

MENU MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY NURSING UPDATE

Winter 2008 Edition

Vol. 20 No. 1

From the President

2008! WOW! Where did 2007 go? I think that I missed a few months. Time certainly flies by. As I began my second year as your President, I sat back and looked at what 2007 meant to Mass ENA and emergency care.

January and February began with our continued preparation for NERS 2007 and for Leadership 2007 in Boston. There were many prayers for good weather and most of those prayers were met! We were forced to cancel our Feb 14th State Council meeting due to snow. We can't recall the last time we had to cancel a meeting due to weather! Many Mass ENA members attended both the State leaders Conference and the Leadership conference - what an incredible learning and networking opportunity!

March and April meant NERS, NERS and more NERS! Lots of work by many people (too numerous to mention) made NERS 2007 in Plymouth a tremendous success! 161 participants with 41 vendors, great wine, ghosts, captivating speakers and presentations, an extraordinary raffle, lots of networking and of course, SHOPPING!

May brought the start of the national TNCC updates. Maureen Curtis Cooper, Laurie Raymond, Diane Miller and I went to Chicago for the first rollout session. By the end of 2007, all three of our update sessions had been completed and over 90 instructors had been updated. If you are a TNCC instructor and did not participate in an update session please contact Maureen Curtis Cooper as soon as possible at pmmkcoop@comcast.net. Later in this newsletter read about the upcoming TNCC/ENPC Instructor course being offered.

In September we traveled to beautiful Salt Lake City for the 2007 ENA General Assembly and Scientific Assembly. We learned not to trust weather predictions as we packed for 70' weather that was actually 30-40' weather with a bit of snow. Otherwise it was an incredible conference!

Our first on-line ballot came out in October - we will be making a few changes next year but overall it was a success - easy to set-up, less expensive and provided us with quick results. It is really important that we have a current e-mail address for each member in order to reach all of you. This will assist us in sending out the newsletter and other communications electronically instead of by slower regular mail. Please contact the National office with your current e-mail address at enainfo@ena.org or 800-243-8362 or send me an e-mail (faeverson@aol.com) with your name and contact information and I will make sure it gets updated.

In October a small group met to work on revising and updating our Triage course and CEN Review course. We plan on offering both courses this Spring. Watch for details at www.mass-ena.org. What about 2008? Some of my wishes for the new year include: more orientation and mentoring for incoming chapter and state leaders. I would love to see us apply for the State Council Achievement Award - if you are interested in working on this project, please contact me for more information. Massachusetts is an incredible state with many significant contributions and we deserve National recognition!

MA ENA has been offered seats on several state committees such as the DPH BoArding and Diversion Task Force (me), DPH and DMH Workgroup for Emergency Room Treatment for People with Behavioral Health Disorders (Anne Manton) and the DPH Primary Stroke Advisory Committee (Tom Blanchard from MGH). These important committees will continue to meet throughout 2008. Our Government Affairs chair Julia Rodriques from the Beacon Chapter has applied to be an intern in the Nurse in Washington Internship Program that will be held in March. She also testified on a panel with the Mass College of Emergency Physicians about their bill to improve access to Emergency Care. These are just

a few of the opportunities for involvement in improving emergency care.

I would love to hear from all of you about what you would like to see MA ENA become more involved in and what we can do for our members. What programs do you want, are there committees or task forces that we should create and how can we make MA ENA more pertinent and accessible to you. Please contact me or other MA ENA State Council officers - we welcome your input and suggestions!

Finally, I want to welcome the incoming MA ENA State Council officers for 2008. Board members are: George O'Neil (Central MA Chapter), Maureen Curtis Cooper (Beacon Chapter), Anne Manton (Mayflower Chapter), Julie Bunn (Beacon Chapter) and Sophia Veinoglou (Berkshire Chapter). Your incoming officers are: Laurie Raymond (Mayflower Chapter) - President-elect, Carlene Kincaid (Berkshire Chapter) - Treasurer and Deb Tonelli (Central MA Chapter) - Secretary

I want to thank our 2007 Board members for their hard work: Kay McClain, George O'Neil, Dan Kane, Maureen Curtis Cooper, Gail Lenehan, Laurie Raymond (secretary), Carlene Kincaid (treasurer extra ordinaire) and Robin Walsh (immediate past president). Without the help and support of these great members, MA ENA would not be as great as it is! I look forward to this new year and I am sure it will another memorable one.

