

**THE HIGHLIGHT
THE SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 50, NUMBER 3
3RD QUARTER 2024**



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

WOW! What an ENA Conference in Las Vegas!! Starting out at the General Assembly, beginning with a sea of red shirts & the next day blue: Texas ENA definitely made its presence known. Lots of discussions on 9 Resolutions. Was so proud of Bill & Dorine Barbre from our San Antonio ENA for their Resolution (which passed by a 98% margin!) for support in bringing Case Management or Social Workers into the ED setting. Let's make it happen.

At the Anita Dorr Luncheon, Susan Douglass, accompanied by her husband, Eddie, was honored by receiving the ENA's Judith C. Kelleher Award. Below is a script sent me from ENA (along with an edit at the end!) for introducing Susan's video at the Closing Celebration on Saturday.

"As prestigious awards go at ENA, they don't get much bigger than the Judith C. Kelleher Award. Named for one of ENA's trailblazing co-founders - a woman I am proud to say had a profound influence on me - the award represents the best of who we all are as emergency nurses."

Not one of us goes to work every day thinking about awards or being recognized, but a funny thing happens

SAENA Meetings

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

• **October 8th –**

2024 BOARD ELECTIONS!

Peterson Regional Medical Center Kerrville. Presentation: *You're Doing What? Merging Harm Reduction and Trauma Informed Care in Emergency Care*

• **November 12th - Encompass Health Rehab, 9119 Cinnamon Hill, SA 78240.**

• **December 10th – Dinner Meeting. El Chaparral Mexican Restaurant. 15103 Bandera Road, Helotes, Tx 78240**

White Elephant Gift Exchange!



(limit \$20)



Meetings are currently being held in-person and via Zoom. If your facility would like to host a SAENA Business meeting contact: Barabara Baldwin at bbaldwin@satx.rr.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/

when we do our best for others, for our patients and for our communities - people see it and bring attention to it.

Susan Douglass, for more than 50 years, dedicated herself to patient care and injury prevention. Susan recently retired, and what do we ALL know about ED nurses? THEY DON'T REALLY RETIRE!

Next year the ENA Conference is in New Orleans! Get your Mardi Gras beads ready!!

Respectfully,



Barbara Baldwin, RN, FAEN
SAENA President 2024

Join ENA!



Use QR code or, go to
<https://www.ena.org/membership/join>

What's Hot!

SAENA 2024 Board of Directors Election!

October 8th

Peterson Regional Medical Center – Kerrville

Current Nominations:

- **President-elect: Dustin English**
- **Secretary: Carol Twombly**
- **Treasurer-elect: Diane Walcutt**
- **Director: Susan Douglass**

If you wish to run for a position on the SAENA Board of Directors, contact Diane Walcutt at dianewalcutt@yahoo.com or (210) 387-7236

Members attending the meeting virtually are eligible to vote!

Nominations will be accepted from the floor if candidate meets eligibility criteria for position. Eligibility Criteria – see Article V, SAENA Bylaws at https://www.sanantonioena.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023_10_10_Revised_SAENA-2020-Bylaws.pdf

2024 TNCC Provider Courses!

October 5 – 6

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

**For more information and registration
see the SAENA website:**

<https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/tncc/> or

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

2024 ENPC Provider Courses!

November 2 - 3

**For more information see
<https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/enpc/> or**

**Contact: Diane Walcutt
dianewalcutt@yahoo.com or
(210) 387-7236**

SAENA's NEW MEMBERS

The SAENA welcomes our new members who joined since June 11, 2024:

