

**THE HIGHLIGHT
THE SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 50, NUMBER 4
4TH QUARTER 2024**



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

As this year draws to a close, I want to thank all of you for your support and expertise—especially in the technical field (I realized how much out of the loop I was, when I brought a dictionary to the meeting!!!)

Each year, the President wants to leave a memento for their year. Last year, I was so thankful for Diane Walcutt leading the way for having our meetings on the 2nd Tuesdays. On the 3rd Mondays, we were so many times needing to adjust the date, as it interfered with a National Holiday.

Leslie Hinson is ahead of the game with her idea of initiating giving CEN Recognition Plaques to the Emergency Departments. This year was a learning curve for how long the plaques take to order & then developing our SAENA name plate and having it attached. Going forward, we want distribute the plaques during Emergency Nurses Week.

So, with my year, I'm hoping those who could participate in our "Activity Breaks" enjoyed them, and to realize one needs to be aware, of the need to "take a break" every so often. Initiating the meeting sites into Quarter Sets and developing a Team effort in taking on each quarter, was



SAENA Meetings

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

- **January 14, 2025**
Methodist Hospital (Main)
7700 Floyd Curl Drive San
Antonio, Texas 78229 Rio Grande
Room, 4th floor
- **February 11, 2025**
- **March 11, 2025**
- **April 8, 2025**
- **June 10, 2025 Networking**
Meeting
- **July 8, 2025**
- **August 12, 2025**

*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/

another goal. What we are after, is a continuum of meeting sites, by having a contact agree to hosting once a year. This keeps a nice flow for knowing where to anticipate meetings. (And any ED Nurse KNOWS, sometimes, there needs to be last minute adjustments) Have a Very Merry Christmas & Wonderful New Year

Respectfully,



Barbara Baldwin, RN, FAEN
SAENA President 2024

Congratulations to the 2025 SAENA Board of Directors!

SAENA Board of Directors (BOD) elections were held on October 8th. The following members will be the 2025 SAENA BOD:

President: Leslie Hinson
President Elect: Dustin English
Immediate Past President: Barbara Baldwin
Treasurer: Diane Walcutt
Secretary: Carol Twombly
Directors: Lisa King and Susan Douglass

Congratulations to the 2025 SAENA Committee Chairs!

Bylaws/Policies: Dustin English
Election Process: Barbara Baldwin
Media: Yvonne Moseley
Trauma / QSIP / TNCC: Susan Douglass
Co-Chair – Barbara Baldwin
Pediatrics / ENPC: Diane Walcutt
Government Affairs: Mary Leblond
Membership: Co-Chairs - Dorine Barbre and Janet Pena
Fundraising: Linda Simpson
Professional Education: Co-Chairs - Leslie Hinson and Carol Twombly
Scholarship: Thomas Culwell
Conference: Lisa King

Best wishes for a prosperous and progressive 2025!

What's Hot!

4 for Texas Nurses: Required Nursing

Education

April 10, 2025

Virtual Seminar!

***Courses: Forensics,
Geriatrics, Nursing
Jurisprudence and
Ethics, Human
Trafficking***

***Each course meets the
Texas Board of Nursing
education requirements for
Texas nurses.***

***See the flyer below or the
registration info on the SAENA***

Website at:

www.sanantonioena.org

Concepts of Emergency and Critical Care Nursing - 2025

August 19, 2025

***7 hours of nursing
education***

See flyer below

SAENA Celebrates 2024!

On December 10th, members of the SAENA gathered at the El Chaparral Restaurant in Helotes, Texas to celebrate a successful 2024, swear in new officers and honor members who showed outstanding commitment to emergency nurses and the SAENA during the year!



Leslie Hinson is sworn in as 2025 President by current President Barbara Baldwin.



Carol Twombly is presented with the President's Award for her support of the Chapter in 2024.



President Barbara Baldwin is presented with a Thank You gift for all her hard work during 2024!