Faye Everson

2008 MA ENA State Council President

IN THIS ISSUE LOOK FOR.....

- **2008 State Council Calendar
- **Triage/CEN Review courses updates
- **2007 MA ENA Annual Recognition Award winners
- **Information about National ENA awards
- **Spotlight on Fairview Hospital ED
- **Chapter news

SAVE THESE DATES FOR 2008.....

State Council meetings:

February 13 th	Westborough
April 9 th	Taunton
June 18 th	Northampton
September 10 th	Westborough
November 19 th	North Shore

Executive Committee Conference calls:

January 16 th	March 19 th
May 21 st	July 16 th
October 15 th	December 17 th

Leadership 2008 Feb 28th - March 2nd
Honolulu, HI

April 23rd-25th NERS 2008
Mystic, CT

2008 General/Scientific Assembly
September 24th - 27th
Minneapolis, MN

2008 MA ENA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: FAYE EVERSON (MAYFLOWER)
PRESIDENT-ELECT: LAURIE RAYMOND
(MAYFLOWER)
TREASURER: CARLENE KINCAID (BERKSHIRE)
SECRETARY: DEB TONELLI (CENTRAL MA)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

GEORGE O'NEIL (CENTRAL MA)
MAUREEN CURTIS COOPER (BEACON)
ANNE MANTON (MAYFLOWER)
JULIE BUNN (BEACON)
SOPHIA VEINOGLU (BERKSHIRE)

2008 NATIONAL ENA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: DENISE KING (CALIFORNIA)
PRESIDENT-ELECT: BILL BRIGGS
(MASSACHUSETTS)
SECRETARY/TREASURER: DIANE GURNEY
(MASSACHUSETTS)

2008 NATIONAL ENA DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:

SHERRI-LYNN ALMEIDA (TEXAS)
 CHRISTINE GISNESS (GEORGIA)
 MITCH JEWETT (KANSAS)
 JEFF JORDAN (OKLAHOMA)
 GAIL LENEHAN (MASSACHUSETTS)
 ANNMARIE PAPA (PENNSYLVANIA)
 TIFFANY STREVER (ARIZONA)
 IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:
 DONNA MASON (TENNESSEE)

2007 MA ENA ANNUAL RECOGNITION
AWARD WINNERS

Because Massachusetts is so rich in nursing resources we wanted to honor some of our best. The following nurses were nominated by their peers for these awards which were given during the November MA ENA State Council meeting in Peabody. If you work with someone you think deserves recognition for their contributions to emergency nursing, consider nominating them for the 2008 Recognition awards. Go to www.mass-ena.org for award criteria and nominating information.

NURSE PRACTICE: JENNIFER MURPHY RN
WINCHESTER HOSPITAL

NURSE MANAGER: DONNA CENA RN, CEN
FAIRVIEW HOSPITAL
GREAT BARRINGTON

NURSE EDUCATOR: GINA CROCKER RN MSN
CEN
WINCHESTER HOSPITAL

BEHIND THE SCENES AWARD:

CARLENE KINCAID RN
CEN
FAIRVIEW HOSPITAL
GREAT BARRINGTON

Congratulations to a group of Massachusetts' most treasured resources!!

