



Southeast Region News

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— BY MARY MCNEIL, CWOCN

Happy Spring to everyone! After an extremely chilly start I think Spring, indeed, has finally arrived. Where I live in the NC Mountains, we were faced with a significant cold snap (11 degrees) on Easter morning with snow two weeks later! Those of us with flowers and newly budding shrubs were taking significant measures to cover and protect the fragile leaves and flowers of our gardens. One person I know even fractured her hand with a large stone she was using to anchor her flower bed's cover. And, why? So that spring would be filled with the blooms we all have come to expect... after all, they were vulnerable and needed us for protection!

I have reflected on the similarities between how our flowering plants need protection as does the future of WOC nursing. For almost a year, national membership has been tracked and what is being recognized is only a 60-70% retention rate... this also takes into account new members. I am not a statistician, but it is clear to me that over a few years this could become a serious problem for the future of WOC nursing. Just like our fragile spring blooms, we are vulnerable and need to be tended in order to flourish and blossom.

Many of you instinctively establish environments of learning, opportunity,



growth and achievement for others – creating an environment of excitement toward what WOC nursing is all about... empowering others. You are the ones who have made us who we are today. But, most importantly, you are the ones

that will establish the platform for growth through an environment of generous mentorship.

In my tenure as president of the SE Region, I plan to bring as much attention to the importance of mentoring as possible. A special section of the newsletter is devoted to outstanding mentors and I encourage you to offer those that have shown you 'the way' this opportunity to be recognized and appreciated. As a special treat, Dorothy Doughty will be speaking on mentorship at the SER meeting on Saturday evening in Salt Lake City. Certainly, Dorothy is known by many as a mentors mentor! Additionally, a light meal is being planned so please show your support for the SE Region and join your friends and colleagues in Utah!

I look forward to seeing you there!

SPOTLIGHT ON A MENTOR...



The spotlight this quarter is **BJ Woodward**.

BJ was an

ET/WOC Nurse for 24 1/2 years at the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon, Georgia. BJ retired in November and was a quiet leader and mentor to many people throughout her tenure as a WOC Nurse. BJ was an excellent role model for the nurses at her hospital. She encouraged and loved her patients continuously. She nurtured the other WOCN's she came in contact with, and she loved to teach others. BJ will be sorely missed in the SER!

Spotlight on a Mentor is a new feature in the Southeast Region News. If you have a mentor that you would like to spotlight, please contact Laura Shafer at Ishafer@gwinnettmedical.org

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**Visit our Website at
www.serwocn.org**

NEWS FROM GEORGIA



Congratulations to **BJ Woodward** on her recent retirement. BJ served her community for 39 years as a registered nurse. She was an “ET” nurse for 24 ½ of those years and made a significant contribution to our profession. BJ was always an advocate for her patients and certainly impacted the quality of care that they received. We wish you a wonderful retirement, BJ!

Wellstar is having a Seminar on Sept 15, 2007 on Diabetic Feet and to contact Vi with questions.

Marie Oren-Sosebee will be attending the 2007 Youth Rally in Boulder, Colorado this summer as a 3rd year WOC Nurse Counselor. She is beginning to recruit sponsorships for the 2007 Youth Rally campers and is asking for our help. Here is some of the information Marie forwarded in a recent letter to the GA WOC nurses:

“Since I am a pediatric WOC Nurse, I generally recruit my past patients to attend the Rally. Essentially, I refer to them as “my kiddos”. So far, we have 10 youth (former and current patients/ “my kiddos” from Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta)> who live within Georgia and who are wishing to attend the 2007 Youth rally in Boulder, Colorado. Some are past campers and some will be first time campers this summer, and all live in Georgia. These kiddos do not include the campers sponsored by SER WOCN from Alabama last year.

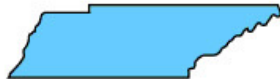
The SER WOCN has assisted me with sponsorships for the kid’s application and airfare for the past two years. However, my little group is growing and there is not going to be enough money to go around. We do not want any kid to miss out on this wonderful experience simply because of family finances. I am working with a few parents to raise sponsorship monies in addition to what the SER WOCN can donate to the GA campers. This is what we need to raise: 10 GA campers would equal \$3500 for registration (10 x \$350); 10 airfares would equal \$4000 (10 x \$400); Total of \$7500 to cover registration and airfare for 10 campers

If at all possible, I am requesting monetary donations from Georgia WOC nurses, ostomy supply / manufacturing companies, and DME dealers to assist in our endeavors”

If any SER WOCN nurse would like to help these 10 campers achieve their dream of attending the Youth Rally Camp in Colorado this summer, please contact Marie at 404-785-4854 or 404-785-4858 or marie.oren@choa.org Thank you in advance for any support you can give to this worthwhile cause.

