



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

APRIL, 2000

**NEXT ENA  
MEETING**

**JUNE 5TH**

**@ 4 PM**



Destination.... Summer 2000. Here we are, spring has sprung and the summer activities, plans for prom, graduation and vacation are well underway. I hope this message finds each of you healthy and anticipating the coming season with enthusiasm for nature's rebirth.

As anyone who works in Emergency services knows, spring also tends to bring an increased number of trauma victims to our Emergency Departments. People are out-of-doors involved in farming, construction, increased road travel and many outdoor sports and leisure activities. These victims often times require the expertise and help of EMS personnel. May 14<sup>th</sup> has been set aside as Emergency Medical Services week. Let us join many other organizations in honoring area EMS personnel during this special time. If you have an idea that can be shared with others about your facilities plans for EMS week celebration, please let me know. EMS personnel are often the lifeline for the trauma victim. Please show your appreciation for their hard work and dedication during this and every week during the year.

This newsletter will also contain an application for scholarship for tuition for the National Emergency Nurses Association General Assembly to be held this fall in Chicago. This national meeting is a wonderful opportunity to attend lectures and demonstrations on subjects that are applicable to your everyday emergency nursing practice. If attending this meeting is something that you would like to do, I would like to encourage you to fill out the application and send it in for consideration to be a delegate from South Dakota for this meeting. I have attended a national meeting of this type before and I would like to tell you that the experience is incomparable. Especially you, by virtue of being a South Dakota Emergency

Nurses Association member qualifies for consideration for this tuition assistance. Please send in your application if you are planning to attend the Assembly. We would like to help you see Chicago.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 5, at 4 p.m. This past year we have established tele-medicine connection sites across the state as a means of connecting the membership. As nurses who are busy with careers and family lives, we recognize that it is difficult to travel a distance to attend the meetings. The state organization would like to help you "get connected." If your facility has tele-med equipment and you would like to "attend" the next SD ENA meeting, please contact me and we will attempt to set-up a communications bridge to your facility via this system. You also are more than welcome to attend the ENA meeting at any one of the sites that have been established at Watertown, Rapid City, Sioux Falls or in Aberdeen.

I would like to express a big thank you to Tammy Dohman, the editor of this newsletter, for her exceptional talent and her wondrous patience and help.

#### SDENA OFFICERS:

**Cheryl Haingrove-President**  
**Darlene Even-Secretary**  
**Jill Weisner-Treasurer**  
**Pat Sortland-Board Member-at-Large**  
Committee Chairs:  
**Pediatrics: Mindy Lauffin**  
**Trauma: Clara Johnson**  
**Prevention: Tom Berg**  
**Govt. Affairs: Carol Fonken, Lila Schaeffer**  
**Newsletter-Tammy Dohman**

# Why Become a CEN?

As a current CEN test item/question writer, I was asked by a co-worker to write an article about becoming a CEN. The most commonly given reasons for becoming a CEN include: experiencing personal growth, feeling more competent and satisfied, being seen as a credible provider, and having more confidence in ER practice.\* Besides the above reasons, I felt I may be able to offer some insight into the test questions to ease some worries about the content. First of all, the questions are written by nurses who actually work in the ER at the patients bedside. The questions are not written by nursing administrators who have no direct patient contact. Secondly, the test questions are then screened for relevance to nursing practice in the ER, how important the knowledge/skill measured is to on-the-job performance, and whether the lack of knowledge/skill measured could result in poor outcomes for the patient/nurse, or the institution/program. The questions do not ask for information/knowledge that does not pass these screening criteria at the competent level of ER nursing. So for those of you who were considering taking the CEN exam, hopefully this information will ease your mind about the type of questions being asked. I highly encourage you to take the test and reward yourself for the knowledge and skill that you demonstrate everyday in the ER.

\*Emergency Nurses Association 1999 BCEN Survey Results.  
Egostera, March 2000

Dawn Birkda, RN, BSN,  
CEN

If everybody's thinking  
alike, somebody isn't  
thinking..