2008 NATIONAL ENA AWARDS

This year there are 19 opportunities to nominate your nursing peers for national recognition. Go to www.ena.org/about/awards for award criteria information and a nomination form. This prestigious awards are presented during the Scientific Assembly each year. In the past Massachusetts ENA members have been recipients of a number of these awards and why should 2008 be any different? Nomination deadline is May 1st. Each award has specific nomination requirements. If you are interested in nominating a peer and need help with the process, please contact Robin Walsh at rwrn627@aol.com for help. This is a list of the National ENA Recognition awards:

- **Team Award
- **Nursing practice Award
- **Rising Star Award
- **Nursing Professionalism Award
- **Nursing Education Award
- **Nurse Manager Award
- **Media Award
- **Injury Prevention Institute Award
- **Barbara A Foley Injury Prevention Leadership Award
- **Public Safety Injury Prevention Award
- **Judith C Kelleher Award
- **Gail P Lenehan Advocacy Award
- **Lifetime Achievement Award
- **Pillar of the ENA Foundation Award
- **Behind the Scenes Award
- **Frank L Cole Nurse Practitioner Award
- **Nursing Competence in Aging Award
- **Nursing Research Award
- **State Council/Government Affairs Award

SANE (SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER) COURSE TO BE HELD IN WESTERN MASS THIS SPRING. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MARY WALZ-WATSON, THE WESTERN MASS SANE COORDINATOR AT SANEWEST@AOL.COM or 857-207-0789. VISIT WWW.MASS.GOV/MOVA AND CLICK ON SANE AND SANE AGAIN TO DOWNLOAD APPLICATION AND TRAINING INFORMATION

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CHALLENGING NEW NURSING JOB?

Then contact Helen Lapointe RN and Joann Somerville RN, owners of a growing nursing business, Nurse Telephone Triage Service LLC. Both Helen and Joann have worked as telephone triage nurses for many years and invite you to join them in this growing nursing opportunity. Nurse Telephone Triage Service LLC is a nurse owned telephone triage business. Currently they are recruiting nurses to work from home performing telephone triage. The hours of operation include evenings, nights and weekends. Their nurses triage calls for the pediatric, adult and family practice populations. We provide a detailed, type written patient report to physicians the next day. Requirements include experience with triage in an emergency room setting or physician office, excellent assessment skills, some computer knowledge, typing skills and ability to work independently in a fast paced environment. If you are interested in learning more about this exciting job opportunity working in the growing field of telemedicine please e-mail a letter of interest and resume to: nursetriage@comcast.net

CHAPTER NEWS.....

BEACON CHAPTER

The first meeting of the 2008 was held on January 16th at PAPA RIZZI The featured speaker was Julie Leighton from the Shepard Center. For more chapter information and if you are interested in becoming more involved in the chapter contact president Deb Donahue at deb2000@comcast.net

North Shore Medical Center in Salem is sponsoring a TNCC recertification class on March 21st and an ENPC certification course on April 7th and April 18th. For more information contact Julie Bunn at jbunn@partners.org

BERKSHIRE CHAPTER

Visit www.mass-ena.org/berkshire/berkshire.htm for the chapter's 2008 calendar. They are currently planning their Spring Education program to be held May 1st at Zucchini's Restaurant in Pittsfield from 5:30 - 9pm. The program will be "Emergency preparedness from the Field to the ED". CEUs for RNs and EMTs will be applied for. Watch the website for more information as it becomes available.

CENTRAL MA CHAPTER

Led by Chapter President Eva Bodio, the group is in the planning stages for a Fall Education Program. If you are interested in working on the planning committee, please contact Eva at ebodio@gmail.com Recently the Milford Regional Medical Center ED created a recognition award "The Above and Beyond". Recipients will receive a plaque which will be displayed in the department as well as a gift card donated by their physician group.

MAYFLOWER CHAPTER

The chapter's first meeting was held on January 10th. Chapter member Mike Pringle from Falmouth Hospital is working on the chapter's web link as well as his own nursing blog. Please visit www.mikesviewpoint.com and let him know your thoughts.

PIONEER VALLEY CHAPTER

Join the group on Tuesday January 29th at Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton for their 2008 planning meeting from 5:30 - 7:30. They will be deciding on the 2008 meeting calendar as well as discussing outreach and educational program possibilities. Bring your ideas and your friends. A light dinner will be available. Contact chapter President Minette Weaver at minette_weaver@cooley-dickinson.org

LEADERSHIP 2008

If you are traveling to Hawaii next month for the Leadership meeting and are attending the State and Chapter leaders pre-session, be sure to attend the February 27th 1:30pm session "Accommodate your Chapters" featuring our very own State Council Treasurer Carlene Kincaid from the Berkshire chapter. Carlene has poured hours into creating an organized system and we are really proud that National has chosen Carlene to share her success story with other state and chapter leaders. And speaking of Carlene and the treasury.....

