

**THE HIGHLIGHT
THE SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 49, NUMBER 4
4TH QUARTER 2023**



**HERE'S THE SCOOP FROM
THE PRESIDENT**

Seems like only yesterday that I was attempting to write my first newsletter article and here we are with another year almost over. I can certainly attest to the old adage: Time flies when you're having fun!

SAENA has had several educational offerings this year, including EKG review, CEN review and the annual conference. The hope is you've benefited from at least one of the offerings. Save the date for Concepts in Emergency and Critical Care Nursing – 2024, tentatively scheduled for August 22, 2024. We had a very successful 2023 Concepts conference on Nov 9. We started with a wonderful dinner on the 8th sponsored by AstraZeneca at Chama Gaucha.

Participants for the all-day conference numbered 91, including the 16 Zoom participants, with some students coming from as far away as Houston, McAllen area and Corpus Christi. Our agenda included such topics as Lightning Strikes, Adhesives and Skin Care, Medical Photography, How to Decrease Fall Risk, Documentation, How to Address the LGBTQ+ community and Pediatric Sepsis. I want to again thank all of the committee members, participants, presenters and sponsors for this wonderful conference. Please put this annual event on your calendar early and plan to attend.

SAENA Meetings

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

- **December 12, 2023** – Dinner Meeting - Ladybird Beer Garden, 447 W. Hildebrand, SA, TX 78212. White Elephant Gift exchange – Limit \$25.
- **January 9, 2024** - St. Luke's Baptist Hospital, Strunk Classroom, 7930 Floyd Curl Drive, SA 78229

Meetings are currently being held in-person and via Zoom. If your facility would like to host a SAENA Business meeting contact: Diane Walcutt at dianewalcutt@yahoo.com

If you know of someone who would like to present a 1-hour lecture at a SAENA meeting, please contact Carol Twombly at cltwombly@aol.com

For meeting locations and Zoom access information see the SAENA website at:
www.sanantonioena.org/meetings/

***What's Hot in 2024!
SAENA 2024 Annual
Conference!
August 22, 2024***

***See the SAENA website starting
in January 2024 for more
information***

www.sanantonioena.org

Election results from October are in. Please welcome our new SAENA 2024 Board of Directors:

Barbara Baldwin – President
Leslie Hinson – President-Elect
Diane Walcutt – Immediate Past-President
Erick Christensen – Treasurer
Carol Twombly – Secretary
Dustin English & Lisa King – Directors

TXENA has been asked to collaborate with Texas ImPACTS (Improving Pediatric Acute Care Through Simulation) and Toyota to assist with establishing Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators (PECC) in each trauma RAC throughout the state. These PECCs will be assisting facilities to meet the new Pediatric Emergency Readiness requirements to maintain their trauma designation. Readiness means that every EMS and emergency department has the right equipment, supplies, medications, protocols, policies and training to provide high-quality emergency care for children every day. Training for the PECCs will be held in conjunction with our next TXENA meeting being held in Killeen Jan 12-13, 2024. Please visit www.txena.org to find out more.

Speaking of pediatrics, I've included an article that I found on MedPage about how social media can alter the wiring of your child's brain. Check it out. Arginteanu, M. (2023, October 21). 'I'm a Neurosurgeon.' Social Media May Change Your Kid's Brain. MedPage Today. Retrieved from https://www.medpagetoday.com/opinion/kevinmd/106919?xid=nl_secondopinion_2023-10-24&eun=q2243546d0r

I hope you will consider attending our monthly meetings which occur on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, starting at 6pm. Our November meeting was held at STRAC building in, San Antonio. We conducted a Stop The Bleed class for instructors.

And, our TNCC and ENPC classes are on-going. With so much emphasis on Pediatric Readiness, you might consider renewing your ENPC!

TNCC Provider Course!

December 2-3, 2023

Contact: Susan Douglass
susan.douglass1948@yahoo.com
or (210) 215-5540

STRAC Building
7500 US-90 #1,
San Antonio, TX 78227

For more information and registration
see the SAENA website:

<https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/tbcc/>

Mark Your Calendars!

SAENA 2024 Meeting Dates!
2nd Tuesday of the month,
6pm – 8pm

January 9th – St. Luke's Baptist Hospital, Strunk Classroom, 7930 Floyd Curl Drive, SA 78229

February 13th

March 12th

April 9th

May 14th

June 11th - Networking

July 9th

August 13th

September – No meeting

October 8th

November 12th

December 10th - Dinner meeting

See the SAENA website's Meeting page for locations:

<https://www.sanantonioena.org/meetings/>

Another date to put on your calendar is December 12. This is the date of our annual Christmas Party, officer installation and White Elephant exchange. This year we will be holding the event at Ladybird Beer Garden, 447 W. Hildebrand, SA, TX 78212. This is a quirky little place with a great enclosed patio area. Please join us for an evening of fun and good cheer as we celebrate the holidays and our new officers.