-- Anonymous

## DATES AND TIMES TO REMEMBER

**SDENA MEETING:** June 5th at 4 pm

Telemed sites: Avera McKennan Hospital, Sioux Falls  
Avera St. Lukes Hospital, Aberdeen  
Rapid City Regional Hospital, Rapid  
Prairie Lakes Hospital, Watertown



**AVERA ST LUKES:**

**BTLs:** May 5 and 6. Deadline April 20

**CARDIAC SYMPOSIUM/MEDICAL EDUCATION UPDATE**

April 14-Call (605)622-5588 for details and to preregister  
(sponsored by North Central Heart)

**TNCC:** July 27 & 28. 7:30-5:00pm each day. Deadline 5/29

**Emergency Nurses Day-October 11**

**SDENA SPECIAL EVENT:** At Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain, SD

October 12 @ 4pm SDENA Members Meeting  
@6pm-Social hour, dinner, and relaxation

October 13 @8:30-3:00pm-Educational conference

**CATN:** Course in Advance Trauma Nursing: A Conceptual Approach

May 4th and 5th-Deadline April 4th

Course coordinators- Clara Johnson (605)322-2080  
Monika Huber (605)333-6687

**EMS Week- May 14-20**

**Buckle Up America Week-May 22-29**

**McKenna's 8th Annual Trauma Symposium- April 13 @ Sioux  
Falls Convention Center**

**TNCCI-Trauma Nurse Core Course (1) Instructor course-July 14 in  
Sioux Falls. Contact Clara Johnson @ (605)322-2080**

This is an update from the 2000 session of South Dakota Legislature that was written by Brett Koencke, the lobbyist for SDENA. This report was written before the session was over.

HB 1028 was a bill brought by the Board of Medical Examiners, Nursing and Pharmacy to codify the current practice of NP's, CNM's, and PA's in which they prescribe and provide drug samples or starter kits to patients. This bill passed.

HB 1045 was the MultiState licensure compact bill. The Governor signed the Compact on February 15, 2000.

HB 1100 was a bill brought by SDENA to allow nurses to form limited liability companies and limited liability partnerships. They are new and popular business organizations which were previously not open to nurses. This bill passed. (Cont)



## CELEBRATE EMERGENCY NURSES DAY

The South Dakota Emergency Nurses association has approximately 50 members from across the state. Our goal is to promote collaboration, education, and fun with our colleagues in emergency nursing. Cedar Shores has been chosen as the conference site because it is a "great place"

and centrally located. Plan to join us and invite a fellow nurse. Speakers and topics will be announced by late spring. A newsbulletin will be sent to all members and hospitals. The fee for both days, meals, and education materials will be VERY reasonable. SDENA is your organization and truly is dedicated to sharing the national ENA dollars returned to us for membership fees, and ENPC classes. Often times one hears "well, what does this or that organization do for me?". Here's one more benefit of SDENA!!!! Soooo, mark your calendar! Plan an evening of relaxation and a day of exciting education.

Clara Johnson, RN, BS, CEN

PHYSICS LESSON: WHEN  
A BODY IS SUBMERGED  
IN WATER, THE PHONE  
KINGS.  
- ANONYMOUS

(Continued from Govt. Affairs Committee)

SDENA participated in almost every effort to strengthen the state's seat belt laws. Various efforts were begun with SB 31, and HB 1317, but all were unsuccessful. Most would have required all persons under 18 years of age to buckle up. There was very little support for this concept.

HB 1243 is The Tobacco Free Kids bill. Sherry Bea Smith sits on their steering committee. The bill lives but is stripped down.

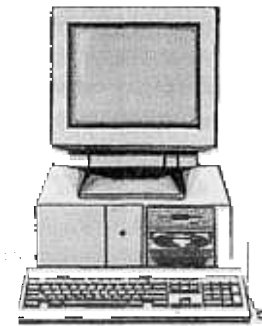
SB 42 was the state's requirement for chickenpox vaccinations for elementary school entry. The bill did pass. The state will make those vaccinations available at no cost, except for administration fees, to all children under five, who have not had chicken pox already.