Remember to send me any/all of your news. Send to:
vipoteete@bellsouth.net

GREETINGS FROM TENNESSEE



Carolyn Roberts, MSN, RN, CWON, from Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville

was chosen by the Middle Tennessee Association of Advanced Practice Nurses as the Advanced Practice nurse of the year. What a great honor! **Amy Bandelier**, BSN, RN, CWOCN, left Vanderbilt Medical Center in November 2006 and is now the Manager of Clinical Services with (formerly BG North America) Encompass Therapeutic Support systems. If any of you have the Accumax mattresses or any Encompass mattress feel free to contact her. She can be reached at (615) 332-4233.

The Memphis Area WOC group continues to have bi-monthly meetings and is looking forward to hearing **Paula Erwin-Toth** at the May 17 meeting addressing problem stomas. Her lecture is being sponsored by Convatec and the local rep, Brenda Patterson. The Memphis area wound paraprofessional group discussed proposed certification by the

WOCN society. This group consists of first line wound care personnel including non-BSN RNs, LPNs, etc. It is a sharing forum to guide the hands on staff and improve wound care practice. **Jenny Hurlow**, MSN, RN, NP, CWOCN, appeared before the Medicare state survey team for west Tennessee to share her knowledge on the F315 tag related to continence, its intent, diagnoses and how to address and promote best function. **Melanie First** recently completed her WOC course and is working in the Knoxville area with the Select Specialty Hospitals. Welcome aboard from all of us!

Until next newsletter, have a great spring and don't forget to share all your news and accomplishments!

*Mona Hector, BSN, RN, CWOCN
monahector@aol.com*

CEU OPPORTUNITIES

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROJECTS—ELAINE RUSH, RN, CWOCN

The following articles are available for CEU opportunities:

WOUND

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, February 2007, Volume 20 Number 2, "The Edge Effect: Current Therapeutic Options to Advance the Wound Edge" page 99.

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, March 2007, Volume 20, Number 3, " Silver Containing Dressings and the Need for Evidence".

Journal of WOCN, March/April 2007, Volume 34, Number 2, "Reducing Pressure Ulcer Prevalence in the ICU" page 163.



CONTINENCE

Journal of WOCN, January/February 2007, Volume 34 Number 1, "Incontinence Associated Dermatitis," page 45.

The OSTOMY CARE and LEG ULCER DISEASE CD powerpoint programs are available by ordering on-line - www.serwocn.org. These will also be available at the national WOCN Conference in Salt Lake City and at the regional WOCN Conference in Greenville, SC in the region booth.

We are beginning the development of our newest CD power point program on pressure ulcers and fistula management to be available in 2008.

If you have any CEU programs available, please contact me by e-mail elainewr@bellsouth.net.

GREETINGS FROM THE GREAT STATE OF ALABAMA

The Alabama WOC Nurses are EXCITED and ALL FIRED UP after attending a very successful State Meeting on April 30th. A large contingency of WOC nurses from across the State came together to develop the strategic plans for the 2008 SER-WOCN Conference. The State Meeting was held at St. Vincent Hospital, Bruno Conference Center at Birmingham. The State Meeting Facilitators were none other than the incomparable **Jackie Doubleman** and **Michele Croaker**.

The Chair and Co-Chair for the conference is the dynamic duo: **Deborah Thedford** and **Jessie Dickerson**. The great team effort by all those in atten-

dance (32) culminated in providing the background for an electrifying and stellar event planned to take place in Huntsville, Alabama on September 11-14, 2008. We invite you to go to our website www.bhamareawoc.org to see a work in progress. Mark your calendar and keep this date in mind as we blast off in anticipation of exploring the last frontier!!!

WELCOME

We wish to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our newest WOC Nurses to join the Montgomery group: **Michael Byars**, employed by BMC South



and his counterpart **Kay Baxter** at the same facility in Montgomery. Both indicated that they are happy to be on board and we are certainly glad to have them. If there are any more new faces out there that we are not aware of, please let us know. We are grateful to have you on board and look forward to working with you in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie Dickerson, RN, MSN,
CWON, CFNN
Jessie.Dickerson@med.va.gov
or VM 205-933-8101 Ext: 6158

Spanish Translation Ostomy Teaching Booklets Revised and Reprinted in 2002

The Birmingham Area ET (WOC) Nurses were awarded an educational grant from Carrington Laboratories, Inc. *in honor of Dr. Sheri Smith*, from Alabama. The grant was written to translate, print and disseminate the Ostomy teaching booklets into Spanish. Revenue from these booklets will be used to print more booklets, help sponsor children to attend the Youth Rally and send sets to all WOC Educations Programs.

