

President's Message

August, 2000

This message from the president is going to be short and sweet as I know that all of you have some fun, summertime activities to attend. However, those activities inherently involve risks...thus the need for our involvement in prevention activities as well. Recently an idea was presented to me from an ENA member and I think that it certainly bears merit within each of our communities. Her idea was to recruit community involvement in safety by soliciting the various businesses for coupons, gifts, redemptions certificates, etc. and for ENA members to be seen. For example: if you see children in your neighborhood riding with bicycle helmets, reward this good safe practice by distributing a coupon for a local merchant to be redeemed for an ice cream cone, taco, or whatever the merchant donates. It wouldn't take long and the message

in your neighborhood would be that wearing a helmet can be VERY REWARDING! The local police may want to become involved in this with you as they have the opportunity to see many children with bicycles, rollerblades, skateboards, seat belt and in car-safety seats. There are many other ways in which you can promote safe behavior in your part of the world. Many times we need only look around us or within us to find an idea that can promote positive change.

In the meantime, have a great summer, count the stars, listen to the wind. Laugh. Play. Dream.

Cheryl Hairgrove
SD ENA President

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HELMET

SAFETY

The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) recently approved a program that would allow SD ENA members to apply for up to \$100.00 in matching funds to purchase helmets for injury prevention.

In Aberdeen, both Avera St. Luke's Hospital and the Hub Area Safety Camp for Kids, under the written request of Monica Eske, applied and were approved this grant. Avera St. Luke's received \$150 worth of bike helmets, while the Hub Area Safety Camp for Kids received a total of \$200 worth of bike helmets. Avera St. Luke's has been using these helmets as give-aways to schools and safety talk programs, along with offering a free helmet to any child/adult that comes into the ED with a sports injury (falls from bikes, roller-blades, skate boards, etc.) related to a lack of helmet. The Hub Area Safety Camp for Kids program used their helmets as give-aways at the end of their safety program for kids, after a talk/demonstration by the Police Department and Highway Patrol regarding bike safety and helmet use.

We are grateful for the generosity offered by the SD ENA towards this program. I firmly believe that a helmet is essential in greatly reducing the chance of a head injury. My hope is that this worthwhile program continues.

Monica Eske, RN, BSN, ENA member

www.ena.org is waiting for you to log on. It has recently been under construction and there are many new resources, links, ideas and more. The Journal of Emergency Nursing Online is an easy way to get the most of your subscription. You can view, download, or print the full text of every article published in JEN. Try <http://www.mosby.com/jen> The online continuing education programs offer you a chance to earn Continuing Education Contact Hours from the comfort of your home or office desktop. Log on and select one of six educational opportunities (EMTALA, ectopic pregnancy, common foot and ankle problems, pediatric pain, viral hepatitis and ocular emergencies). There is a \$15 fee to process your exam and you will receive a certificate awarding you one CECH per program for successfully completing the exam.

www.ena.org



COME JOIN THE FUN!

Mark your calendar for October 12 and 13. That's when you need to head to Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain. The retreat will begin with the SDENA meeting followed by social hour and dinner. This will be a great time to get to know each other, relax and have some fun. Bring a friend. Both ENA and non-ENA members are welcome. On Friday there will be an educational conference. Request the time off now and make plans to come. You should have received a post card in the mail with details. Look forward to seeing you there.

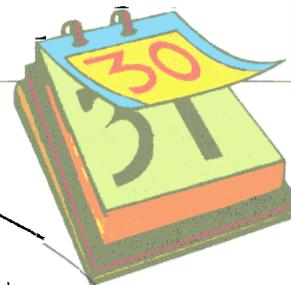
DATES AND TIMES TO REMEMBER

September 9-12-CPS in Sioux Falls

**September 20-24 ENA Annual Meeting,
Chicago, Ill.**

October 11 Emergency Nurses Day

**October 12 & 13-SDENA meeting and
Educational conference at Cedar Shores
Resort.**



"True friendship
is like sound
health; the value
of it is seldom
known until it is
lost."
Charles C. Colton

Child Passenger Safety

Tom Berg, RN, BSN

As Emergency Nurses, each of us have experienced the difference appropriately used vehicle occupant restraints can make in the event of a motor vehicle crash. Children should be protected by child passenger restraint devices that are appropriate for their size and age. Parents and other adults responsible

for the transportation of children purchase car seats with safety in mind. However, they frequently find the directions confusing and have incompatibility problems between the child seat and the vehicle seats/restraint systems. To help with this problem, NHTSA has developed a standardized four

day CPS (Child Passenger Safety) technician training course. I have been involved in CPS either as a technician or as an instructor for the last 2 1/2 years. When I first took my training, I questioned why it would take four days. Once we began learning about all the child seat and vehicle seat/restraint system combinations, it became clear. Suddenly four days didn't seem long enough.

This year I have the privilege of participating in a national ENA work group specific to CPS. The ENA board has asked us to organize and sponsor four (four day) regional CPS classes. Sioux Falls has been chosen as one of the sites during September 9-12 at one of the local hotels (not yet determined). There

is no charge for the class itself, but participants are responsible for their time, travel, meals, and lodging.

SD has been indicated by NHTSA as one of the states in need of CPS technicians. Misuse detected during national car seat checkpoints is 94%. The rate in SD is around 98%. CPS is a great opportunity to help ENA support injury prevention and to impact your community. Class size is limited to 20. Sign up today by contacting me, Tom Berg.

tbergm@hotmail.com

I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.
michealangelo



A certain little girl, when asked her name, would reply, "I'm Mr. Sugarbrown's daughter." Her mother told her this was wrong, she must say, "I'm Jane Sugarbrown." The vicar spoke to her in Sunday School and said, "Aren't you Sugarbrown's daughter?" She replied, "I thought I was, but mother says I'm not."