

## Message from Your 2012 Missouri State ENA Council President Tony Mitchell, RN, MBA, CCRN



Recently, I was asked to write an article for our newspaper about why a person should seek treatment at an ER. I came up with what looks like a "David Letterman top ten reasons" list and have included it below. When you are finished reading it, I have a challenge for each of you.

### THE TOP TEN REASONS TO GO TO THE ER

1. Loss of consciousness.
2. Signs of heart attack that last more than 3 minutes. These include: pressure, fullness, squeezing, or pain in the center of your chest; tightness, burning, or aching under the breastbone; chest pain with lightheadedness.
3. Signs of a stroke, including: sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg on one side of the body; sudden dimness or loss of vision, particularly in one eye; loss of speech or trouble understanding speech or talking; sudden severe headaches without cause; unexplained dizziness, unsteadiness or sudden falls, especially when accompanied by any of these other symptoms.
4. Severe shortness of breath.
5. Bleeding that does not stop after 10 minutes of direct pressure.
6. Poisoning (after calling poison control).
7. Unexplained stupor, drowsiness or disorientation.

8. Coughing up or vomiting blood.
9. Severe or persistent vomiting.
10. Suicidal or homicidal feelings or thoughts.

As is usually the case, whenever I research something, I get ideas to help improve a situation if possible. It occurred to me that we, ER's across the State, have a great responsibility to educate the communities that rely on us for emergent treatment. It is very convenient for us to complain about the "frequent flyers", or the "drug seeking dental and back pains." Unfortunately, these patients have and always will be a part of what we do daily.

On the other hand, educating our patients and community on these 10 legitimate reasons to seek EMS/ER treatment will help to assure that the patients actually needing "emergent" care will be seen. My challenge to each of you is to take a look at developing brochures, talking with your marketing department directors about interviews and media coverage, sponsoring and developing safety and health "fairs." These would also be excellent opportunities to have screening exams and would eventually help educate the community in a tremendous way. They do not have to be elaborate or expensive. We have made education one of our top goals for this year, and communication, both with each other and our communities, is the common thread that will let us achieve this goal.

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### 2012 ENA MISSOURI STATE COUNCIL MEETING 10:30 AM LAKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL, OSAGE BEACH, MO

- Saturday, February 11
- Saturday, May 19
- Saturday, August 4
- Friday, November 2 (Strategic Planning)
- Saturday, November 3

**ALL WELCOME INCLUDING NON-MEMBER SPECTATORS!**

## COURSE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT by Cheryl Phillips, RN, BSN, CEN, 2012 Chairperson

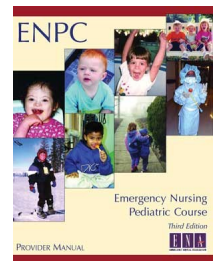
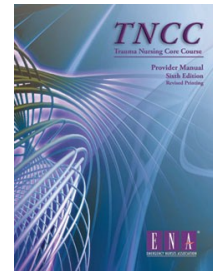
Did you know the State of Missouri has 244 TNCC instructors and 113 ENPC instructors? I am impressed that we have so many nurses who have made the commitment to become instructors. These courses provide nurses with the core knowledge they need to care for their patients. A discussion at a recent class also brought out the fact that TNCC/ENPC recertification by experienced nurses reminds them of the knowledge & experiences that they can share with less experienced nurses or the nurses they are mentoring.

The State Committee for Course Operations is charged with maintaining the consistency and quality of TNCC and ENPC courses and instructors throughout our state. In this regard, as State Chair I will be the new contact person for any questions or concerns regarding these courses. Course Directors should email or send me any comments on evaluations that need attention or the names of instructors that fall below the 3.0 overall evaluation score for follow up on re-monitoring that instructor.

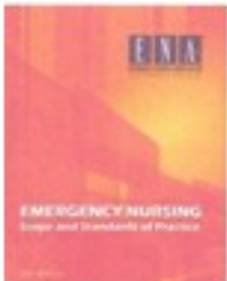
The State Committee also provides the State Faculty to present Instructor Courses and monitoring of the new instructors. ENA has developed a proven process for the successful and continuous presentation of these courses and the State Course Operations Committee will continue to support this process.

I look forward to being of service to the nurses in our State.