FROM THE TREASURER.....

MA ENA STATE COUNCIL TREASURY 2007

In June 2007, I presented information to the MA State Council on the advantages of state and chapter affiliation. Its intention was to bring chapters in under the umbrella of the State Council and consolidate all banking needs to the Bank of America. Change is never easy, so my goal was to make the process have an outcome that would benefit all the chapters as well as the state council - a "win-win situation"! I am a strong believer in the importance of the chapter's existence and in their ability to maintain their autonomy. Massachusetts has always been a very strong and active state in the ENA organization, largely due to their chapters and the chapters' involvements and independence. I could not present anything that appeared to be a threat or sound like a lot of extra work for their already busy lives.

As the new 2007 State Council Treasurer, I was able to attend the February 2007 State Leaders Conference in Boston, where I focused on the finance offerings. I met Marlene Halperin, National ENA's Finance CEO, who has been an exceptional resource, was introduced to the Reference Guide for State Treasurers, took a multitude of notes and came away with a clear understanding of what I needed to do for the Massachusetts Treasury. The journey has been a total learning experience, starting with becoming a signer at the bank, making the state council president and secretary co-signers, acquiring Check Cards for each of us, all the way to opening additional accounts for each of the chapters, managing 8 different accounts for

the state council and all the check writing responsibilities. In addition to this, I have obtained 36 W-9 forms from some of our state members. I was fortunate to have the help of the past treasurer in regard to the CPA, QuickBooks, and state managed course duties.

By June I had the accounts ready, and of course, most importantly state council and the chapters were convinced that this was the right direction for us to head in. The most time consuming part was meeting with each of the chapter presidents and treasurers, having them become account signers and then finally closing out their current accounts. This took many trips to Bank of America, I traveled many miles - but my goal was accomplished. All 5 chapters are under the umbrella of the State Council with 501 (c) (3) status, have 2 signers for their accounts along with myself, have access and full use of online banking opportunities. I have access for online banking to all 19 accounts. Since October 1st, our CPA has a pass code with viewing only privileges for each of the accounts. This eliminates the need for sending quarterly reports.

I know that many states are going through this transition. Though it took a lot of time and perseverance, in the end it has and will continue to strengthen our financial workings. Please contact me with any questions you may have. I am happy to provide our chapter treasurers with any assistance they may need.

Carlene Kincaid RN Kincaid23@adelphia.net
2007/2008 MA State Council Treasurer

SPOTLIGHT ON "FAIRVIEW HOSPITAL"

Nestled in the Berkshires, Fairview Hospital can be found up on one of the many rolling hills of Great Barrington. A small rural hospital with 8 ED beds and an annual census of about 13,000, Fairview boasts 7 CENS on their 20 member RN staff (12 regular RN staff supplemented with 8 per diem nurses). The department is staffed with RNs only the day and evening shifts. An RN with and EMT/tech staff the night shift.

Since Fairview is located in small town, we are familiar with most of their patients. We screen all patients for violence by asking about personal

issues of physical or emotional abuse and whether they feel safe at home. If a violent, belligerent patient is identified, it is spread through the department by word-of-mouth and moves surprisingly fast. We have a "Panic Button" that goes directly to an alarm company with quick local police notification.. Their response time is about one minute. Once a violent person has been identified, a "VIP" notation automatically comes up on the computer screen when their information is entered into the computer. We also have a "CODE YELLOW" implemented within the hospital and if it is paged overhead, qualified personnel respond to the department. We also keep a "NoTrepas" book. Intimidation, more than lateral violence or bullying is occasionally present in the department. The majority of the staff feel empowered by our Nurse Manager Donna Sena to deal with situations as they arise but know that they can take it to a higher level if needed.

