that all 10 chapters are now listed with National.

Bylaws Proposals – Gordon reviewed recent bylaw changes proposed by a couple of chapters across the nation and discussion on what Ohio wanted to support.

Marie made a motion to adjourn.

Adjourn at 10:59

Respectfully submitted,  
Dee Hart, RN,BSN,CEN

## **From Connie Dishon**

I would like to thank everyone who helped make the 2006 OSC Educational Symposium a success. For the first time we offered a pre conference class on 12 Lead EKG. Everyone that attended the class said they enjoyed the class and speaker. We also held another TNCC and ENPC instructor class. Both were successful again this year.

The conference was well received and many attendees told me that they really enjoyed the conference better than last

year. The speakers were great and everyone had fun. Door prizes were raffled off and ten lucky people won memberships or renewals to ENA. The food was excellent and no could have gone home hungry after that wonderful lunch and afternoon break.

The committee would be interested in any topics or speakers you would like to have presented at the symposium next year. Please let us know by signing onto our web page at [www.ohioena.org](http://www.ohioena.org) and send us an email. Some topics to think about:

Are you interested in attending a CEN Review for two days? This may cost more. Are you willing to pay more for this type of program? Do you want more pre conferences? Do you like the advanced practice sessions? Please give us some feedback.

Again thank you to my committee and to everyone who attended the symposium you made it a great success.

Connie Dishon  
OSC Education Chair

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**2006 OHIO STATE COUNCIL  
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Don't Forget our Website:  
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Visit us often!

Ohio State Council Meetings  
Dates for 2006

June 17

August 26

November 11

Location: ACEP Offices,  
Suite 100, 3510 Snouffer Road,  
Columbus, OH  
Meeting at 10 a.m.  
614-792-0349