SAENA members and guests

2025 TNCC Provider Courses!

February 1-2, 2025

May 3-4, 2025

August 16-17, 2025

October 25-26, 2025

STRAC Building

7500 US-90 #1,

San Antonio, TX 78227

For more information see

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

Contact: Susan Douglass

susan.douglass1948@yahoo.com

or (210) 215-5540

2025 ENPC Provider Courses!

March 15-16, 2025

August 2-4, 2025

December 6-7, 2025

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 August 16, 2024:

Deborah A Botello, Clarissa Verastegui, Norma Velazquez, Isela Martinez, Lydia O Oyewo, Sophia Marie Hepburn, Calvin Gabriel Rivas, Dylan Nessman, Monika Jagdish Rupani, Carrie Robinson, Sabrina Cervantes, Samantha Allison, Irwin Lex Sierra, Amanda Hames, Amy Phillippe, Darren Harris, Karen Armendariz. Kelly Anne Fula, Allison Laquey, Valeria Stephanie Pineda-santos, Jean Jones, and Felicia Alejandro.



SAENA Helps Celebrates ER Nurses Week!

The SAENA helped nurses celebrate *ER Nurses Week* by delivering candy and thanks to 84 facilities across the Chapter. It was wonderful to see the hard working nurses and staff in the EDs and freestanding facilities light up when an SAENA member walked in with the purple bag full of sweet treats.



Medina Healthcare System




Baptist Medical Center



Dimmit Regional Hospital



Full Spectrum ER - Rim



San Antonio Emergency Nurses Association

Wishes You a Happy
Emergency Nurses Week!
October 6-12, 2024

Thank you for all your hard work and efforts on behalf of your patients, families and the community.