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## NURSING/ADVANCED PRACTICE COMMITTEE By Janet Kaminsky, RN, MSN, CEN, APRN-BC, 2012 Chairperson



**ENA's Scope and Standards of Practice:** In the late 1990s, by consensus of specialty nursing organizations, the American Nurses Association (ANA) became the neutral reviewing body for the scope and standards of practice for nursing specialties. Specialty nursing practices must meet certain criteria to gain recognition as a specialty practice, a review process intended to ensure consistency in nursing practice. In late August of 2011, the American Nurses Association (ANA) announced their formal recognition of emergency nursing as a specialty practice. The ANA also approved the Emergency Nursing Association's (ENA) scope of practice statements and acknowledged the standards of practice for emergency nursing. These documents, written by the ENA, form the foundation of emergency nursing and outline the expectations of the professional role within which emergency nurses must practice. The most recent edition of the Scope and Standards of Practice for Emergency Nursing is available online from National ENA (\$18.00) through the ENA Marketplace located on the ENA website: [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org).

**MoENA Supports the Missouri State Action Coalition:** At the November MoENA State Council meeting, a letter of support was sent to the Missouri State Action Coalition. This past September, the Missouri Action Coalition was officially sanctioned as an Action Coalition State by the Future of Nursing: *Campaign for Action*. This "Campaign for Action" is coordinated through the Center to Champion Nursing in America (CCNA), which is an initiative of AARP, the AARP Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The goal of the Future of Nursing: *Campaign for Action* is to achieve a health care system where all Americans have access to high-quality care, *with nurses contributing to the fullest extent of their capabilities*. The campaign includes 36 State Action Coalitions and a wide range of health care providers, consumer advocates, policy-makers and members from the business, academic and philanthropic communities. The work of the Missouri Action Coalition will be focusing on strategies to implement the recommendations of the 2010 landmark report by the Institute of Medicine (IOM)—*The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, which addresses: nursing education, practice, leadership and workplace/workforce issues. State Action Coalitions are the driving force of the campaign at the local and state levels. (continued on Page 3)

## NURSING/ADVANCED PRACTICE COMMITTEE (continued)

The work of the Missouri State Action Coalition is extremely important to all nurses, health care workers, and our communities for there are multiple forces that are evolving and coming together to form “the perfect storm” which will, and already have negatively impacted our present healthcare system. As Emergency Nurses, we see daily the many patients that use the ED as a source for their primary care and the difficulties encountered in finding referrals and follow-up care. We have an aging population, increases in chronic diseases and psychiatric illnesses, patients that are uninsured or that are underinsured, decreasing reimbursement for medical care from payers, regulatory rules that are burdensome and stifling, a nursing shortage, a projected physician shortage, extreme barriers to practice existing in our present healthcare system that limits scopes of practice for NPs, PAs, and other healthcare workers such as Pharmacists and Therapists—just to name a few of the problems. Another staggering statistic is that by 2013, there will be an estimated 314,000 new patients that will be needing access to healthcare resulting from the health insurance exchanges which will be formed related to the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPCCA). How is this going to work with an already over burdened healthcare system?

Nurses represent the largest number of healthcare workers in our country, over 3 million nurses nationally and over 90,000 nurses in Missouri alone. Our professional accountability goes way beyond just going to work every day. Our professional responsibility requires that we be informed of all the inter-related issues impacting our healthcare system and our practices. We need to join together with other nursing organizations and articulate a common message related to needed reforms and how they should be achieved. In order to be “at the table” in defining solutions to these challenges, political “clout” is necessary. You will soon be hearing about proposed legislation related to eliminating the barriers to the APN’s scope of practice. We need to fully and actively support these efforts. I encourage everyone to go onto the Missouri Nurses Association website (just google Missouri Nurses Association) and read about the Missouri State Action Coalition activities. Seriously consider contributing to the MONA PAC—which helps pay for MONA’s Lobbyist and other political advocacy activities, and most of all, become an active voice in the Missouri State Action Coalition. The time is now for positive change.

**TJC Soliciting Input:** The Joint Commission (TJC) is soliciting comments on the proposed TJC Emergency and Safety Standards. The two proposed standards: — [revisions to its “Patient Flow in the Emergency Department” requirements](#) (response deadline Jan. 20, 2012) and a [National Patient Safety Goal addressing overuse of treatments, procedures and tests](#) (response deadline Jan. 24, 2012).

