



# Certification UPDATE

Spring 2014

Keeping BONENT Members Informed

## Newark NJ on May 4th --- Best BONENT Seminar to Date!

The Northeast BONENT Regional Education Seminar was held on Sunday, May 4th in Newark, NJ. It started with a presentation on the "Politics of Dialysis" by Dr. Tom McCune, which was an interesting look at large dialysis organization (LDO) v. small dialysis organizations (SDO). Because of the interest, we are going to try to continue to have speakers on the future of dialysis.

There were presentations on what is new in the dialysis world, access, nocturnal in-center HD, and more. See more details on our website.

### David Rush Inspired Us All to "Change the World"

The highlight of the day was David Rush, hip-hop artist, turned dialysis patient, turned transplant patient. His testimony and message were uplifting as everyone was starting to fade a little in the late afternoon. His story about losing his dream to be a pro football player because of developing CKD and trying to get a career as a hip-hop artist going while being on dialysis and how his brother donated a kidney



so he could be transplanted was inspiring.

His message was that every dialysis patient deserves to decide which option for treating their CKD works best for them and each and every dialysis staff member can "change the world" for their patients by educating them on modality options. He was brought to us by our friends at NXStage.

### Future Seminars

We are going to try to have David at both our Midwest Regional seminar in Chicago on July 13 and our Southwest Regional Seminar in



Houston on September 28. It is worth taking up one of your Sundays to here David. It will re-inspire you that what we do as dialysis professional really counts to our patients!

Since the people you meet and the profession networks you make, are as valuable as what the speaker have to tell us, we continue to have "networking sessions" at lunch. This will allow us to award 1 more CNE for this time. So, this year, we will be offering 8 CNE for a one day seminar.

### We Need Your Suggestions for Topics & Speakers

In order to provide the educational opportunities that our members need, we are looking for suggestions on topics and speakers for these seminars. You can email the Continuing Education Director at [lyle\\_bonent@msn.com](mailto:lyle_bonent@msn.com). We are also looking for suggestion for cities to have BONENT Regional Education Seminars in 2015 and beyond.

These are great opportunities for professional growth and development. We are trying to keep the locations convenient to local airports. The Midwest Regional Education Seminar will be at the Double Tree Chicago in Alsip, IL which near Chicago Midway Airport.

### See You at One of these Great Seminars

As part of our 40th Anniversary celebration, BONENT will be hosting 3 Regional Education Seminars in 2014. See the final two below and check our website for more details.

- **BONENT Mid-West Regional Seminar**  
Sunday, July 13, 2014 Chicago IL
- **BONENT Southwest Regional Seminar**  
Sunday, September 28, 2014, Houston TX



## Seminar Speakers



Thomas McCune, R Col.



Karen Ripkey, RN, CNN



Diana Shelkov, CHT



Todd Trego



Kim Davis

# Certification UPDATE

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Celebration of BONENT 40th Anniversary Continues

Recent Highlights of our Anniversary Year

A booth in the NKF Spring Clinical Conference exhibit hall and NKF recognition of the 40 years of BONENT and 35 Renal Physicians Association;

- Special celebration at the NANT Conference in Las Vegas, including sponsorship of the conference bags with the BONENT 40th Anniversary logo (see page 3 for photos) ;
- A booth in the NKF Spring Clinical Conference exhibit hall and NKF recognition of the 40 years of BONENT and 35 Renal Physicians Association;
- Read Part 2 of the BONENT history on page 4.



RJ Picciano  
President

### Northeast Seminar a Hit!

The best BONENT Regional Education Seminar so far was held in Newark NJ. The highlight of the day was David Rush, hop-hop artist, turned short daily HHD patient, turned transplant patient. He was sponsored by our friends at NXStage. His message was “You can change the World” for your patients by letting them know their options and helping them choose which option fits their life. In-Center HD 3 days per week is not for everyone. Nurses and PCT’s are the people that can “Change the World” for patients that want out of the clinic routine. It is up to all dialysis professionals to do this for our patients, not just the home-training staff, not just the social worker, not just the Nephrologist, but everyone (see page 1 for more information).