This year has been a whirlwind for me, but because I've gotten so much support, it has flown by and I'm really sorry to see it end. I extend my gratitude to all of you for all that you do for our patients and each other. May you have the happiest of holidays, may you be safe.

Respectfully,



Diane Walcutt, BSN, RN, CEN
SAENA President, 2023

SAENA's NEW MEMBERS

The SAENA welcomes our new members who joined since September 16, 2023:

**Mohamed M Bel Hadj Ali, Terri Dial,
Lizzette Martinez, Jaclyn Jimenez,
Christina Perez, Stephanie Deanna Flores**

2024 TNCC / ENPC Courses!

***Dates for the 2024 TNCC
and ENPC Provider and
Instructor Courses will be
published soon on the
SAENA website. Watch the
Education page for more
information!***

**[https://www.sanantonioena.org/
education/](https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/)**

2024 Texas ENA Meetings

Q1 – Jan. 11-13th Killeen

- Jan. 11th – Toyota PECC Meeting
- Jan. 12th – Leadership Conference
- Jan. 13th – General Assembly

Q2 – April 13, 2024

Q3 – July 13, 2024

Q4 – October 19, 2024

**For location and hotel info check the
Meetings page of the TxENA website.**

<https://txena.org/meetings/>

SAVE THE DATE!

EN24

Las Vegas: September 4 - 7, 2024

Registration starts November 15, 2023 (Register now for the least expensive registration fee!)

Early Bird Registration starts January 31, 2024

<https://www.ena.org/events/2024/09/04/ena-annual-conferences/emergency-nursing-2024>

Safety Whys

Babysitting Training Course Update!

San Antonio ENA is looking forward to having its first Co-Sponsor Safety Whys Class with Safe Kids of the University Health system, with Fara Smith being the Co-Coordinator.

For more information on the Safety Whys Babysitter Training Course see the SAENA website at <https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/safetywhys/> or contact Barbara Baldwin at bbaldwin@satx.rr.com or 210 695-9838

What's Happening and What's New?

What's Happening and What's New for Nursing Practice?

- **National Diabetes Month: Empowering Nurses to Elevate Diabetes Care** - November marks #NationalDiabetesMonth, and this year's theme, *"Take Charge of Tomorrow: Preventing Diabetes Health Problems,"* is aimed at helping build awareness and support people in managing their diabetes care. Explore how this theme empowers nurses to lead the charge in preventing diabetes-related health issues. Visit the website to access the resources and insights that will equip you to make a difference in diabetes care. (From AACN Watch) <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/community-health-outreach/national-diabetes-month>
- **ESI Version 5 for Needle Sticks (From the ENA Huddle discussion)** The ESI version 5 on Page 18 lists several "high-risk" conditions which are ESI Level 2. Included in this list is "A needle stick in a health care worker (time sensitive to post exposure prophylaxis treatment)".

Per CDC recommendations:

1. Immediately seek medical evaluation from a qualified health care professional¹ because, in some cases, post exposure treatment may be recommended and should be started as soon as possible.
2. If Occupational Health is open or has a protocol which involves a provider, then the employee possibly could be referred to them.

The decision by the provider to order and give antivirals should occur within 2 hours of the exposure. Sometimes the source patient must be evaluated for HIV. Female patients may need pregnancy screening. Making the patient a Level 2 and expediting their care is

appropriate. Sometimes the patient is not an employee of the hospital, but medical personnel from the community.

It is helpful to have the number below for the providers: Health care professionals caring for exposed health care workers can call the National Clinicians' Post-exposure Prophylaxis Hotline (PEPLINE) for advice on managing occupational exposures to HIV and hepatitis B and C viruses. PEPLINE is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at 1-888-448-4911

- **Competency-Based Education for Practice-Ready Nurse Graduates** *Funded by the American Nurses Foundation's Reimagining Nursing Initiative (From AACN News watch)*
AACN is pleased to showcase the work of 10 pilot schools working to advance Competency-Based Education for Practice-Ready Nurse Graduates, an AACN project funded through the American Nurses Foundation's Reimagining Nursing Initiative. In this video, Dr. Monica Hughes from Texas State University shares her school's journey toward competency-based education (CBE). [Watch the video](#) and learn more about Texas State's focus on Domain 10: Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development. <https://vocalvideo.com/v/aacn-texas-state-CBE-spotlight-essentials>
- **Nurses at the Table: Nominate a Nurse Today!** *If you, or someone you know, has expertise or experience related to the below opportunities, please submit names and other information using this [nomination form](#). This form will be updated as new federal opportunities arise.*