Happy New Year to All

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT By Julie Dale, RN, MSN, CEN , 2012 Chairperson



The Communications Committee 2012 goals are to improve communication through the following:

- Enhancing website
- Continuing quarterly newsletter
- Regularly emailing general membership
- Exploring teleconferencing for MoENA meetings

We have already set up bulk emailing through Real Magnet. All Missouri ENA members will start getting regular emails and updates (including the electronic version of this newsletter) in 2012. Please watch for and open these emails which will have MoENA in the subject line.

We are hoping to introduce the new and updated website at the February 2012 MoENA meeting. Our hope is for the updated website to be more user friendly. More information on the new website to come in future newsletters.

## INSTITUTE FOR QUALITY, SAFETY, AND INJURY PREVENTION (IQISP) COMMITTEE REPORT

By Lori Davis, RN, CEN, 2012 Chairperson

Remember the *Battle of the Belt*?? No, it is not a new diet craze or old war battle.

*Battle of the Belt* is a competition among Missouri High Schools that encourages the life-saving practice of buckling seat belts among teenagers. The program was originally brought to the southwest region of the state by Missouri Emergency Nurses Association members and St. John's Hospital. The success and growth of the program necessitated additional resources, and in 2006, the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety (a partner of MODOT), in conjunction with American Family Insurance, helped spread the competition throughout Missouri.



Schools compete to increase safety belt use among students, thereby saving lives. The tools students use during the competition include:

- Surprise seat belt checks which measure seat belt usage before and after an educational campaign
- Creation of 30 second Public Service Announcements (PSA's) promoting safety belt use among young drivers

Schools will receive special recognition for safety belt usage at 91% or above and 2 schools in each of the 7 Missouri regions will receive grant money to be used for further safety belt education.

So, what does that mean to you...our Missouri Emergency Nurses??

**Increased seat belt usage = fewer injuries!**

We need to support and get re-involved with this worthwhile project which our colleagues helped create! But, how can we help?

Do you have a teenager? Do your family members or neighbors have teenagers? Do they buckle their seat belts every time they drive or ride in their friend's car?

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for people 15-20 years old. Results of a 2010 survey among Missouri teens indicate 34% of teens are not wearing their seat belts. Seven out of 10 teens killed in Missouri traffic crashes are unbuckled.

Did your child's school participate in this program? If you do not know, ask! Or you can find out by looking on the following website:

[www.modot.org/Safety/BattleoftheBeltChallenge.htm](http://www.modot.org/Safety/BattleoftheBeltChallenge.htm)

In 2011, 152 of approximately 580 Missouri High Schools participated in this competition. This is 26% and that is not enough!

Did your area high schools participate?? If the answer is no, why not....there are monetary prizes available for schools, and it promotes and supports seatbelt usage among our teenage population.

There will be much more information coming as the year progresses toward the 2012 Battle of the Belt in the Fall.



Missouri Coalition  
for Roadway Safety



## COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Gail Carroll, RN, BSN, CEN, SANE , 2011 Chairperson

The Compliance Committee wraps up a very busy and productive year. I would like to thank all my committee members for all the hard work and time that they dedicated to this committee and the Missouri ENA.

Jeanne Fogarty will be taking the reins for 2012 as Chair of the Compliance Committee. Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) to review and revise as necessary will be on the agenda.

## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

by Carol Pettit, RN, 2012 Chairperson

In the next two weeks legislators will be returning to Washington DC and Jefferson City to resume the business of meeting the needs of the citizens. Currently the main issues are jobs and the economy. It's hard to tell how this will affect Emergency Medicine. Laws on Distracted Drivers are being addressed both nationally and statewide and are high on the agenda for ENA. This is something we will be following closely.

