

HIGHLIGHTS



January 19th, 2009 @ 7:30 PM

Meeting with free CECH Speaker and meal

**TexSan Heart Hospital
Bluebonnet Room
6700 IH 10 West
San Antonio, TX 78201**

210-736-6700

February 16th, 2009 @ 7:30 PM

Business Meeting with meal

**Northeast Baptist Hospital
8811 Village Drive
San Antonio, 78217**

210-297-2000

The SOAR logo features the word "SOAR" in a large, serif font. Above the letters "O" and "A" are stylized, colorful wings in shades of purple, pink, and yellow. Below the word "SOAR" is the tagline "Aspire to New Heights" in a smaller, sans-serif font. The background of the entire page is a scenic landscape with a blue sky, a silhouette of an eagle in flight, and a range of mountains in the distance.

SOAR
Aspire to New Heights

**2009 ENA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
MARCH 4-8, 2009 RENO, NEVADA**

<i>Calendar of Upcoming Events</i>	<i><u>Future Meeting Dates & Locations</u></i>
<p><u>January</u></p> <p>16 & 17—State Leadership Meeting and 1st Quarter State Meeting in Waco</p> <p>19—San Antonio ENA meeting @ TexSan Heart Hospital</p> <p><u>February</u></p> <p>7—Babysitter Why’s course @ St. Luke’s Hospital</p> <p>16—San Antonio ENA meeting @ Northeast Baptist Hospital</p> <p>27 thru Mar 1—TNCC @ University Hospital</p> <p><u>March</u></p> <p>4 thru 8—ENA 2009 Leadership Conference in Reno, Nevada</p> <p>7—Babysitter Why’s course @ Connally Memorial Medical Center</p> <p>16—San Antonio ENA meeting @ MSTH</p>	<p>January 19—TexSan Heart Hospital February 16—Northeast Baptist Hospital March 16—Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital</p> <p><u>Kudos</u></p> <p>Carrie Alvarado, thank you for the tremendous job you did as our 2008 SAENA Secretary.</p> <p>Barbara Baldwin did an outstanding job organizing our chapter’s Emergency Nurses Week festivities. Thanks.</p> <p>Thank you to Northeast Methodist Hospital for hosting our October meeting and to BAMC for hosting our November meeting.</p> <p>Appreciation to Cindy Saunders for opening her home to us for our December holiday celebration.</p> <p>Thanks to Mary Leblond for presenting the Forensics course, again in December, to enable San Antonio area emergency nurses to obtain the necessary CEUs, for maintaining their license.</p> <p>Congratulations to Michael Moon and Paul Clark, for their election as Texas ENA officers for 2009. Watch for more details in the next issue.</p>

Upcoming TNCC course schedule

*February 27th, 28th and March 1st
 May 29th, 30th and 31st
 July 31 and August 1st & 2nd
 October 23rd, 24th and 25th
 December 4th, 5th and 6th*

Contact Susan Douglass at (210) 358-4272 between 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM.

Upcoming ENPC course schedule

*May 23rd and 24th
 August 22nd and 23rd
 December 11th and 12th*

Contact Diane Walcutt at (210)-387-7236

Twice in the past 2 months, our hospital received patients that had been bitten by poisonous snakes and presented to the ER with the live snake (a copperhead, and most recently a coral snake). Although both were brought in sealed containers, my greatest concern was safety and liability with a live poisonous snake on hospital property. The sealed container was put into a second container to add one more barrier, should the snake escape from the first. Secondly, securing the snake in a locked area was (in my opinion) imperative. Lastly, is the issue of what options are available to ultimately get the snake off hospital property. A nurse from one of our hospital wards told me of a group that will assist in the matter. The South Texas Herpetology Association (STHA) will come pick up live snakes at no charge, night or day from hospitals in the San Antonio area. The group then relocates the snakes to an area where there are very few or no humans. All live snakes are accepted – poisonous, non-poisonous, exotic, etc.

With the most recent situation, I called the association. The process went smoothly.

When the situation arises again, here is the contact information you may find helpful:

South Texas Herpetology Association
Ed Lessard, President
Phone – 210-520-6101

The phone has a very generic recording and may leave you wondering if you have the right number – just leave a message. Ed will call you back when he gets it.

Please be aware that the STHA may elect to not pick up snakes from hospitals outside of San Antonio, based on travel distance. However, give them a call to see what can be worked out. There may be an STHA member living in your area.

Remember – live snakes only!

Submitted by: **Tom Culwell, RN**

PS - On a lighter note: In 27 years of healthcare, I have noticed for persons bitten by poisonous snakes to have a high frequency of "the lethal triad":

- Testosterone
- Alcohol
- Serum poor judgment levels in the toxic range

In some cases, maybe these folks have decent judgment and lack education, thus thinking poisonous snakes are close relatives of dogs. The difference in physical characteristics seems quite distinct. However, here are some key differences to clarify this issue:

Dogs (most)

- Like to be petted, handled, & kissed
- Usually domesticated
- Make great pets
- Love to be around humans
- Wag their tail and curl up their body to show happiness and submission

Poisonous Snakes

- Do not like to be petted, handled, or kissed
- Wild and do not domesticate well
- Are not intended to be "pets"
- Prefer to have nothing to do with humans
- "Wag" their tail and coil up their body to voice their displeasure and say "don't make me get ugly!"

Emergency Nurses Association
San Antonio Chapter 197

PO Box 680103
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Email: saenapresident@yahoo.com



Place mailing label here

2009 Officers of the San Antonio ENA

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STATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:
Peggy Dubuque and Mary Leblond

SAENA Committee Chairpersons

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