Ann Marie Rincones, Haley Baggette, Jerry T Hames, Rebecka Barry, Adrianna Janay Beattie, Samantha Chapa, Haley M Chessman, Ana Cieszynski, Carson Collins, Jessica Denard, Sandra L Durham, Rosa M Eshoo, Lena Evans, Wesli Evans, Jessica Flores, Nancy Garcia ,Ashley Gonzales, Anisa Gonzalez, Hunter Hernandez, Kristen LeDoux, Amber McDonald, Duyen McGrew, Alicia Munoz, Elise Pedone, Crysty Ann Pitre, Robin Renee Poland, Andrea Previde, Emily Ramsey, Mario Joel Rodriguez, Mirella Rodriguez, Mindy L Smith, Virginia Vela, Crystal Lee Wiedenhoeft, Kathleen Wyers, Shauna Youngblood, Brittany Bell, Enrique Berna, Venus Bock, Katherine Chard ,Teresa Marie Elizondo, Sarah Hock, Erin Jones, Lori Keck, Katherine Mancha, Yvonne McArthur, Riley McGinnis, Jenel Kristen Mendoza, Cassandra M Onofre, Rene Ramos, Vicki Dehaven, Steven Garcia, Jennifer Crosby, Adam Schweninger, Erik Arellano, Kaycee Cubriel, Maria Rosa, Sylvia Zumwalt, Wendy Karina Cazares Garcia, Katherine Hill, Rachel Tomeff, Travis Weilbacher, Ryan Adams, Autumn Buell, Matthew Modesitt, Amber Pawlik, Mary I Perez, Gerardo Quevedo, Joyce A Blanco, Sheanna Carnes, Julie Dodson, Abigail Dubay, Kasey Duquette, Daniel Gonzalez, Scott Malaby Green, Regina Marie Hickok, Cassandra Ann Leal, Amy Martinez, Penny M Myers, Salma Nasser, Hillary Nieto, Sabrina L Perez ,Luke Pontillano, Rebecca Renee Powe, Amanda Michelle Rodriguez, Anahi Saldana, Meghan Schaeffer, Amie Shaw, Hillary Staples, Kaliene N Ybarra, Dennis A Aquino, Shayna Barney, Juan Chavez, Adriana Chavez, Lea E Cisneros, Kendra P Dickinson, Courtne C Faron, Elisa R Hernandez, Amber Kinlead, Luis R Rivera Soto, Midiam Roman, Natalie Serna, Dakota Smith ,Andrea Sosa, Stephanie Tamayo, Lauren Webb, Christine A Bartlow, Sarah D Blevins, Mary Beth Burleson, Darlene Lise Heavin, Angelina Rodriguez, Yadira Sanchez, Shannon Marie Charles, Nicole M Flores, Raven R Gomez, Dawn Jauga, Grace Leanor Jennings, Cynthia Denise Lancaster, Maricella Lopez, David Neave, Virginia V. Rios, Jamie Salinas, Christine Segovia, Jessica Sellers, Kiersten Bolin, Mikaela Hoffman, Lauren Jones, Mary Ranara, Stephanie Salazar, Kristen Taber, Jordan Thomas, Andrea Wade, Kaliqua Warrior, Landon Colson, Shaquetta Bertrand, Amanda Fortuna, Calvin Miller, Joel Moncado, Robert M Baldwin, Alex Joel Melendez Chaparro, Meghan Christensen, Robin Galvez, Brenda E Cowey, Bernabe Carrell Montejano, Mary R Anker, Jason William Bennett, and Demi Ramirez

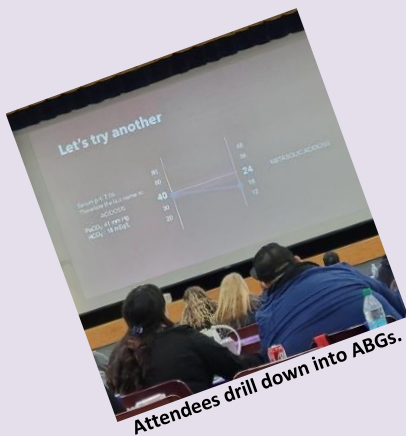
SAENA 2024 Conference A Hit!

SAENA's annual educational conference, *Concepts of Emergency and Critical Care Nursing – 2024*, held on August 22nd, was an over-whelming success!

The conference started out with a *bite*....at the pre-conference dinner sponsored by Kedrion at the Paesanos Ristorante. The dinner included not only great food but also a lecture on Understanding Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) presented by Karl H. Kappeler, MS, RPH, FASHP.



Bright and early the next morning the conference opened with registration and breakfast. 113 people attended with a record 46 attending virtually from as far away as the England and California.