Below are seven federal opportunities that are currently open for nominations:

- [Office of the Secretary, Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee](#)
- [Advisory Committee on Breast Cancer in Young Women](#)
- [National Research Advisory Council](#)
- [Voting Member for the Digital Health Advisory Committee](#)
- [Individuals and Consumer Organizations for Advisory Committees](#)
- [Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines](#)
- [Advisory Committee on Organ Transplantation](#)

Please work to ensure more nurses are at the federal policy table!

What's Happening and What's New in Government Affairs?

Local (San Antonio)

1. Adopted Budget

1. ***The Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 was presented to City Council. The Budget Document serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device for the City. [View FY 2024 Adopted Budget \(PDF\)](#)***

State

Voting was held on November 7th with several propositions on the ballot. A couple which may/could impact healthcare are listed. (Exerts from Texas Tribune)

- **Proposition 5 creates new endowment for ‘emerging’ research universities**
 1. Helps other “emerging” research universities across the state enhance their research capabilities with the goal of joining the top public institutions across the country.
 2. Public universities have two main goals: educating students and advancing knowledge through research that betters society.
 3. The money would help the school increase enrollment and meet workforce needs in North Texas. Texas State officials said they plan to recruit more faculty whose research focuses on artificial intelligence, life sciences, energy and semiconductors.
- **Proposition 10** will increase private investments in Texas, provide faster access to life-saving trials and solutions, strengthen Texas’ medical supply chain and decrease reliance on foreign countries, support job growth and generate high-paying jobs, and make Texas more competitive in the medical manufacturing of medical and biomedical devices, drug therapies, PPE, and other critical health care solutions.
 1. Make Texas more competitive in medical manufacturing.
 2. Most of the newest life-saving saving drugs, vaccines, and med devices are more likely to be made in Texas.
 3. Strengthen Texas’ supply chain and decrease reliance on foreign countries.
 4. Medical and biomedical manufacturing in Texas will decrease supply chain disruptions.
 5. Texas is the ideal location for Life-saving trials and solutions.

Federal

Washington Update (November, 2023)

- **North Carolina Enacts Workplace Violence Prevention Law**
 North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper recently signed into law H.B. 125 which contains several new provisions related to the health care workforce in the state. Included among these are new requirements for hospitals in the state to protect workers from violence. In addition to developing and implementing a workplace violence prevention plan that includes considerations about facility security and staff training, the law requires every hospital with an emergency department to conduct a security risk assessment and develop and implement a security plan that includes having one law enforcement officer present at all times, with some limited exceptions. The new law also amended North Carolina’s existing felony assault statute to extend felony protections to all health care workers. Previous law only covered hospital personnel and licensed health care workers providing care to a patient.
- **Senate Field Hearing Highlights Nurse Staffing Crisis**
 On Oct. 27, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee held a **field hearing** in New Brunswick, New Jersey, highlighting the myriad issues associated with the nurse staffing crisis currently affecting the nation. Chairman Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. discussed the staffing challenges the country faces including the inability of the system to educate the number of qualified students because of a lack of nursing educators, inadequate working conditions many nurses are forced to work under, workplace violence and lack of support during the pandemic. <https://www.help.senate.gov/hearings/overworked-and-undervalued-is-the-severe-hospital-staffing-crisis-endangering-the-well-being-of-patients-and-nurses>

Among the recommendations discussed by the witnesses was the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (S. 1176/ H.R. 2663), which

would compel OSHA to issue a national standard related to workplace violence to mitigate the impact and lasting effect of workplace violence has on nurses and other workers.

The Senate HELP Committee recently approved a bipartisan package to address the health care workforce shortage. Unfortunately, this package did not include ENA priorities for the staffing shortage, such as the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act or the Future Advancement of Academic Nursing Act.

<https://www.help.senate.gov/chair/newsroom/press/news-chairman-sanders-statement-on-help-committee-bipartisan-passage-of-historic-primary-care-and-workforce-legislation>

Current ENA Legislative Priorities

Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act\

- **Current Status:** Rep. Joe Courtney, D-Conn., introduced H.R. 2663 on April 18. It was referred to the Education & Workforce, Energy & Commerce and Ways & Means committees to await further action. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisc., introduced S. 1176 on April 18. It was referred to the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee to await further action.