These were the main bills SDENA supported. It seems the public still needs more education when it comes to the use of seatbelts. Carol and I would again like to thank ENA for sending us to Pierre for Nurse's Day at the Legislature. Next years date is February 5th & 6th, 2001.

AS AN ENA MEMBER,  
THIS IS YOUR  
NEWSLETTER. WE  
WANT IT TO REFLECT  
THE VIEWS, IDEAS,  
AND NEEDS OF ALL  
MEMBERS. TO DO THIS WE NEED  
YOUR HELP. PLEASE SUBMIT ANY  
IDEAS, CONCERNS, SUGGESTIONS,  
POEMS, STORIES, JOKES, ETC TO:  
**Tammy Dohman**  
**40286, 126th st**  
**Groton, SD, 57445**  
OR  
**tammydohman@hotmail.com**  
OR  
**dsdohman@nvc.net**

# www.ena.org

Have you logged onto [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org) yet? This site has many interesting and educational features. You can read the Journal of Emergency Nursing and Etcetera (soon to be renamed). You can learn about educational opportunities, government issues, research projects, and much more. You can have your own permanent email address. There's links to the National and local media plus government officials. There's even CEN information. You can find out about, or order ENA products. There's much more waiting for you. What are you waiting for? Log on today @ [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org)



# EN CARE

On April 14, 1985, EN CARE (Emergency Nurses Cancel Alcohol Related Emergencies) was founded by two emergency room nurses who wanted to educate the public on the harmful effects of drinking and driving. In 1998, EN CARE changed its name to Emergency Nurses Care. It is now the ENA's Injury Prevention Institute. EN CARE and ENA are committed to reducing the number of preventable injuries and death thru public education. EN CARE presents drug awareness programs in elementary schools and alcohol awareness to high schools, colleges, and interested adults. EN CARE is composed of health care professionals who volunteer their time and expertise in teaching EN CARE programs to their local and outlying communities. EN CARE's agenda has expanded to child passenger safety, bike safety, domestic violence, and gun safety. With a National decrease in alcohol related crashes from 52% in 1985 to 38% in 1998, ENA and EN CARE are proud of their work.

\*source: Etcetera and [www.ena.org/pressrel/main.htm](http://www.ena.org/pressrel/main.htm)

For information regarding EN CARE and your community contact: Monica Huber @ (605)3336687 or send e-mail to: [encare@aol.com](mailto:encare@aol.com) - Director of Volunteers.

## YWCA Leadership Awards

Monica Huber, director of Emergency, Trauma and Transport Services at Sioux Valley Hospital, won this years Entrepreneurship Award.

"You don't need a lot of money to win this award, all you need is a lot of energy and a dream," she said.

Monica Huber is an active member of the Emergency Nurses Association. She is also involved in the SAFE Kids Coalition, a joint injury prevention project with the two Sioux Falls hospitals, and a new docudrama program - a mock drinking and driving crash staged for high school and college aged students. Monica also serves on the Parent Communications Network and the Sioux Falls Safe and Drug Free School Advisory Council Board of Directors. She is also on a statewide task force for community prevention of drug and alcohol abuse.\*

Our **CONGRATULATIONS** to you

Monica!

\*source: Sioux Falls Argus Leader, March 16, 2000.



An elderly couple, getting on in years and losing their memory, decide to take a memory course. They take the course and the husband is thrilled. He feels it has changed his life. He and his wife meet their friend Bill on the street and the husband says to him, "Bill, you just have to take this incredible memory course my wife and I just took. It's fantastic. You won't believe the improvement." Bill says, "Wow, great, what's the name of the course?". The husband turns to his wife and asks, "What was the name of that flower? You know, the one with the long stem and the thorns?". "You mean a rose?", his wife asks. "Yeah, that's it" (pause) "Rose, what was the name of that memory course?"