

December, 2003



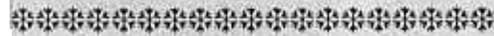
Next Mtg: Feb 2 @ 4pm



SDENA has changed its tax status to a 501c3 Internal Revenue Code.



Child Passenger Safety brochures are available thru Dory Gassman at [gassmand@prairielakes.com](mailto:gassmand@prairielakes.com)



The Blue Ribbon Commission II proposed ENA Bylaw changes has a link on [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org)

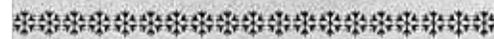


**SDENA OFFICERS:**

- President: Tammy Dohman
- Treasurer: Jill Weisner
- Secretary: Cindy Baldwin
- Past President: Jody Foster
- Board Member at Large: Pat Sortland

**Committee Chairs:**

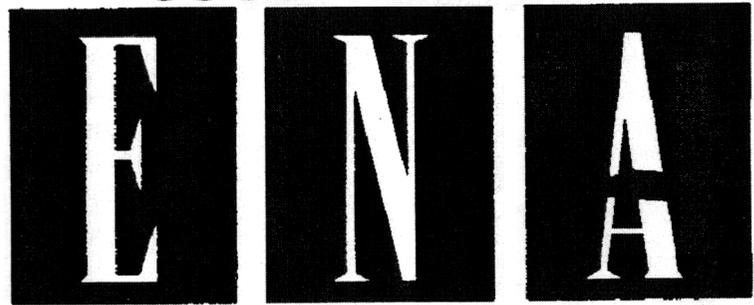
- Trauma: Clara Johnson
- Prevention: Dory Gassman
- Pediatrics: Mindy Laufflin
- Govt. Affairs: Carol Fonken



May you have a Safe & Blessed Holiday Season.



# SOUTH DAKOTA



## EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION

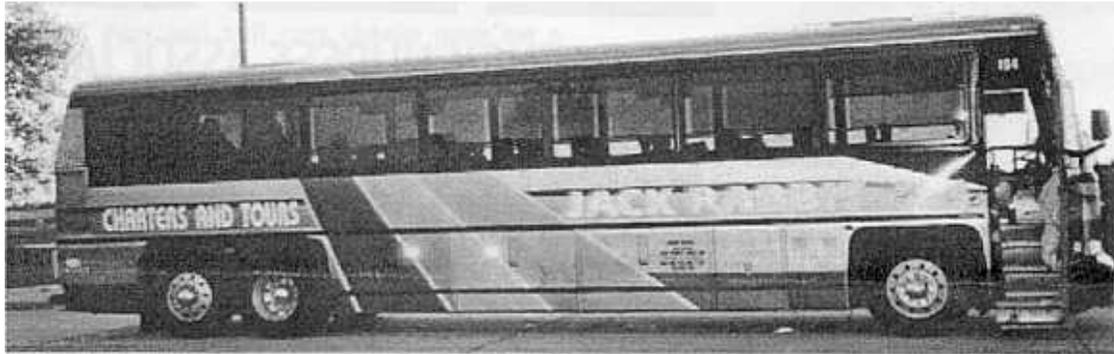
### President's Note

The 2003 General Assembly in Philadelphia was attended by two delegates from SD: Patty Knoll and Tammy Dohman. There were no resolutions to pass this year. Anita Doerr was recognized for her birthday. There was cake and refreshments for all. The Blue Ribbon Commission II presented the proposed ENA bylaws and were available thruout the General and Scientific Assembly to answer questions and to hear feedback. There were a couple different proposals placed before the general assembly: one regarding archiving and another regarding membership benefits. Donna Novakowski announced that this year was the "Year of the Member" and that one of her goals was to concentrate on membership. For more information regarding the General Assembly, log onto [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org) Kokie Roberts was a keynote speaker. Hurricane Isabelle was uppermost on peoples minds as it hit while the General Assembly was taking place. Our prayers were with those troubled by the storm. Patty and I are very thankful for ENA's support in sending us to the General Assembly. We very much enjoyed meeting people from around the US and from Great Britain and Canada. Philadelphia is a unique and wonderful city to visit-very full of American history.