SAENA President Barbara Baldwin
Welcomes the attendees!



Bill Barbre, conference MC and
presenter

The seven presentations were extremely well received by the attendees due to the exceptional quality of the lecture content related to OB emergencies, resilience, discerning ABGs, pediatric respiratory emergencies, 2-wheel vehicle accidents, cardiac dysrhythmias, and human trafficking. A special

thanks goes out to Muriel Lanford who volunteered, on short notice, to provide her *Human Trafficking: Training for the Healthcare Professionals* when another speaker was unable to present.

In addition, a Texas size THANK YOU! must be given to the sponsors who supported Emergency and Critical Care nurses with their sponsorships and exhibits. Without their generosity, the SAENA would not be able to organize and provide the educational conference every year.

Sponsors were presented a Thank You Gift Bag by Diane Walcutt, SAENA Past President.



Kedrion – Gold Sponsor



City Ambulance – Gold Sponsor



CSL Behring – Gold Sponsor



Clarity Child Guidance Center – Silver Sponsor



Ultragen – Silver Sponsor



Chiesi – Silver Sponsor



BTG – Bronze Sponsor

Join us next year for the SAENA's educational conference, *Concepts of Emergency and Critical Care Nursing – 2025!* Watch the SAENA website for more information starting in January 2025.

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

Thanks to all the sponsors of the conference!

Gold Sponsors:



Silver Sponsors:



Bronze Sponsors:





CONGRATULATIONS! SUSAN DOUGLASS!

The San Antonio Emergency Nurses Association congratulates Susan Douglass, winner of the ENA's prestigious Judith F. Kelleher Award for 2024. The award was presented to Susie at the Anita Dorr Luncheon during ENA's 2024 Emergency Nursing Conference in Las Vega on September 5, 2024. The award recognized Susie's consistent demonstration of excellence in emergency nursing and her significant contributions to the profession and to ENA.

What's Happening and What's New? Nursing Practice & Government Affairs

What's Happening and What's New In Nursing?

- **Too Much Coffee Linked to Accelerated Cognitive Decline** Publish date: August 1, 2024 By [Pauline Anderson](#) in *Neurology Reviews* (excerpts)
 1. Drinking more than three cups of coffee a day is linked to more rapid cognitive decline over time, results from a large study suggest.
 2. Investigators examined the impact of different amounts of coffee and tea on fluid intelligence — a measure of cognitive functions including abstract reasoning, pattern recognition, and logical thinking.
 3. Coffee is one of the most widely consumed beverages around the world. The beans contain a range of bioactive compounds, including caffeine, chlorogenic acid, and small amounts of vitamins and minerals.
 4. Consistent evidence from observational and epidemiologic studies indicates that intake of both coffee and tea has beneficial effects on stroke, heart failure, cancers, diabetes, and Parkinson's disease. A version of this article first appeared on [Medscape.com](#).
- **Illnesses Can Now Bill Under New Medicare Codes** Publish date: August 27, 2024 By [Kerry Dooley Young](#) (excerpts)
 1. Medicare has for many years paid for medical professionals to help patients cope with the complexities of disease, such as chronic care management (CCM) provided by physicians, nurses, and physician assistants.
 2. The new principal illness navigation (PIN) payments are intended to pay for work that to date typically has been done by people without medical degrees, including those involved in peer support networks and community health programs. The US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) expects these navigators will undergo training and work under the supervision of clinicians.
 3. The new navigators may coordinate care transitions between medical settings, follow up with patients after emergency department (ED) visits, or communicate with skilled nursing facilities regarding the psychosocial needs and functional deficits of a patient, among other functions
 4. Conduct assessments to understand a patient's life story, strengths, needs, goals, preferences, and desired outcomes, including understanding cultural and linguistic factors.
 5. Provide support to accomplish the clinician's treatment plan.
 6. Coordinate the receipt of needed services from healthcare facilities, home- and community-based service providers, and caregivers. The new navigators can be former patients who have undergone similar treatments for serious diseases, CMS said. This approach sets the new program apart from other care management services Medicare already covers, program officials wrote in [the 2024 physician fee schedule](#).
 7. The navigators are meant to be a trusted and continual presence for patients, who otherwise might be left to start anew in finding help at each phase of care.