### President’s Award

The President’s Award for 2014 goes to **John Larsen, CHT** (see photo) for all of his work to make BONENT Regional Education Seminars successful, along with his assistance with the new Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical (CHBT) exam.



### Two More Seminars

There are 2 more BONENT Regional Education Seminars this year - in Chicago on July 13 and in Houston on September 28. These seminars have all been great and everyone that has attended thought they were the best education opportunity they had ever had. See the reviews of the Northeast Regional Education Seminar on the BONENT website. We are planning to have to have more seminars in 2015. We can use ideas for topics.

### New Exams Progressing – BioMed & Spanish CHT

Our new tests are progressing through their development. The Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical exam is nearing completion to be ready for administration in September 2014. The Spanish language CHT has been translated and is now going through the validation process to make sure the Spanish version asks the same thing as the English version. This will be available in early 2015.

### Want to Help Updating our CHN Exam?

We are, currently updating the CHN exam. If you are interested in assisting in this process, email the exam chair at [lyle\\_bonent@msn.com](mailto:lyle_bonent@msn.com).

### Update Your Profile Online

Recently we added some new categories to our membership database. This will help us understand more about our members, including education and type of employment. Since your information is available to you online through our website (see My Info section in top right corner of [www.BONENT.org](http://www.BONENT.org)), please visit the site and update your information.

### Ask Your Colleagues to Become BONENT-Certified

Finally, as part of the 40th Anniversary of BONENT, we want all BONENT members to encourage their colleagues to become BONENT certified, especially NURSES.

## Friends and Members Visit BONENT Booth at NANT 2014 Conference



### The states below require BONENT Regional Representatives.

Alabama	Missouri
Alaska	Montana
Arizona	Nebraska
Arkansas	Nevada
Connecticut	New Hampshire
Delaware	New Mexico
Hawaii	North Carolina
Idaho	North Dakota
Iowa	Utah
Kansas	Vermont
Maine	Wisconsin
Massachusetts	Wyoming
Minnesota	

### Interested in becoming a Regional Representative?

Visit [www.BONENT.org](http://www.BONENT.org) for qualification requirements and responsibilities. Contact BONENT Executive Director Peter Anas at 202-462-1252, ext. 20 or via email at [peter@BONENT.org](mailto:peter@BONENT.org)

# Join Your Colleagues & Get 8 CEs in 1 Day at a BONENT Regional Seminar

**MidWest Regional Seminar**

BONENT Continuing Education PROGRAMS

Sunday, July 13, 2014  
Chicago, IL

**Southwest Regional Seminar**

BONENT Continuing Education PROGRAMS

Sunday, September 28, 2014,  
Houston, TX

For more information, visit [www.bonent.org](http://www.bonent.org)

Co-Sponsored by



# BONENT: A Historical Perspective of Growth & Services to the Dialysis Community Part 2

From that period to the present, BONENT has been in an evolutionary state. The initial process was concerned with all normal procedures of formulating an organization as well as accomplishing the principle reason for which the organization was established: viable credentialing.

Testing is a complex and on-going process. Large sums of money are necessary to support this type of an endeavor. Seed money was provided in the form of grants from AANNT and industry representatives. Funds are now generated through exam candidates and membership annual support.

BONENT contracted with a professional examination service to help develop and administer the technologist examination - Certified Hemodialysis Technician (CHT). The core curriculum was defined and candidate requirements developed so that by April, 1976, a pre-test was administered at the AANNT national meeting. In the early years, the examination was offered at AANNT national and regional meetings.

Recertification would also be required every four years.

## The CHT Exam Expands Beyond Theory

The hosting method of administration was later introduced so that candidates could take the Paper & Pencil Examination (PPE) throughout the year in their local areas. A major revision of the exam occurred in 1983, which allowed BONENT to focus its testing on the practice of hemodialysis therapy rather than on theory alone.