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



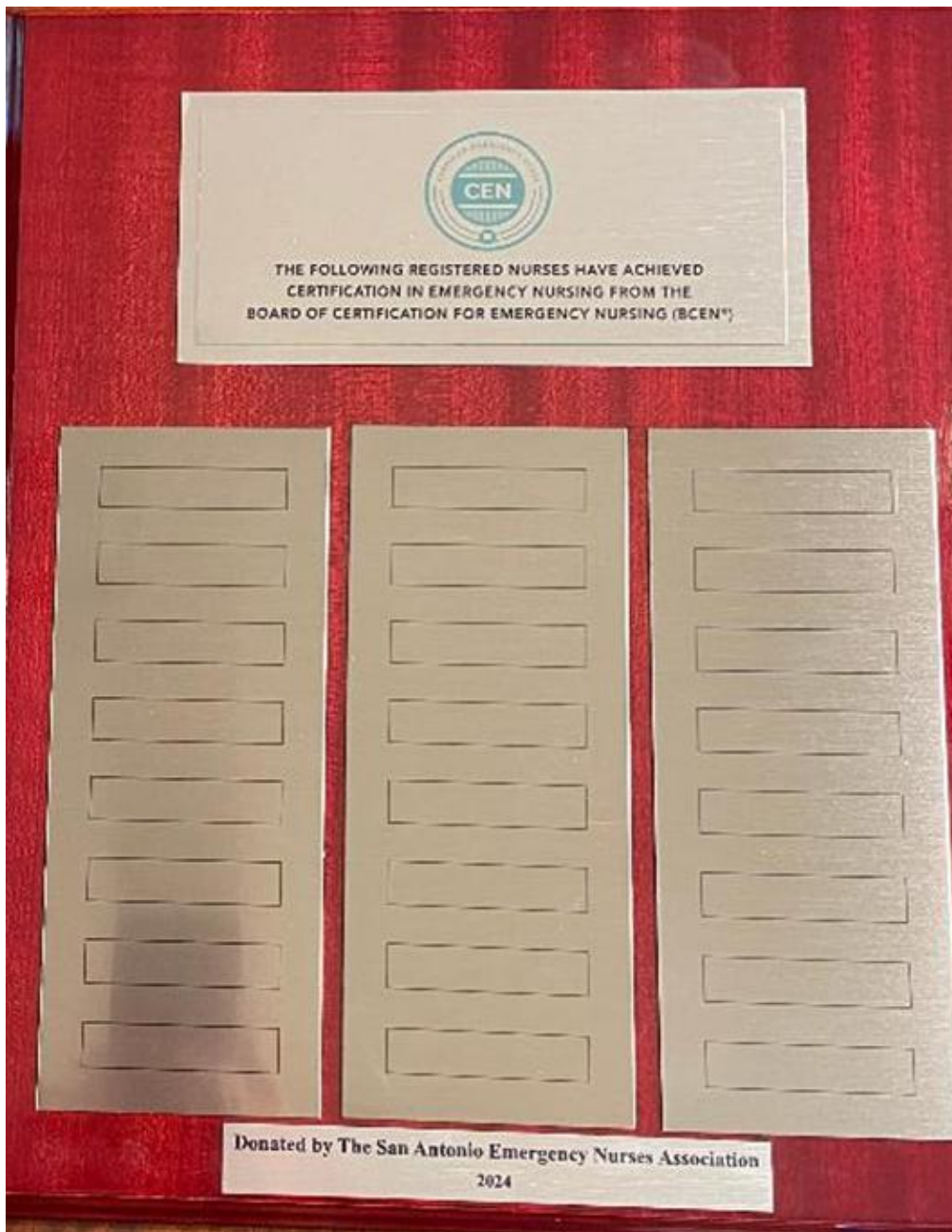
Christus Children's Emergency Center



Peterson Regional Medical Center

Recognition of Certified Emergency Nurses

SAENA has begun a project to recognize those outstanding individuals who have become Certified Emergency Nurses (CEN). The name of these individuals, who have demonstrated expertise in clinical practice, knowledge and versatility in emergency nursing, will be inscribed on plaques prominently displayed in their workplaces. Each year as RNs obtain their CEN their names will be added to the plaques. In 2024 SAENA donated plaques to Northeast Methodist Hospital – San Antonio, Baptist Resolute Hospital – New Braunfels, Connally Memorial Hospital – Floresville, Methodist Hospital – San Antonio, and Otto Kaiser Memorial Hospital – Kenedy, with more to come.



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

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

- An interesting fact about the nursing profession is [how many paths](#) one can take to get here—and for many people, nursing wasn't their first career choice. “[Roughly 37%](#) of nurses were second-degree students—meaning they held a different degree prior to pursuing nursing?”
- Recently published consensus guidelines for low-dose oral minoxidil (LDM) treatment of hair loss provide best-practice recommendations in areas ranging from pretreatment considerations and counseling to patient monitoring.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture [announced](#) a new mandatory national milk testing program on Friday aimed at improving tracking of the H5N1 bird flu [outbreak](#). Farms will now be [required](#) to provide milk for testing when the USDA requests it. The program will start in six states, including California, where the virus is spreading [fastest](#) right now. The others are Colorado, Michigan, and Pennsylvania—which are already doing bulk testing—and Mississippi and Oregon
- In the midst of a [continuing](#) maternal mortality [crisis](#) in the U.S., 537 hospitals have [closed](#) their labor and delivery departments since 2010, according to a new [study](#). In that time, only 138 hospitals added an obstetrics ward, the vast majority of which were in urban hospitals. Experts worry the loss in rural areas will exacerbate the maternity care [deserts](#), which are [linked](#) to more preterm and out-of-hospital birth.
- Not all chocolate is created equal': New data imply the dark variety lowers diabetes risk By [Andrew \(Drew\) Rhoades](#) Eating 5 ounces or more of chocolate a week lowered type 2 diabetes risks. Results showed no link between milk chocolate and lower type 2 diabetes risks. However, this chocolate was linked to weight gain...
- Study: Automated urinalysis still misses up to 1 in 5 children with Otis By [Sara Kellner](#) Automation has not improved the accuracy of UTI screening tests, researchers found. Choosing not to order urine cultures due to absence of pyuria could leave children with untreated UTIs. One in five febrile infants and toddlers with UTIs were missed by automated screening methods because they did not have pyuria, according to a study published in *Pediatrics*. Data derived from Shaikh N, et al. *Pediatrics*.2024;doi:10.1542/peds.2024-066600

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

State Government Affairs

Texas Legislature 2025 (from the Texas Tribune)