- **Long COVID symptom severity varies widely by age, gender, and socioeconomic status**
Dr. Sushama R. Chaphalkar, PhD. Reviewed by Benedette Cuffari, M.Sc. Sep 2 2024
(excerpts)
 1. What factors increase the risk of long COVID? Several months after recovering from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), patients with LC may continue to suffer from numerous symptoms, some of which include fatigue, brain fog, and chest pain. The prevalence of LC varies, with estimates ranging from 10-30% in non-hospitalized cases to 50-70% in hospitalized patients.
 2. Although 23% of patients experienced symptoms only once, 77% experienced symptoms multiple times. Corroborating with existing literature, the most prevalent symptoms included pain, neuropsychological issues, fatigue, and dyspnea, which affected 26.5%, 18.4%, 14.3%, and 7.4% of the cohort, respectively. Symptoms such as palpitations, light-headedness, insomnia, cough, diarrhea, and tinnitus were less prevalent.
 3. Females also reported higher symptom intensity than males, by 9.2%. Non-White individuals experienced higher symptom intensity by 23.5% as compared to White individuals.

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

State Government Affairs

- ***Texas parents gain new tools to control their teen's social media use (Texas Tribune.)***
 1. A new law gives parents more power over a child's actions on social media, but only if the parent knows about the account. By Pooja Salhotra Sept. 9, 2024
 2. Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, rolled out parental control features in Texas last week to comply with House Bill 18, the Securing Children Online Through Parental Empowerment Act, which went into effect Sept. 1. The Legislature passed it last year to restrict kids from seeing harmful material on the internet, such as content promoting self-harm or substance abuse, while also giving parents more power to regulate what their child does online.
 3. Texas is among a growing number of states that have passed laws limiting tech companies' interactions with children, citing research that found a link between social media use and negative psychological well-being among youth. Texas lawmakers also raised concerns about the vast amounts of data tech companies could be collecting from minors.
 4. Currently, there are some lawsuits have been filed related to this bill and the full impact will be determined.
- **November 5th is Election Day for determining the Nation's President, Senators, and Representatives.**
 1. Texas voters will vote for President of the United States (a 4 year term), a United State Senator (a six year term), and all 38 United States Representatives (2 year terms).
 2. Texas will vote for other specific Texas positions as well as 15 State Senators (a 4-year term), and all 150 State Representatives (a 2 year term).

3. Obtain a ballot from the Texas Elections and review the voting options and specifics to this year's elections.
- **Texas ENA With Other Stakeholders Presents a Work Place Violence Summit in Austin August 23, 2024**
 1. The work group is held a 1-day interdisciplinary event where all appropriate stakeholders were able to discuss how healthcare facilities will implement SB 240, successful prosecution of WPV, and barriers to prosecution. Potential speakers presented issues to representatives from law enforcement, district attorney, Texas ENA, Texas Nurses Association, Texas Hospital Association, and other health organizations. The goal of event was to guide discussion around inconsistencies in reporting, charging, and prosecution. The event was initiated by the Texas ENA Government Affairs Committee. There will be a report on the event at the 4th Quarter TxENA meeting in October.

National Government Affairs

(Excerpts from Washington Update August, 2024 and updates from this writer)

- **Congress Returns from Recesses After Labor Day**
 1. ENA's priorities will include longstanding programs such as the Emergency Medical Services for Children Program and the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection **Act. Both expire this year unless Congress acts to reauthorize them.** The EMSC program has provided critical resources to EDs to improve pediatric emergency care since 1984. The Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act was first passed in 2022 during the COVID-19 pandemic and provides funding to support health care professionals against burnout and mental fatigue. Without the enactment of both bills, it will be more difficult for organizations such as ENA to advocate for more funding or improvements to the programs. Both chambers after the Labor Day holiday will begin to address the looming Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations funding deadline by Sept. 30 or risk forcing another federal government shutdown
 2. **ENA Supports Legislation to Explore ED Fentanyl Testing**
In 2022, opioids killed more than 83,000 people in the United States, and Fentanyl was responsible for nearly all of them. The availability of this easily-synthesized and lethal drug has exploded during the last decade, leaving communities reeling and health care providers helpless to provide relief to patients. The ENA-endorsed Tyler's Law ([H.R. 6600/S. 3519](#)) would require the Department of Health and Human Services to study the feasibility of regularly testing overdose patients for Fentanyl, and issue guidance for hospitals on the matter. ENA has previously supported efforts to improve care for patients dealing with substance use issues and overdose, including the Alternatives to Opioids in the Emergency Department Act.
 3. **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, 2023. 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, 2023. It was referred to the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee to await further action.