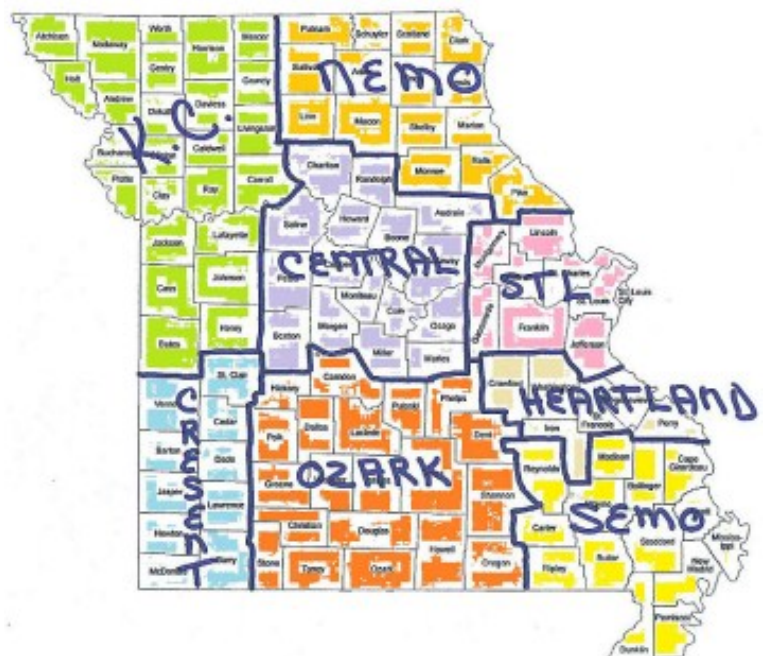
Missouri Nurse Advocacy Day is February 22 in Jefferson City. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about the legislative process and it's impact on nursing. Unfortunately, it coincides with the ENA Leadership Conference. I'd like to encourage members not going to New Orleans to attend. We have money to pay for several registrations, one from each chapter. Please let me know if you are interested.

### 26th ANNUAL MONA NURSE ADVOCACY DAY

*Provided by the  
Missouri Nurses Association  
"From Advocacy to Policy"*

February 22, 2012  
Capitol Plaza Hotel  
Jefferson City, Missouri

### MAP OF MISSOURI CHAPTERS



## OZARK CHAPTER REPORT

Submitted by Jami Blackwell, 2012 President

The Ozark Chapter held its Annual Awards Ceremony and Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, December 14th at Ebbet's Field. Officers were elected for 2012 and are posted on the website.



The recipients of the awards were:

- Emergency Nurse of the Year—Chandra Hazen from St. John's
- Paramedic of the Year (a tie) - David Gueldner with Cox Paramedics and OTC and Frank Perez with Cox Air Care
- ER Doctor of the Year—Mablene Buggs MD from CMH
- Emergency Leader of the Year—Bob Patterson from St. John's
- ER Tech of the Year—Trisha Lammers from CMH
- Flight Crew Member of the Year—Shelly Elsey with Cox Air Care

## HEARTLAND CHAPTER REPORT

Submitted by Beth DeHaven, 2012 President

December 19th our monthly Heartland ENA Chapter met at Spokes Bar and Grill. We had a brief meeting with the 5 people that were able to attend combined with a Christmas get together of current and former emergency co-workers. We started Heartland Chapter in June 2011 with a total of 5 members. Our chapter now has 18 members and we have just chosen a member chair for 2012 (our first official committee). We as a chapter are still trying to learn the ropes and find our place in this wonderful association. We have had a set place and time for the 6 months we have been a chapter to meet

and have decided to start rotating sites for the meetings in hopes to obtain better turn out and gain potential new members also. Our chapter has decided to work toward some basic goals including: holding more TNCC classes, getting our name and purpose out in the community, basic fund raising, and trying to join in the established goals and purposes of the National and State Association. Although we have had a slow start, we are continuing to grow and learn and we will succeed.



## GREATER ST. LOUIS CHAPTER REPORT Submitted by Joan Eberhardt, 2011 President

The St. Louis Chapter held their final meeting of the year followed by a Christmas get-together and dinner. Everyone attending brought a bag of non-perishable groceries for the Circle of Concern Food Bank. This year, more than ever, the food banks in our area were struggling to meet the needs of those they serve. Monetary donations were also collected and presented along with the food.

The 2012 officers were introduced:

- President: Jeanne Fogarty
- President-Elect: Helen Sandkuhl
- Secretary: Carol Pettit
- Treasurer: Jo-Ann Coogan
- Immediate Past-President: Joan Eberhardt

Strategic planning was completed for 2012. The major focus for the new year will include Nurse Advocacy Day; presenting two CEU educational programs; providing anti-drinking, driving and drug programs for junior and senior high schools; supporting the Women's Center for abused and battered women, and Circle of Concern.