We do use travel nurses and have found them to be a great asset. Some have asked to come back and some we have invited back. The challenges we have encountered in using travel nurses include: their lack of "buy-in" to the department, skills that are not up to par and ethical inconsistencies. Our current computerized charting system makes the use of occasional agency nurses very difficult since our needs are fairly sporadic and we are fortunate to have a good pool of per diem nurses.

We have mixed feelings in regards to shift lengths and safety. Some of our nurses feel equally tired and drained after an 8 hour shift as they might after working a 12 hour shift. For those of us who work 8 hours shifts - we love them.

Currently we are only doing Med Reconciliation for admitted patients. However since we see a fair number of patients visiting the area (skiers and sight-seers) this may mean contacting out-of-state pharmacies. It is definitely a time-consuming process.

Fairview is a stroke center and we have state of the art equipment that enables us to communicate with the neurologists at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield (the closest trauma center). After TPA administration, we transfer these patients. Because of nearby rural communities and ski resorts we do receive trauma patients. Most of our nursing staff

is TNCC certified, although it is not a job requirement. Most of our nursing staff is also ENPC certified.

Our department has been quite active in mass decontamination drills and we receive PPE and mass decontamination training.

We are currently working to create a usable "hand off" report sheet that meets the needs of all departments and does not duplicate information.

Submitted by

Sophia Veinoglou

Immediate Past President Berkshire Chapter
2008 MA ENA State Council Board of Directors

sophiaveinoglou@aol.com

MA ENA STATE COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 13TH

Chapter leaders and any other interested parties are invited to attend an orientation program on Wednesday February 13th at the Westborough Doubletree Hotel from 1p - 4p followed by the first State Council meeting of 2008. Discussions will include meeting planning, communication, treasury and financial concerns, member recruitment and retention, and much more. Here is an opportunity for chapter leaders to ask questions about their role and best practices in chapter organization. If you plan to attend please contact Deb Tonelli at debniedz@aol.com. If you have any questions about the program please contact State Council president Faye Everson at faeverson@aol.com or President-elect Laurie Raymond at laura.raymond@caritaschristi.org

State Council committees will have the opportunity to meet between 4:00 and 5:15 to discuss plans for the year. This is a perfect opportunity to learn how you can become involved with SC committees.

The State Council meeting will be held from 5:30pm - 8pm. A light dinner will be served and all members and their guests are invited to attend and learn more about MA ENA and a variety of involvement opportunities. Please RSVP to Deb Tonelli at debniez@aol.com by February 8th.

We'd love to see you there. We always look forward to meeting our members and hearing your suggestions and concerns.

DIRECTIONS: Mass Pike to exit 11A
495N to exit 23B (RT 9W)
Take Computer Dr/Research Dr
exit and bear right at end of ramp.
You will see the hotel on your left
in about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile

QUESTIONS FROM THE NURSE PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Let us know how your ED has responded to the practice issues in Emergency care. We'll share your success and your challenges with our membership and other Massachusetts EDs. We look forward to learning about your best practices. Contact Joan Cooper-Zack at joanczack@msn.com with your comments or if you have questions you'd like to ask of our readers.

1. Tell us about your Med Reconciliation process.
2. Has Joint Commission visited recently? What was their focus during their ED survey?
3. Do you have nursing protocols? Tell us about your program.
4. Are you using new grads? Tell us about their orientation program.
5. Share some of your interview questions for new hires and what are you looking for in a new hire?

6. Does your hospital have a Rapid Response Team? How is it working?

ANNUAL MENA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

In 2007 Massachusetts SC hosted the New England Regional Symposium in Plymouth. It was a really successful conference. How do we follow that success? Well, our members have spoken and we have listened. A core group is in the process of updating both our famous triage program "Surviving and Thriving at Triage" and our "CEN Review". We will be running these 2 programs simultaneously as our MENA Educational Conference this year. We have moved the date up a bit - so look for this excellent program in May.

If you are interested in working on the planning committee or in speaking, please contact Education Chair Gina Crocker from Winchester Hospital at vmcc55@comcast.net. As you can expect - lots of work goes into making a conference successful and the more people we have on the planning committee contributing to the program the better. Watch the website www.mass-ena.org for up-to-date information.