House Bill: [H.R. 2584](#) **Senate Bill:** [S. 2768](#)

- **Safety From Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act**

Current Status: Rep. Larry Bucshon, R-Ind., introduced H.R. 2584 on April 13, 2023. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee to await further action. Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., introduced S. 2768 on Sept. 12, 2023. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee to await further action.

House Bill: [H.R. 2584](#) **Senate Bill:** [S. 2768](#)

- **Emergency Medical Services for Children Reauthorization Act**

Current Status: Rep. Buddy Carter, R-Ga., introduced H.R. 6960 on Jan. 11. It was referred to the Energy & Commerce Committee. On May 15, H.R. 6960 passed in the House of Representatives by a 399-13 vote. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Penn., introduced S. 3765 on Feb. 7. It was approved by the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee on May 23. It now awaits action by the Senate.

House Bill: [H.R. 6960](#) **Senate Bill:** [S. 3765](#)

- **Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act**

Current Status: Rep. Susan Wild, D-Pa., introduced H.R. 7153 on Jan. 30. On March 20, H.R. 7153 was approved during an Energy & Commerce Committee markup. It now awaits action by the House of Representatives. Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., introduced S. 3679 on Jan. 30. It was approved under a HELP Committee Markup on May 23. It now awaits action by the Senate.

House Bill: [H.R. 7153](#) **Senate Bill:** [S. 3679](#)

As an added note: **A study states:** Female physicians still at a greater risk for suicide versus the general populations and According to background information from the American College of Emergency Physicians, around 300 to 400 doctors die by suicide in the United States annually.

- **Improving Access to Mental Health from the Emergency Department Act**

Current Status: Rep. Raul Ruiz, D-Calif., introduced H.R. 5414 on Sept. 12, 2023. It was referred to the Energy & Commerce Committee to await further action. Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, R-W. Va., introduced S.1346 on April 28, 2023. It was referred to the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee to await further action

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

- **Mission Zero Act**

Current Status: Rep. Michael Burgess, R-Texas, and Rep. Kathy Castor, D-Fla., introduced H.R. 2416 on June 13, 2023. 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

To join EN411 use the QR code
or go to <https://votervoice.net/ENA/register>



For any questions or concerns contact littlemommanurse@aol.com



Mary Leblond, MSN, RN, CEN, CA-SANE, CP-SANE, FAEN
Chair Government Affairs Committees

2024 Texas ENA Meeting

4th Quarter – October 19th – Arlington, Texas

For meeting location - check the Meetings page of the TxENA website at
<https://txena.org/meetings/>

Meeting Hotel – Hilton Arlington

2401 East Lamar Boulevard Arlington TX 76606-7503

ENA Rate \$145.00 Options: King Bed and 2 Double Beds

Must book prior to September 27th to receive ENA rate.

YOUR 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Barbara Baldwin

President Elect: Leslie Hinson

Past President: Diane Walcutt

Treasurer: Erick Christensen

Secretary: Carol Twombly

Directors: Dustin English and Lisa King

YOUR 2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws / Policies: Leslie Hinson

Election Process: Diane Walcutt

Media: Michael Moon

Trauma / QSIP / TNCC: Susan Douglass,

QSIP Co-chair: Barbara Baldwin

Pediatrics / ENPC: Diane Walcutt

Government Affairs : Mary Leblond

Membership: Dorine Barbre

Fundraising /Conference: Janet Pena

Professional Education/Newsletter: Carol
Twombly

Scholarship: Thomas Culwell

Opting Out

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



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.

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*