Delegates to the 2012 State Council, committee chairs, co-chairs and members were appointed. Committees were identified and include:

- Course Operations
- Communications
- Compliance
- Government Affairs
- Education
- Injury Prevention
- Membership
- Nursing Practice/Advanced Practice
- Marketing

We encourage everyone to attend monthly meetings and participate on committee/s. Please contact Jeanne Fogarty @ [Jeanne.fogarty@tenethealth.com](mailto:Jeanne.fogarty@tenethealth.com) for information. We have an exciting year planned and are always looking for new committee members with fresh ideas and energy. Come and participate on a committee!

The Chapter will hold a CEN Review Course on March 24 & 25, 2012. The two-day review course will be presented by nationally known speaker **Jeff Solheim, RN, BSN, FAEN**, who is well known for his energetic, enthusiastic and knowledgeable

presentation. Jeff is the president of the Oregon ENA State Council. He has presented at numerous emergency and critical care conferences across the nation, including the National ENA Scientific Assembly. He is a speaker for Med-Ed, has produced a CEN DVD and has participated in multiple National ENA CEN Review webinars. Jeff serves as chief editor and author for on-line CEN review courses for Mosby-Elsevier. Please contact Joan Eberhardt at 314-878-9310/ [joaneberhardt@yahoo.com](mailto:joaneberhardt@yahoo.com) or Judy Marlow 636-346-3340/ [clearmoon@att.net](mailto:clearmoon@att.net) for information.

Exciting news! The St. Louis Chapter was contacted by a representative from the St. Louis Convention Center and asked to provide a letter of support from MOENA and St. Louis ENA in support of bringing the 2014 National ENA Scientific Assembly to St. Louis. The State Council and St. Louis Chapter Executive Boards approved and a letter has been drafted. It's our understanding there are currently three cities in competition at this time: St. Louis, Baltimore and Indianapolis. Keep your fingers crossed for St. Louis!

As we move into 2012, may your blessings be many and your troubles few. Our wish for each of you is a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.



## CENTRAL MISSOURI CHAPTER REPORT

Submitted by Carol Rodgers, RN, 2012 President

Central MO ENA is healthy and growing! We would like to welcome Dan and Caleb, our two new meeting attendees. They are also the brains behind our plan to be "live" online with our meetings. Our January meeting will be in Jefferson City, but "live" online for folks who can't make the drive south. Our planning goals for 2011 also include having meetings at locations other than Columbia. The nurses at Capital Region Medical Center in Jefferson City are hosting our January meeting.

Mark your calendar now for our semi-annual Updates in Emergency Nursing conference, Thursday, April 19, 2012.

## GREATER KANSAS CITY CHAPTER REPORT

Submitted by Stephanie Droppelmann, RN, BSN, CEN, 2012 President

Happy New Year from Greater Kansas City Chapter. I hope everyone has made their New Year's Resolution and wish them luck in seeing that it is fulfilled.

The Fall update came out just before our Annual Awards Banquet held on Emergency Nurse's Day. We had a record number in attendance this year. Seventy people were present to help honor the 7 recipients, as well as the 35 nominees, for the awards. The planning for next year's banquet has already begun and will be hosted by St. Joseph's Medical Center.

Our Spring Training is the next educational offering sponsored by the Chapter. It will be held March 9 at Liberty Hospital. Those in attendance will receive 2 hours of stroke, cardiac, and trauma CEU's. With all the CEU requirements for TCD (Time Critical Diagnosis) designation, this is a popular way for nurses to get a little education covering all the TCD topics.

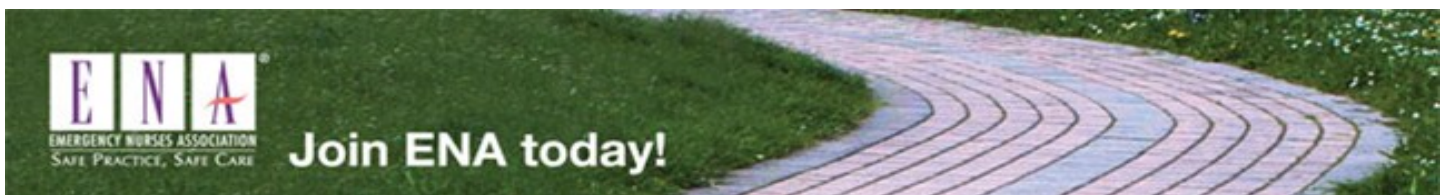
We have already scheduled our next joint sponsored CEN review for September 18 and 19. The course will be held at North Kansas City Hospital. It's still a long way off, but the last 2 co-sponsored courses have been well attended and we're hoping for that again.

