



Your 2018 LENA Board of Directors

Re-elected to BOD: 2018 – 2020

Leslie Batson, Rachelle Conish, Layne Mistretta, Tammy O'Connor, Karen Silady, Jennifer Sing

Filling BOD vacant seat through 2017

Brannon Gilles

A big welcome to LENA newly elected board members!

John Armand, Lafayette General Hospital

James Luce, Hood Memorial Hospital

Tilly Richard-Gard, Lakeview Regional Medical Center

Vickie Stagg, President-Elect

Vickie graduated from Nursing school in 1977 and began her career in labor and delivery but transitioned to Perioperative Services where she 13 years, ultimately leading to the level of Services Director. Vickie also served as a Chief Nursing Officer for 5 years. Finding a new passion, Vickie has spent the last 21 years in the Emergency Department where she has been an ED director. Vickie has been a member of ENA for over 20 years. She has served the membership as a member of the LENA Board of Directors for 4 years. During her tenure on the board, Vickie has been instrumental in growing membership as the LENA Membership Chairperson.

Board of Directors:

John Armand

John has been a nurse for 28 years. He began in the ED and worked his way through both management and education tracts. He has been teaching TNCC and ENPC for over 10 years. John previously was a Director on the LENA Board of Directors and is an LENA past president. In his role as Injury Prevention Coordinator, he assists with car seat safety checks within the community.

Leslie Batson

Leslie has been a nurse for 21 years with the last 11 ½ years in the ED. She has been actively involved in the LENA State Council as a member of the board of directors and has served the members as conference/education chair and Treasurer.

Rachelle Conish

Rachelle began her nursing career as an ortho/neuro nurse at a large 600 bed teaching hospital. Two years later she moved to Louisiana and began her career in the ED. She has worked at several rural community hospitals and is currently on the Nurse Practice Council and the ED Practice Council at her current hospital. She has been actively involved on the state board of directors and has assisted on numerous committees, in addition to attending the National conference and serving as a delegate to General Assembly.

James Luce

James began his career in the medical field as EMT basic progressing to a Paramedic and a flight Paramedic. He continued in this profession until 2009 when he became a Registered Nurse. He began his career as a nurse in the Emergency Department while remaining a flight paramedic. He also has experience in the Trauma ICU. His experience also includes 3 years of home health nursing. James is currently a house supervisor which includes working in the ED as needed and is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator at his hospital. He currently is on the Board of Directors for the Louisiana State Nurses Association as an executive member and the Director of Transition into Practice.

Layne Mistretta

Layne has been devoted to Emergency Nursing for the past 25 years holding positions of staff nurse, coordinator, educator, and director. He is currently the Supervisor of Education and Research, assisting with many of the general education opportunities throughout the organization including ED specific training such as TNCC/ACLS.

He has been a member of the state board of directors for approximately 10 years and has had an active role in the promotion of “safe practice, safe care” throughout our state. Layne has promoted injury prevention through concussion programs and the Stop-the-Bleed campaign. Additionally, he has assisted with educational activities, including conference preparation.

Tammy O’Connor

Tammy has 27 years of nursing experience with 18 of those years representing emergency nursing. The past 13 years she has served as the ED Director/Manager for an 18 bed ED. During this past year she has completed her Master’s degree with a focus on Leadership/Management. She obtained her CEN in 2010.

In addition, she has served as a member of the ENA for 11 years and has been a member of the Board of Directors for 5 years. Tammy served as 2016 LENA State Council President. She has also participated in ENA’s Day on the Hill, educating members of Congress on the needs of Emergency Nurses.

Clothilde Tilly Richard-Gard

Clothilde began her career in the ED as a Patient Care Tech. Upon graduation in 1999 as a Registered Nurse she began on a Medical/Surgical Unit for two years. The next two years she worked in several Emergency Departments as a PRN nurse. She was a clinical supervisor in the ED for one year along with working PRN at several other Emergency Departments. Her next three years she worked with patients preoperatively and postoperatively as well as pre-admitting patients. She was the interim PACU Manger and participated in the Nurse Excellence Council. She continues to work with patients preoperatively and postoperatively and assisting with conscious sedation. Since 2012 she has been a Trauma Program Manager and continues to teach TNCC and ENPC.

Karen Silady

Karen began her nursing career in 1974 as an Ortho and Neurosurgery nurse. She continued this track through two hospitals and 5 years also caring for patients with Urology, same day surgery, and infectious disease patients. The next seven years she was a mobile intensive care nurse and Paramedic Liaison nurse. Karen has also worked as a travel nurse, taking her to many areas around the world. She then began to work in the ED and continued her service in the pre-hospital realm. Karen moved to Louisiana in 1991 and began her career in the Emergency Department. She has held various other roles throughout the hospital. Additionally, she taught nursing students for 10 years prior to returning to the hospital setting in the capacity of Performance Improvement Coordinator for Regulatory Affairs. She is currently working as an ED psych intake nurse. She has been a TNCC and ENPC faculty member and not only has been on the state board of directors for many

years but has held several positions on National committees, including chairperson. She has been a vital part of every committee throughout her dedicated time to ENA.

Jennifer Sing

Jennifer has been a nurse since 2009 and began her career in Emergency nursing. She worked at the stretcher side for 6 years and then transitioned in to the role of Emergency Department Clinical Educator and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. She achieved her CEN in 2015.

She joined ENA in 2015 and has been an active board member for the past 2 years. She represented the state council at ENA Day on the Hill where she addressed Mental Health Patient issues with our state Senators and Representatives. She has been selected to speak at the National Conference in September regarding Emergency Management: Preparing for a Mass Casualty Incident. Jennifer was recognized for her "Excellence in Nursing" at the 28th Annual Celebrate Nursing Banquet.