Tammy Dohman-SDENA President



# 2003 Fall Conference



On Friday October 10th, ENA nurses of SD set out on a luxury Jackrabbit bus to MN with Bob, the bus driver, as our chauffeur.

It wasn't long into our trip and it was time for a champagne breakfast on the go. We were soon at our first stop at the Medford outlet mall for shopping. We were all efficient shoppers on a time schedule so we could get to lunch at the Green Mill. From the Green Mill we headed to our next destination-Chanhassen.

We had a brief rest and time to get beautiful at the Country Suites Inn before walking a short distance to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater to enjoy The Sound of Music. The musical was wonderful as was the meal and the dessert was, well, really wonderful.

On Saturday morning we had our ENA meeting and much was discussed and

accomplished. Then back on the bus for shopping once again, now at the Mall of America. We all shopped, shopped, and shopped some more. With packages in hand it was time to return to South Dakota.

Again our stomachs were not forgotten by our wonderful hostesses who us served us, with a smile, wine and cheese. A good time was had by all. Bob, the bus driver, took such good care of us. We very much appreciated the well planned trip and the fun time.

Cindy Nelson





# A Christmas Story



Christmas is for love. It is for joy, for giving and sharing, for laughter, for reuniting with family and friends, for tinsel and brightly decorated packages. But mostly, Christmas is for love. I had not believed this until a small elf-like student with wide-eyed innocent eyes and soft rosy cheeks gave me a wondrous gift one Christmas.

Mark was an 11 year old orphan who lived with his aunt, a bitter middle aged woman greatly annoyed with the burden of caring for her dead sister's son. She never failed to remind young Mark, if it hadn't been for her generosity, he would be a vagrant, homeless waif. Still, with all the scolding and chilliness at home, he was a sweet and gentle child.

I had not noticed Mark particularly until he began staying after class each day (at the risk of arousing his aunt's anger, I later found) to help me straighten up the room. We did this quietly and comfortably, not speaking much, but enjoying the solitude of that hour of the day. When we did talk, Mark spoke mostly of his mother. Though he was quite small when she died, he remembered a kind, gentle, loving woman, who always spent much time with him.

As Christmas drew near however, Mark failed to stay after school each day. I looked forward to his coming, and when the days passed and he continued to scamper hurriedly from the room after class, I stopped him one afternoon and asked why he no longer helped me in the room. I told him how I had missed him, and his large gray eyes lit up eagerly as he replied, "Did you really miss me?" I explained how he had

been my best helper. "I was making you a surprise," he whispered confidentially. "It's for Christmas." With that, he became embarrassed and dashed from the room. He didn't stay after school any more after that.

Finally came the last school day before Christmas. Mark crept slowly into the room late that afternoon with his hands concealing something behind his back. "I have your present," he said timidly when I looked up. "I hope you like it." He held out his hands, and there lying in his small palms was a tiny wooden box.

"Its beautiful, Mark. Is there something in it?" asked opening the top to look inside. "

"Oh you can't see what's in it," He replied, "and you can't touch it, or taste it or feel it, but mother always said it makes you feel good all the time, warm on cold nights, and safe when you're all alone."

I gazed into the empty box. "What is it Mark," I asked gently, "that will make me feel so good?" "It's love," he whispered softly, "and mother always said it's best when you give it away." And he turned and quietly left the room.

So now I keep a small box crudely made of scraps of wood on the piano in my living room and only smile as inquiring friends raise quizzical eyebrows when I explain to them that there is love in it.

Yes, Christmas is for gaiety, mirth and song, for good and wondrous gifts. But mostly, Christmas is for love.



## Trauma Committee

TNNC courses were again held around the state this year. There are still monies available thru the TNCC Reimbursement Program for RNs working in hospitals of 50 beds or less. If you have taken TNCC this year and passed the class, contact Clara Johnson regarding reimbursement. The TNCC reimbursement program will continue in 2004.

A proposal was made at the October meeting to hold the CATN course be in conjunction with 2004's fall conference. This idea will be pursued and more information will be presented at a later date.