In addition to updating these programs we will also be making them available as packages for chapters, hospitals or even individuals to coordinate and present. Packages will include objectives, outlines and resources; in addition to tips for conference planning and a suggested schedule. A speaker contact list will be also be available. All information is meant to be used as resources and guidelines - you may use your own speakers and make changes to the schedule to best meet your needs. Watch the website for further information to be made available in March 2008.

TNCC/ENPC INSTRUCTOR COURSE APRIL 8, 2008 LAHEY CLINIC BURLINGTON, MA

The Boston Consortium of Teaching Hospitals and Massachusetts ENA are co-sponsoring a 7.5 hour TNCC/ENPC instructor course at Gordan Building first floor training room Lahey Clinic 29 Mall Rd in Burlington, MA on April 8th, 2008 from 8am - 4pm.

Participants must choose either the TNCC or ENPC instructor tract. Cost is \$200 for TNCCI and \$160 for ENPCI. New TNCC Version 6 Provider book and Version 6 Instructor Supplement are included in the \$200 TNCC fee. The ENPC Instructor book is included in the \$160 ENPC fee. ENPC candidates must bring their own ENPC provider books.

CECH certificates will be awarded.

Eligibility

Interested RN participants must meet the following instructor course admission requirement:

1. Letter furnished by a TNCC/ENPC course director indicating both the instructor potential AND committing the course director to assisting the participant with monitoring necessary for completion of instructor candidate requirements and
2. Current TNCC/ENPC provider status (provider course taken within the last 4 years).
3. Re-verify provider status at the start of the instructor course as follows:
 - a. **For TNCC instructor course** pass the written test with a 90% and TNP skill station (new version 6) achieving at least 85% of the total points on the Provider skill station
 - b. **For ENPC instructor course** pass the written test with a 90% and Management of the Ill/Injured Child achieving at least 85% of the total points on the Provider skill station.
 - c. Participants who are unsuccessful in achieving these criteria may not attend the Instructor course. In the event that test scores meet the provider requirements a new provider card can be issued with the payment of the indirect fee to ENA National Office

Instructor Status

TNCCI/ENPCI courses require that participants demonstrate their ability to lecture, teach and evaluate selected psychomotor skill stations. Individuals who successfully complete these requirements become instructor candidates. To become a fully recognized TNCC/ENPC instructor the instructor candidate must be successfully evaluated at a subsequent Provider

Course by a member of the state Trauma or Pediatric Committee by April 8, 2009.

Please send the required letter from a course director, non-refundable check for \$200 for TNCCI course or \$160 for ENPCI course payable to MA ENA and the following information by February 22, 2008 to Maureen Curtis Cooper 21 John St Malden, MA 02148

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE#: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please check one:

TNCC INSTRUCTOR COURSE (\$200) _____

ENPC INSTRUCTOR COURSE (\$160) _____

DIRECTIONS TO APRIL 8TH, 2008 TNCCI/ENPCU CLASS AT LAHEY CLINIC

Gordan Building
First Floor Training Room
29 Mall Rd Burlington, MA 01805

Access to Lahey Clinic Medical Center from RT 128/I95 (north or south) is EXIT 33B

When heading south, go straight through lights on to Mall Rd

When heading north, EXIT 33B leads onto Cambridge St (RT 3A). At the first light, turn left on to Mall Rd

After you are on Mall Rd, Lahey Clinic Medical Center is on the left at the THIRD set of lights.

NEW MASS ENA MEMBERS

Welcome to the following Massachusetts ED nurses who joined ENA in November and December 2007!

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Michelle Iannacchino | Megan Burns |
| Nancy Casucci | Alicia Habeshian |
| Patricia Hines-Stafford | Karlene McClure |
| Janet Stark | Kelly Ricard |
| Allan Gourley | Daniel Richard |
| Susan Katz | Paula Walsh |
| Pamela Keeney | Mandy Ayotte |
| Cathy Banks | Jane Dufresne |
| Sharon Souza | Dawn O'Toole |
| Adam Houk | Deidre Ryan |
| Patricia Donahue | James Cameron |

If we missed - let us know. You will be receiving a MA ENA welcome packet which will include contact information for your chapter president and meeting information.