The Chapter is still discussing and looking for ways to help Mr. Woo and the Artist's Helping the Homeless. His cause is a great asset to area Emergency Departments and the Chapter would like to give back. Originally, we were planning something for the Spring, but this may not happen until the Fall. We'll keep everyone posted.

Our next meeting will be held February 8, 1100-1230, at North Kansas City Hospital. I hope to see everyone there. Have a happy and safe 2012.



In order from right to left: **EMS Personnel**—Sam Moppin, Deputy Chief Ray County Ambulance District and Lawson Fire & Rescue; **Rookie of the Year**—Steve Hanson, RN, Liberty; **Nurse Educator/Mentor**—Laurie Schulz, RN, ED Educator, St. Joseph Medical Center; **Emergency Nurse of the Year**—Tricia Crane, RN, Research Medical Center; **ED Support Person**—Todd Yohe, EMT-P, Research Medical Center (also works as firefighter/paramedic for Belton Fire); **Nurse Manager**—DeAnna Edwards, RN, Assistant Director, Centerpoint; **Forensic Nurse**—Jan Wiebe, RN, SANE-P, Children's Mercy (not pictured).



## SEMO CHAPTER REPORT

Submitted by Kristi Williams, RN, CEN, SANE-A, 2011 President



*Emerson Bridge at Cape Girardeau, MO  
(photo taken by Chad Rollins, BSN, RN, CEN)*

SEMO Chapter held a Strategic Planning meeting on December 9th . Our 2012 goals are as follows:

1. Update Bylaws & SOPs for SEMO ENA chapter.
  - Appoint Compliance Committee Chair and membership to pursue this with goal for completion of updates by end of 2012.
2. Expand & fortify SEMO Chapter and MOENA membership to promote leadership & generate greater involvement in the MO Emergency Nursing community.
  - Continue efforts to expand SEMO Chapter active members through membership drive.
  - Create SEMO Chapter website.
  - Prepare and electronically mail SEMO Chapter newsletter regularly.
  - Encourage SEMO Chapter members to accompany delegates to MoENA meetings.
  - Send more SEMO Chapter members to the 2012 Scientific Assembly.
  - Discuss point system with members at next meeting so they understand how to accrue points in order to be considered for attending Scientific Assembly.
3. Shape and advance emergency nursing through education.
  - Continue awarding CEN & CPEN scholarships.
  - Increase TNCC & ENPC classes offered.
  - Include Education Resources link on Chapter website.

4. Shape the practice of emergency nursing through research promotion, translation, and utilization, with emphasis on addressing best practices relative to alleviating crowding and mitigating/responding to violence in the ED.
  - Research Committee Chair to appoint membership to help coordinate these efforts.
  - Research Committee Chair to report regularly on research relating to the above topics. Information gathered will also be shared with MOENA.
5. Expand and formalize committee activities.
  - Committee Chairs to report regularly at bi-monthly meetings.
  - Committees to be realigned to mirror MoENA committees.

Our December 12th regular meeting was held at Celebrations Downtown. Following a short meeting, our members enjoyed a great meal and holiday ornament exchange and gift give-aways. SEMO Chapter members voted to donate \$100 to the ENA Foundation in honor of Southeast Health for their sponsorship of all of our 2011 meetings and educational offerings.

My thanks to SEMO Chapter and Missouri ENA for the wonderful roller coaster ride as the President this past year. I have had the privilege of meeting and working with brilliant nurses and physicians throughout 2011. As I hand over the reins to 2012 President Chad Rollins, I am looking forward to watching our chapter continue to grow and grow, seeing more and more new CEN's and CPEN's courtesy of our Chapter's exam scholarship offerings, meeting more LPN/EMS auxiliary members, seeing more of our members get to attend the annual Scientific Assembly, and finally getting to finish my dinner during the meetings!