- Former President Donald Trump won Texas' 40 electoral votes and incumbent Senator Ted Cruz won a third six-year term.
- U.S. House Texas delegation has [38 congressional seats](#), and all were up for election this year, with most incumbents running again. There are four new members of the Texas delegation who will serve in January. Texas House Republican Craig Goldman won the District 12 seat to replace [U.S. Rep. Kay Granger](#) while Republican Brandon Gill won the seat of outgoing [U.S. Rep. Michael Burgess in District 26](#). On the Democratic side, Texas House Rep. Julie Johnson won in U.S. House District 32, which was left open by Allred who ran for U.S. Senate. Former Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner will replace U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee who died this summer.
- Texas delegation in the U.S. House has looked and will continue for the next two years to look like this: 13 Democrats 25 Republicans
- In preview of the Texas legislative session, lawmakers expect school vouchers to pass and the House to shift to the right. Lawmakers discussed public education, gun laws and health care policy. By [Juan Salinas II](#), [Pooja Salhotra](#) and [Sneha Dey](#) Nov. 8, 2024 Updated: Dec. 6, 2024\
- There will be a new Speaker of the House to be chosen in the beginning of the legislative session. The role of the House speaker is the presiding officer during the legislative session for the House of Representatives. The speaker maintains order during floor debates, recognizes legislators wishing to speak and rules on procedural matters. The speaker also signs all bills and joint resolutions passed by the Legislature." The speaker's powers are significant because they control the flow of legislation," Brandon Rottinghaus, a professor at the University of Houston, said 'Further powers are granted at the beginning of each regular session in the House Rules of Procedure, and could include making appointments to committees, designating chairs and vice chairs of committees and referring proposed legislation to said committees.

National Government Affairs (from the Washington Update, November)

- ***Get a Head Start with the 119th Congress by Joining EN411 before the End of the Year!*** With the start of a new Congress in 2025, ENA's federal legislative priorities addressing issues such as workplace violence, ED boarding, and nurse education and staffing will need to be reintroduced. When these important bills are reintroduced, ENA will be there supporting their enactment into law – and you can help ENA's legislative efforts. The EN411 Action Network is the easiest way to express your support for emergency nurses. It only takes a couple of clicks to inform your members of Congress where you stand on these critical issues. Never miss another Action Alert. [Sign up for EN411 today](#)
- ***ENA Works to Secure Federal Support for IV Supplies After Helene, Baxter Closing*** Hurricane Helene's severe flooding and damage led to Baxter's North Carolina facility temporarily closing. According to the American Hospital Association, the facility supplies approximately 60 percent of the nation's IV fluid bags, and the

disruption in supply could have serious consequences for emergency care around the country. ENA and several other organizations have called on the Food and Drug Administration to take immediate and meaningful action to alleviate the effects of a shortage. [Learn more here](#). To date, the HHS and FDA have responded with actions such as expediting the airlifting of Baxter products from international facilities, supporting the reopening of the North Carolina facility and invoking the Defense Production Act to assist with obtaining the necessary materials to rebuild.

- ***New Legislation Expands Access to SANE Care in Rural Areas***
The specialized training and qualifications earned by sexual assault nurse examiners help them provide the holistic care survivors need, as well as support their ability to provide expert testimony in court. Access to this level of specialized care can be limiting, especially in rural areas. ENA recently took steps to support The Accessing Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations through Telehealth Act – new legislation that would create a program to support telehealth connections for survivors to access a sexual assault nurse examiner at any time. Through a grant program, telehealth sites could be set up in facilities without a SANE to allow their nurses to be guided from a remote site.

Members of Congress need to hear from their constituents – this means you! Action Alerts highlight ENA’s priorities before the House and Senate. Through the links below, you can send a letter or X post to your member of Congress.

[Support ED Patients During an Overdose! Tell Congress to Pass Tyler’s Law!](#)

[Help Continue Programs Combatting Nurse Fatigue and Burnout!](#)

[New Tools Are Needed to Combat Workplace Violence. Support the SAVE Act!](#)

[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!](#)

ENA State Leaders: Got a State Bill to Track?

Contact the ENA Government Relations Team and to share the bill number: gov@ena.org.