## CHN Starts in 1979

Future plans always included expansion of existing exams to reflect the increasing specialization of both dialysis nurses and technicians. Once the organization felt comfortable with its technologist exam process, it expanded its offerings in 1979 to include a nursing exam and credential - the CHN - Certified Hemodialysis Nurse.

## Constant Revisions to Exams

Examination performance is under continuous

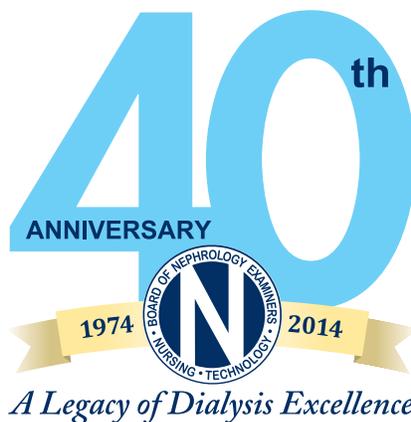
review and revisions in all examinations are undertaken on a regular basis.

## Peritoneal Started in 1989

In 1989, BONENT introduced a certification examination for the peritoneal dialysis specialty by developing the Certified Peritoneal Dialysis Nurse (CPDN) exam.

## Office Moves

The BONENT Executive Office has provided exam coordination and member services from Madison WI, then later from Lenexa KS and most recently from the Washington DC area since 2006.



## CBT Available in 2008

In an effort to reach as many nephrology professionals as possible, the Board of Directors decided to implement Computer Based Testing (CBT) across the United States and many other countries. All three exams, at that time were made available at all locations. This exam method has now overtaken the PPE as the leader in exam method of choice.

## Federal Government 2010 Certification Mandate

The new ESRD Rules & Regulations approved by the U.S. Federal Government's Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) were

published with comments in the Federal Register (4-15-08). The 116-page CMS ESRD Final Rules stipulated that newly-employed patient care technicians must be certified within 18 months of being hired as a dialysis patient care technician.

And for those PCTs employed on or before October 14, 2008, they would need to be certified within 18 months after that date.

This decision would have quite an effect on the improvement to the quality of patient care. It also was a boon to the numbers of PCTs to become certified in the years following this major decision.

## Providing CE via Regional Seminars

With the federal mandate above, BONENT established the Continuing Education Programs Committee to oversee the establishment of providing continuing education hours to its certified members. Its first foray in this area was to provide CE via Regional Seminars. Its first, the Mid-West Regional Seminar, was held in Chicago in July 2012, with over 125 attendees.

Due to the positive feedback from its members, this seminar was followed in 2013 by the Southeast (Orlando FL), the Great Lakes (Cleveland OH) and the Northeast (Newark NJ) regional seminars.

## 2014 - The BONENT 40th Anniversary: BioMed and CHT Spanish

A new exam catering to the BioMed professional has been under development for some time and will be made available to BioMed professionals in September 2014.

Again to expand its market, the CHT exam has been translated into Spanish and will also be made available, at first, via PPE in the United States only. Once it is evaluated, it will go global.

As you can see BONENT not only continues to evolve, seeking to meet the changing needs of viable credentialing in the nephrology field, but it boasts over 7,000 certified members in 10 countries.

## Our Newest 25 Year Members

Congratulations for Maintaining Certification for 25 Consecutive Years Since 1989!

Janice Doucette, CHT - Pflugerville, TX

Lois Grindel, CHT - Mesa, AZ

Nancy Marshman, CPDN - Douglasville, GA

Thomas McCarthy, CHT - Chelsea, MI

Migdalia Rosario, CPDN - Brooklyn, NY

Marvin Schlepp, CHT - Everett, WA

Janice Victory, CHT - Lancaster, CA

Billy Williamson, CHT - Gardendale, AL