**SEMO Chapter is proud to congratulate our latest CEN, Julie Robinson! Great job Julie!**

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ...



MIDWEST *Trauma!* SOCIETY  
PO Box 410148 Kansas City, MO 64141-0148 www.midwesttraumasociety.org  
26TH ANNUAL TRAUMA CONFERENCE  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
April 26th and 27th 2012  
At Harrah's North Kansas City Casino  
Look for the brochure coming in January and go to  
www.midwesttraumasociety.org for more info




**5th Annual Forensic Investigations**  
Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Child and Elder Abuse...from Scene to Courtroom

**Pre-Conference Courses**  
May 8 & 9, 2012

- Track 1: Physicians: Advanced Sexual Assault Forensic Medicine Course
- Track 2: Nurses: S.A.N.E.-A & S.A.N.E.-P Prep Course
- Track 3: Non-Medical Personnel: The Forensics of Childhood Injury vs. Suspected Abuse

**Forensic Conference**  
May 9, 10, & 11, 2012  
Downtown Marriott Hotel, 200 W. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105

an@forensicsociety.org/forensic  
cbrgand@forensic.org



**Saint Luke's Hospital**  
OF KANSAS CITY



**COVERSA**

Mark your calendar for the next COVERSA SANE training from March 6 through March 10, 2012. Costs include \$350 for four-day, 40-hour didactic training session. An optional 8 hour clinical will be provided that enables students to acquire pelvic competencies on standard patients along with forensic photography. The clinical will be held at UMKC School of Nursing. The cost is \$200. Visit [www.coversa.org](http://www.coversa.org) or call 816-691-5441 or more details.



**NOTICE A NURSE**

*It is the goal of Missouri ENA to notice special Emergency Nurses in each of our newsletters. This recognition is rotated among each of our chapters. If you are interested in recognizing special ER nurses, please contact the chapter president in your area. Contact information may be found on our website at [www.missouriena.org](http://www.missouriena.org).*

**RON HURST, CRESCENT CHAPTER**

**Submitted by Chris Hoag-Apel, 2011 President & Sharon Trumbly, 2011 Secretary**

We would like to recognize Ron Hurst a very special nurse who works in the Freeman Health System ER/Trauma Center, Joplin Missouri. Ron worked as a student assistant while going to Nursing School at Crowder College in Neosho, Missouri. Ron worked as a GN following graduation in December 2009 and currently as an RN since successfully completing his boards on January 14, 2010..

This remarkable young man is what we call "An Adrenaline Junkie". He loves the fast pace of the ER and excels while working in the Red Pod which is our most critical area. Ron is an eager learner and has excelled in his RN role. He loves to mentor new nurses and was recruited early in 2011 as a preceptor for our new GNs. It is not unusual for our GNs to request Ron as their preceptor. He gently guides them by example, gradually increases their responsibilities, and pushes them out of their comfort zone when needed.

When not working with patients he is always doing something including helping the techs to put supplies away, cleaning rooms, and assisting other nurses. Rarely do you see him sitting down and doing nothing. His clinical performance and quality of work exceed expectations for all presenting emergencies. He thrives when caring for trauma patients.

Ron and his wife live in Cassville which is a 62 mile drive, one way, for him to work in Joplin. When asked why he chose Freeman he stated he wanted to work in a bigger city to get all kinds of experience.

Ron's wife is a nurse at Cox Hospital, Springfield. They have four children, three girls and one boy with another child due in March. He is a committed family man who shares babysitting responsibilities with his wife so both can enjoy their chosen career.

When asking fellow nurses what they like about Ron they reply that he is always there to help when needed and is a great clinical resource.

When asked what he felt was the motivating factor that kept him working at Freeman Health System he replied "teamwork". A much appreciated compliment by a nurse who loves what he is doing and is an asset to our facility.

The Crescent Chapter is proud to acknowledge Ron as our exceptional nurse.

## 2012 Missouri ENA State Executive Council

President: Tony Mitchell

President Elect: Teresa Coyne

Immediate Past President: Helen Sandkuhl

Secretary: Julie Dale

Treasurer: Larry Faulkner

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[www.missouriena.org](http://www.missouriena.org)

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