For any questions or concerns contact littlemommanurse@aol.com



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



Measles is debilitating and deadly, and cases are surging, WHO and CDC warn

By Jen Christensen, CNN

Updated 2:23 PM EST, Thu November 14, 2024 CNN —

Global measles cases surged by more than 20% to an estimated 10.3 million last year, the World Health Organization and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday. About 107,500 people, mostly young children, died — an “unacceptable” death toll from a disease that’s preventable through vaccination, the health groups said.

The increase in cases is driven by falling levels of vaccination. Measles can be deadly and debilitating, but it is preventable with two doses of the highly effective measles vaccine. One dose is 93% effective against measles, and two doses are 97% effective.

Related article Required vaccine coverage among US kindergartners dips again, new CDC data shows

The virus had been completely eliminated from 82 countries in the past 50 years, but lack of access to vaccines and misinformation about vaccine safety has caused the world to backslide. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been a global decline in the number of people getting even standard vaccinations.

Measles is so highly contagious that 95% of the community needs to be fully vaccinated to offer some protection to the unvaccinated, including children too young to be vaccinated.

Globally, about 83% of children got their first dose of the measles vaccine in 2023, and only 74% got their recommended second dose, the health organizations said. More than 22 million children missed getting vaccinated altogether.

In the US, a dip in measles vaccination rates among kindergartners meant coverage has been well below the federal target for four years in a row. The measles vaccination rate fell to 92.7% coverage for kindergartners in the 2023-24 school year, according to CDC data

(<https://www.cnn.com/2024/10/02/health/measles-vaccine-coverage-kindergarten-school-requirement/index.html>) released in October. As of November 7, 266 measles cases have been reported in the US in 2024 alone, with 16 outbreaks, according to the CDC. https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html

Related video: Last look: Scourges of humanity return

<https://www.cnn.com/2024/09/08/health/video/gps-0908-the-resurgence-of-diseases>

With so many gaps in global vaccine coverage, there was a 60% increase in the number of significant measles outbreaks in 2023. Fifty-seven countries saw large or disruptive measles outbreaks last year, an increase from 36 in 2022. Measles outbreaks have affected nearly every region, and nearly half of the outbreaks were in Africa.

In 2023, there was an 8% decrease in measles deaths from the year before. It's not because the virus was less deadly but rather because outbreaks occurred in parts of the world where children had better access to health care and proper nutrition.

Studies show (<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9651531/>) that children whose immune systems are weak due to hunger or other underlying diseases are more vulnerable to death from the disease. Up to 3 of every 1,000 children who become infected with the measles may die from respiratory and neurologic complications, according to the CDC.

General symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose, watery eyes and a rash of red spots, but measles can also leave people with lifelong health problems, particularly infants and children. Measles can also cause blindness, brain damage and pneumonia. About 1 in every 20 children with measles will develop pneumonia, according to the CDC.

Get CNN Health's weekly newsletter

• Sign up to get The Results Are In with Dr. Sanjay Gupta every Friday from the CNN Health team. https://www.cnn.com/newsletters/results-are-in?source=nl-acq_article

“Measles vaccine has saved more lives than any other vaccine in the past 50 years,” WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said. “To save even more lives and stop this deadly virus from harming the most vulnerable, we must invest in immunization for every person, no matter where they live.”

CDC Director Dr. Mandy Cohen told CNN’s Meg Tirrell on Wednesday that she doesn’t want to see the world go backwards just to remind people that vaccines work.

“I think we have a very short memory of what it is like to hold a child who has been paralyzed with polio or to comfort a mom who’s lost her kid from measles,” Cohen said at the Milken Institute’s Future of Health Summit. “We need to remember that the reason we have these childhood vaccines is to make sure that we are the strongest, the healthiest that we can be as a community.”

CNN’s Meg Tirrell and Deidre McPhillips contributed to this report.

What is the American Spirit?

SAENA President, Barbara Baldwin, wishes to share this uplifting message from author/speaker Jon Gordon:

Regardless of your political affiliation or who you vote for, I think we can all agree that the assassination attempt on former President Trump and the loss of life was a sad day for our country. Yet, while a horrific moment like this represents the worst of us, I believe it will be a catalyst to wake up the American Spirit that brings out the best in us. We need oneness, not division more than ever.