House Bill: [H.R. 5414](#) Senate Bill: [S. 1346](#)

Prevent BLEEDing Act

- **Current Status:** Sen. Robert Menendez, D- N.J, introduced S. 1653 on May 17 where it was referred to the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee to await further action. House introduction is expected soon.

Senate Bill: [S. 1653](#)

MISSION Zero Act

- **Current Status:** Rep. Michael Burgess, R-Tex., and Rep. Kathy Castor, D-Fla., introduced H.R. 2416 on June 13. It was referred to the Energy & Commerce Committee to await further action. Senate introduction is expected soon.

House Bill: [H.R. 2416](#)

EN411 Grassroots Advocacy

Members of Congress need to hear from their constituents – this means you!
Action Alerts highlight some of our priorities before the House and Senate.

[**Support Stop the Bleed Efforts Around the Country!**](#)

[**Tell the Senate to Address the ED Mental Health Boarding Crisis!**](#)

[**Support Emergency Nurses Against Workplace Violence!**](#)

If you haven't signed up already, click below and never miss another Action Alert again! [Join EN411](#)

For any questions or concerns contact littlemommanurse@aol.com



Mary Leblond, MSN, RN, CEN, CA-SANE, CP-SANE, FAEN
Chair of the Nursing Practice and the Government Affairs Committees

Concepts of Emergency and Critical Care Nursing - 2023 A Success!!



Leslie Hinson provides insight into the LGBTQIA2S + Community

91 nurses and students attended the daylong conference in - person or virtually!



Cam Brandt lectures on Pediatric Sepsis and Readiness



Conference attendees enjoying The Pre-Conference Dinner and lecture on Management of Factor Xa, sponsored by Astra Zeneca!





SAENA Shirts!

SAENA has new Chapter shirts!

Two styles of the SAENA purple shirts:

- “Golf Shirt”
- “Fishing shirt”

Prices are \$35 - \$45+ per shirt based on style and size.

Only cash or check will be accepted when ordering.

Pick up of the ordered shirts can be done at a SAENA Business meeting.

For more information contact Diane Walcutt at 210-387-7236, or Janet Pena via text at 210-363-1662.

NOTE: Sizes of both styles run small!

YOUR 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Diane Walcutt

President Elect: Barbara Baldwin

Past President: Carol Twombly

Treasurer: Erick Christensen

Secretary: Sandra Tellez

Directors: Janet Pena and Dustin English

Opting Out

If you wish to opt out of receiving this Newsletter or other SAENA announcements, please notify the SAENA at cltwombly@aol.com

YOUR 2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws / Policies: Barbara Baldwin

Election Process: Carol Twombly

Media: Michael Moon

Trauma / QSIP / TNCC: Susan Douglass,
QSIP Co-chair: Barbara Baldwin

Pediatrics / ENPC: Diane Walcutt

Government Affairs / Nursing Practice: Mary Leblond

Membership: Tabitha Selvester

Fundraising / Conference: Janet Pena
Co-chair: Dorine Barbre

Professional Education: Leslie Hinson

Newsletter: Carol Twombly

Scholarship: Thomas Culwell

Texas Board of Nursing - Continuing Education Requirements for RNs

All Texas RNs are reminded to review the Texas Board of Nursing's mandatory continuing education re-licensure requirements located on the website at
https://www.bon.texas.gov/education_continuing_education.asp#D

There are several factors which must be kept in mind when reviewing the information on the website:

- Course content must meet the stipulation requirements of the Texas Board of Nursing
- The time frame or licensure cycle for repeating the requirement differs from course to course
- The RN's practice type and/or 'float unit' may determine if a nurse needs to take a course
- Advance Practice RNs (APRN) have additional course requirements than RNs
- Course requirements are not automatically met with certification
- Additional education requirements may be added at any time. These requirements are announced in the Texas Board of Nursing's Bulletin.

Current RN Requirements:

- Forensics Evidence Collection
- Older Adult and Geriatric Care
- Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics
- *Human Trafficking Prevention

**Must be an approved Texas HHS course.*

Current APRN Requirements:

- Pharmacotherapeutics
- Tick-Borne Diseases
- *Pain management and prescription of opioids
- *Prescription of opioids
- Authorization to receive information from the Texas Prescription Monitoring Program

** All APRNs with prescriptive authority authorized to prescribe opioids*

***The SAENA wishes you and
yours a***



Happy Thanksgiving!!