

Northern L'attitudes of the Alaska ENA

May 2005

Volume 1, Issue 2

President's Message by Lois Johnson

Are you familiar with MRSA? How about VRE? It seems that these bacteria are becoming more common, as computer documentation from our Infection Control Nurse indicates. These nasty germs are found in hospitals and are being spread person-to-person. Antibiotics to treat these bacteria are far and few between. Then there is latex. Have you noticed that more and more patients and healthcare workers are becoming sensitive to it? Now the concern is our computer keyboards. We are all using the same keyboards, sometimes with gloves on, and we aren't cleaning them. More germs!!

As healthcare providers, we need to be aware and take care of ourselves by taking all the precautions we have available to us. These modern-day threats just aren't worth the risk.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2004 CEN's

Tabitha Breshears
Lynn Dagley
Kathleen Engleman
Dale Erickson
Mark Hunt
Janice Ihrig
Julie LeLeux
Karen Lenihan
Patricia Lillibridge
Kathryn Matthews
Susan Mihora-Scholl
Jeanne Molitor
Judy Ori
Julie Overbaugh
Imelda Reedy
Virginia Spohr
Millie Tuccillo
Bruce Weiss
Melissa Williams
Cynthia Zegzdryn

VOTE

Remember to vote on-line for National officers at www.ena.org.

NOMINATIONS

Would you like to be involved in your state ENA or do you know of someone who would be a good representative. If so please submit nominations for the following positions: President-elect, Secretary, & 2 Board Members.

Have you dreamed about listening to the grand ole opry

Recharge your batteries and have some fun at the ENA Scientific Assembly. Become an Alaskan delegate by filling out the enclosed form to be assisted with funding. September 15-17, 2005
Nashville Tennessee
If you have questions feel free to contact Lois or check out the schedule on the National ENA website.

TNCC or ENPC Classes

TNCC or ENPC classes can be arranged for your facility by contacting Jan Ihrig for TNCC or Deb Whitethorn for ENPC. They will have a list of instructors from around the state and will be able to assist you in setting up the class. Or you can contact the National office. Each year National ENA awards grants to assist with costs of these educational offerings. Ask your course director how you can apply.

DID YOU KNOW???
National info

Celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Emergency Nurses Association
Please make a tax deductible donation to the ENA foundation to promote outreach efforts to provide research grants and undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral scholarships. Donators will receive the ENA lapel pin in appreciation.

ENA is now offering a Geriatric Emergency Nursing Education (GENE) course to improve practice and health outcomes in the care of older adults. Upcoming courses will be held: July 30, 2005 – Portland, OR November 5, 2005 – Chicago, IL. For more information or to download a registration go to <http://www.ena.org> and choose the GENE block

VOICES IN UNITY CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars now! The next conference is March 29-April 2, 2006. The conference committee is still looking for people to help plan the conference or ideas for speakers or sponsorship. If you would like to brainstorm with us please contact Millie or Shelly with questions.

OFFICER BIO'S

Millie Tuccillo – Board Member
Millie started her nursing career as a candy striper and is now a RN. With a commitment to quality patient care, Millie continues to work with patients at Petersburg Medical Center in Petersburg

AK and Airlift Northwest in Juneau, AK. She is also the director of education for Petersburg Medical Center for staff and the community. Her husband Mark works as a physician at Petersburg Medical Center and is a Lt. Col., flight surgeon, in the Alaska Air National Guard, 212th pararescue unit. They have two daughters, Marlana (9) and Adrienne (7) who are avid swimmers.

Shelly Deering - Secretary

Shelly graduated from Montana State University and moved to Seattle shortly after that. She worked at Children's Hospital and then went to work for Airlift Northwest. In 1993 she moved to Juneau for 1 year to start up a satellite base and has been unable to get her husband to leave ever since! Allowing him to buy a boat sealed the deal forever. She enjoys hiking, kayaking, boating, and her latest hobby is bird watching. Her family consists of her husband, Pybus & Brio (her 2 dogs).

Working on the Voices in Unity Conference as the ENA representative has been her most challenging and rewarding endeavor in the last 5 years.

AK ENA WEBSITE

Jeanne is working with web designer Rena Balzer on establishing a website for our State ENA. The address will be www.AlaskaENA.org.

Ideas so far. The ENA logo with Alaskan pictures on the home page. The following pages:

- Our Alaska board with the members names and links to their email addresses.
- About ENA – or this can go on the home page
- AK ENA bylaws
- AK ENA newsletters
- Legislative activities
- Job Opportunities
- Educational Opportunities
 - TNCC
 - ENPC
 - Symposiums
 - Forensic nursing
 - Voices in Unit
 - Job Opportunities

Please send Jeanne input and be sure and thank her for undertaking this project. jrjeanne@gci.net

CEN

You don't have to go to Anchorage or out of state to test for the CEN. Alternate testing centers are available upon written request, to the BCEN office 90 days prior to the intended exam date. The exams are offered during the months of May and October each year. BCEN will work with you to determine the location of the exam in your local vicinity. If you would like to request an alternate testing center in your area check out the National ENA website or call 800-900-9659 ext. 2630.

2005 AK ENA STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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**Northern L'attitudes of
the
Alaska ENA
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REMEMBER TO VOTE & NOMINATE!!!!!!

Important Dates

ENA National Convention
September 15- 17, 2005
Nashville, TN

Voices in Unity Conference
March 29-April 2, 2006
Anchorage, AK
www.aknurse.org