After sharing this thought yesterday someone challenged me by asking me “What is the American Spirit?” It made me think and sparked this...

It is Faith like our founders had when forming this country and the loving, powerful, biblical principles they uniquely wove into the Declaration of Independence and Constitution.

It is Family as the foundation and backbone of this country. Strong families create a strong country.

It is a Can Do Spirit and Belief that with hard work and opportunity for all anything is possible.

It is Freedom as our greatest ideal and core value that makes American a beacon of light and hope for the rest of the world. This includes freedom of speech.

It is ingenuity, invention, innovation and capitalism creating economic prosperity and a better future for all.

It is uniting together with love and compassion for a bigger purpose to make our communities, country and world a better place.

It's a collection of diverse groups of people, races, ethnicities, and religions creating One America.

It's the grit to keep going and the resilience to bounce back. Through adversity and dark times we find the light and never give up.

The American Spirit is not a person. It's a spirit. It's an essence and we can embrace it to make our country better.

- Jon

Jon Gordon jongordon.com



2025 Texas ENA Meetings

Q1 – January 10-11, 2025 – McAllen
Hosted by Rio Bravo Chachalacas Chapter

Q2 – April 11 – 12, 2025 – Location TBD
Hosted by East Texas Chapter

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

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

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



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

A purple t-shirt is shown from a top-down perspective. The text is printed on the front of the shirt. The text includes a title, a main announcement, two styles of shirts, a price range, payment information, and pickup details.

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*

4 for Texas Nurses: Required Nursing Education

April 10, 2025

Virtual Seminar

1. **Forensic Nursing for Emergency Department Nurses:
Lisa King, BSN, RN, CA-CP SANE**

Fulfills NPA §301.306 and Rule 216.3(d) which is a one-time Texas Board of Nursing requirement.

Course Time: 0800 – 1000 CT



2. **Legal and Ethical Issues in Emergency Care:
Brigid Sheridan, BSN, J.D.**

Fulfills the NPA§301.306 and Rule 216.3(g) for 2 licensing cycles.

Course Time: 1010 – 1210 CT



3. **Older Adult / Geriatrics Care – A Special Population:
Yvonne Moseley, MSN, RN, CEN**

Fulfills the NPA§301.306 and Rule 216.3(h) for 1 licensing cycle.

Course Time: 1300 – 1500 CT



4. **Human Trafficking: Training for Healthcare Professionals
Muriel Lanford, MSN, RN, TCRN**

Fulfills NPA§301.306 and Rule 216.3(i) for 1 licensing cycle.

Course Time: 1510 - 1640 CT



Location: This is an online seminar held on **Zoom.com**. Attendees will be emailed the Zoom access link once registration has been completed. Each course is limited to 80 participants.

Course Fee:

ENA Member:	\$20 / course.	Discount: All 4 courses for \$70.
Non-Member:	\$30 / course	Discount: All 4 courses for \$100
LVN/EMT/**Student:	\$20 / course.	All 4 courses for \$70

Registrant must be an ENA member on the day of the seminar to receive the ENA Member Discount
**Student – as defined by ENA: an individual obtaining their initial licensure as an RN (registered nurse).



SCAN ME!

Registration: <https://www.sanantonioena.org/education/2025-texas-required-nursing-education-seminar/>

Contact Information: Carol Twombly cltwombly@aol.com

Refund Request: A written request must be received prior to April 3, 2025 for a refund. No refunds will be issued after April 3, 2024.

Texas Board of Nursing Continuing Education: https://www.bon.texas.gov/education_continuing_education.asp



San Antonio Emergency Nurses Association

Save the Date!

**Concepts of Emergency and
Critical Care Nursing - 2025**

August 19, 2025

Featured Speaker:

Terry M. Foster

MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, CCRN, TCRN, FAEN

Immediate Past President of the ENA!

7 Hours of Nursing Education

Registration starts in January 2025 on SAENA's website:

www.sanantonioena.org