OTHER MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome Kay McClain to the Membership committee. If you have questions about MA ENA or ENA membership, please contact Kay at ktkwilt@aol.com

As our state membership grows monthly (we now have more than 800 members), we are seeking more efficient and cost-effective ways to communicate with each of you as well as for you to communicate with us and other MA ENA members.

If you have a **current e-mail address**, please be sure that you give that to the National Office at enainfo@ena.org or 1-800-243-8362. The membership office is also able to supply you with member applications and other recruitment materials.

This past year we had our first electronic ballot and voting for MASS ENA State Council officers. We received responses from about 13% of our members. Next year we hope that even more members will take advantage of this opportunity.

This newsletter will be sent electronically to all members for whom we have e-mail addresses, others will continue to receive it via regular mail.

Massachusetts EDs will also receive the newsletter by mail and it will be posted on our web site www.mass-ena.org

IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO START THINKING ABOUT.....

**Emergency Nurses Week
October 5th - 11th
and
Emergency Nurses Day
October 8th**

MASSACHUSETTS NEWSLETTER AND WEB SITE CONTENT

What information or content do you want to see in the Mass ENA newsletter (MENU) and on the Mass ENA web site www.mass-ena.org?

Your suggestions, comments and submissions are encouraged and always welcome. Please send your ideas and suggestions to Robin Walsh at rwrn627@aol.com or Joan Cooper-Zack at joanczack@msn.com

New content for this year includes a spotlighted ED in each newsletter edition as well as more practice discussion around those issues that each of us are facing whether we are in a small rural facility or in a large urban teaching facility. Everyone is faced with staffing shortages, psych admit crises, new Joint Commission challenges and practice concerns. Use the newsletter, web site and our List serve as ways to see what other ED nurses across the state are doing and to inquire about issues that are challenging your department.

We would also really like to share more nursing stories. Tell us about an interesting patient, tell us about an award you or a colleague may have won, tell us about your new job or tell us about an upcoming educational offering. Think about what you would like to see in the newsletter and on the web site! Basically - USE US!!!!

A FEW FINAL THOUGHTS.....

In each newsletter we ask for your thoughts about content, we invite you to meetings and we are thrilled when we hear from some of you and then meet some of you at our chapter or state council meetings. We understand that your lives are busy between work and your families and other personal interests. However, there is something very satisfying about being part of your professional organization. Sure there are always membership benefits - receiving the Journal of Emergency Nursing, Connections, news about upcoming national education programs, and reduced fees for Certification Exams. In reality, though nice, these are not the best this organization has to offer. For most of us ENA junkies - it is all about the people and friendships we have formed. It is about the experiences and opportunities that we never envisioned being possible. In 2007 for us on the NERS 2007 planning committee it was about putting together an incredible education program that drew over 160 nurses from all over the country and having a waiting list for vendors.

It is about having a question and knowing that you have resources beyond your hospital walls. It is about having a say in creating educational programs and public policy. It is about contacting our legislators about pending legislation and letting them know that we agree with their proposals - or we do not and explaining why their ideas don't work for us or for our patients.

So make 2008 the year that you decide to learn more about MA ENA. The calendar for State Council meetings is at the beginning of this newsletter and can be found on line. Chapter information is also available on our website. Make 2008 the year you decide to do something for yourself and attend a meeting, make a commitment to your profession and take that opportunity to share your experiences and expertise with ED nurses across the state and the country. I can guarantee you will not regret your decision. You deserve it and your patients deserve it!

Join us on February 13th at the Doubletree in Westborough and meet your new family!!

WESTBOROUGH
FEBRUARY 13TH
STATE COUNCIL MEETING
CHAPTER LEADER ORIENTATION AND

DOUBLETREE

Massachusetts Emergency Nursing Update
c/o Robin Walsh
76 Cushman Rd
Leverett, MA 01054

