

# Greater KC ENA

August 2008 Issue 4



**BECOME A CERTIFIED EMERGENCY NURSE (CEN)  
OR JUST INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE!**

## **CEN REVIEW COURSE**

**Date: October 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Place: North Kansas City Hospital  
Armour Room**

**Time 7am-5pm both days**

**Price: \$200.00**

**Participants will have their names placed in a drawing to win a scholarship to take the CEN exam.**

## **Greater KC ENA Meetings:**

- August 5 11am-12:30pm TMC-Lakewood
- October 7 5pm-8pm NKC Hospital-  
Awards Banquet Skyview Room
- December 19 4pm-6pm Chappell's  
Christmas Party NKC

## **KC ENA Awards Banquet**

October 7<sup>th</sup> 5pm-8pm  
NKCH- Skyview Room

Come help us honor our best and brightest! It's always a great evening of free food and fun times.

Awards will be given out for:

- ❖ **Nurse of the Year**
- ❖ **Rookie of the Year**
- ❖ **ED Support Person of the Year**
- ❖ **Manager of the Year**
- ❖ **Educator/Mentor of the Year**
- ❖ **EMS Personnel of the Year**

**All RN nominees will be placed in a drawing for a free ENA membership!!!! Take the time to reward and honor a peer!**



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**Greater KC Chapter  
President**

Summer is upon us and with summer comes increased business. People get out more - they take vacations, ride motorcycles, bikes, horses, mow, put in crops, do repairs on their homes, play sports, fish, swim, go boating etc.... Trauma increases as temperatures rise - our already crowded emergency departments face continued challenges with the nursing shortages, staff vacations, and vacancies. Patient safety issues, avoiding errors, & customer satisfaction becoming increasing concerns as volumes increase and staff shortages grow.

It has been shown that networking, staying informed and educated, working as a team, recognizing co-workers, having fun and doing something a little bit different help to combat stress and burnout. The ENA offers many ways to help combat stress and burnout as well as promote and strengthen our profession. The ENA offers opportunities to share experiences, network & trouble shoot issues with other ED nurses (managers specialty group meets after every local ENA meeting), gain education (CEN, TNCC, ENPC, Educational conferences, etc....), recognize staff contributions (State awards Banquet in August - Local ENA awards banquet in October), and become involved at the local, state, and national ENA levels. **Prevent Burnout and recharge your enthusiasm for emergency nursing - Get involved in your local ENA!**

More information on what is going on locally may be found in the newsletter, on the ENA website ([www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org)) and on the Missouri state websites ([www.missouriena.org](http://www.missouriena.org)).



## **Injury Prevention:**

Summertime brings days at the pool, barbecues, picnics, and all sorts of outdoor activities that make this a special time of year for children and families. July 3<sup>rd</sup> the Today's Show ran a segment about the dangers of leaving children alone in a vehicle. Understanding the risks and taking appropriate precautions we can keep our children safe this summer.

***We need caregivers to understand that it is just as dangerous to leave a child unattended in or around a motor vehicle as it is to leave young children alone in or near water, even for a moment.*** Unlike pool and water safety warnings, this message is NOT yet being taught in parenting classes, "Mommy & Me" groups or included in the take-home bags for new parents at hospitals.

Please help us by doing your part to raise awareness about:

- the dangers of leaving children in vehicles;
- large blind zones behind vehicles that make it virtually impossible to see young children when backing;
- vehicles that can be inadvertently knocked into gear by a child;
- power windows that have the power to strangle children and;
- An innocent game of hide-and-seek can turn lethal if children hop into the trunk of a vehicle older than 2002 without a means of escape.

KIDS AND CARS recommendations to keep children safe include:

- Walk around and behind a vehicle prior to moving it.
- Know where your kids are. Make children move away from your vehicle to a place where they are in full view before moving the car and know that another adult is properly supervising children before moving your vehicle.
- Teach children that "parked" vehicles might move. Let them know that they can see the vehicle; but the driver might not be able to see them.
- Consider installing cross view mirrors, audible collision detectors, rear view video camera and/or some type of back up detection device.
- Measure the size of your blind zone (area) behind the vehicle(s) you drive. A 5-foot-1-inch driver in a pickup truck can have a rear blind zone of approximately 8 feet wide by 50 feet long.
- Be aware that steep inclines and large SUV's, vans and trucks add to the difficulty of seeing behind a vehicle.
- Hold children's hand firmly when leaving the vehicle.
- Teach your children to never play in, around or behind a vehicle and always set the emergency brake.
- Keep toys and other sports equipment off the driveway.
- Homeowners should trim landscaping around the driveway to ensure they can see the sidewalk, street and pedestrians clearly when backing out of their driveway. Pedestrians also need to be able to see a vehicle pulling out of the driveway.
- Never leave children alone in or around cars; not even for a minute.
- Keep vehicles locked at all times; even in the garage or driveway and always set your parking brake.
- Keys and/or remote openers should never be left within reach of children.
- Make sure all child passengers have left the car after it is parked.
- Be especially careful about keeping children safe in and around cars during busy times, schedule changes and periods of crisis or holidays.

These precautions can save lives.

For additional information, visit the KIDS AND CARS web site at [www.KidsAndCars.org](http://www.KidsAndCars.org)