The following booklets are available for \$3.50 each in Spanish or English

- Living with your Colostomy
- Living with your Ileostomy
- Living with your Urostomy

Order Form

Fill in the quantity for the number of booklets you want. Send a check or money order payable to **The Birmingham Area ET Nurses Association**, include postage and handling at the following rates:

Number of booklets: 1—10 \$3.00 11—20 \$6.00 21—40 \$12.00
41—60 \$18.00 61—80 \$24.00 81—100 \$30.00

Please indicate which booklet(s) you want (Spanish or English) and send your name, address, phone number & e-mail address to:

Birmingham Area ET Nurses Association
P O Box 55358
Birmingham, AL 35255

Please call 205-934-6903 for additional information

Please allow 4—6 weeks for delivery.

ELECTIONS WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT! TERRY BARTON, NOMINATIONS CHAIR

Open for election are (4) Board positions and (6) Nominations committee members one from each state. The Board of Directors would like to persuade each of you to consider running for an office and provide support to the region. If interested in running for an office your name can be added to the slate by contacting any of the Nominations Committee members. You may request to run for office up to and at the Business Meeting at SER conference. The Biographical Data and Consent to Serve Form must be filled out and sent to your state nomination committee member. This form is available on the SER website.



Offices to be filled:

Secretary

The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and record decisions of the SER Board of Directors, review minutes and assure distribution to the SER Board of Directors and membership.

Treasurer

The treasurer shall be in charge of the SER funds and records. The Treasurer shall oversee the accounting procedures for the handling of funds and shall be responsible for monitoring of disbursement and investment of SER WOCN funds as approved by the SER Board of Directors.

Director #1; Special Projects

Develop products for sale to supplement professional practice of SER members, such as slides or other educational support materials. Coordinate annual fundraising project at National WOCN conference exhibit hall, including arranging for booth display materials.

Director #3; Conference Planning

Liaison to Conference Planning committee, including support and guidance to chairperson.

Nominations Committee Members

Responsible for soliciting nominations for all elected positions. Supports the Nominations chairperson with voting process.

Voting

Active members can vote during the conference in South Carolina. Information will be posted to familiarize yourself with the candidates. Members are strongly encouraged to view profiles for each candidate that will be located in the exhibit hall.

Absentee Ballot Instructions:

If you wish to vote by absentee ballot you can request a ballot to be mailed to you. Please call 407-646-7523 and leave a message including name, complete address and phone number. Request for a ballot should be made by August 21 and must be postmarked by September 1.

Please contact a nominating committee member below if you are interested in running for office or if you have questions:

AL: Jan Hale Stevens	256-494-4116	janstevens@gadsenregional.com
FL: Terry Barton	407-646-7523	terry.barton@flhosp.org
GA: Aileen Ankrom	404-712-5621	aileenankrom@emoryhealthcare.org
NC: Pam Whitley	704-984-4595	pam.whitley@stanly.org
SC: Dorothy Lawson	803-434-7127	dotmike86@yahoo.com
TN: Alvin Word	423-339-5698	etwoundnurse@charter.net

NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA



After being snowed out for our original meeting date, the group met March 23rd in High Point with **Amy Dunbar** presiding. **Shawn Hogan** was elected Treasurer. Molnlychke provided an excellent program on their products.

Cathy Propst opened our eyes to the world of reimbursement with ostomy supplies.

A sample marketing brochure for our group, complete with lighthouses, was introduced by **Colleen Spiller**. The group continues to work on our research project regarding heel ulcers. A subcommittee is planning a poster presentation on how we got started in research.

Another NC project underway is the development of a pocket sized Spanish/English ostomy guide for our members.

Our members in the news include **Leanne Richbourg** as she was awarded the Dr. Sheri Smith memorial grant for an advanced degree. She graduates in May with an MSN from Duke. Leanne also published in JWOCN recently.

The NC group is rooting for **Stephanie Yates** as she runs for President of WOCN.

We welcomed recent Emory WOCNEP graduate, Melody Austin. She works for Advanced Home Care in Greensboro.

Judy Plemmons
JDPllemmo@aol.com

GREAT NEWS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA!

Nina Blanton from Palmetto Health reports Ed Vartanian, staff nurse has joined their team and is planning to attend WOCN school. **Bobbie Rinard**, RN, CWOCN has joined the Wound Care Team at MUSC. She just gave birth to a son, Harrison who weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. He is also known as "Harrybug", "Monkey Baby" and other names of endearment. Congratulations! **Patsy Fulghum** (WOCN from Florence) recently suffered the death of her brother after a long illness. Our prayers are with you in this time of grief. Jane Mansfield and **Phyllis Bonham** are recipients of the S.C. "Palmetto Gold Award" for 2007 for their outstanding contribution to our Nursing Profession. Jane's daughter is getting married in June, Congratulations! **Trena Beckham** from Lexington Medical Center in Columbia just recertified as WOCN through PGP. She is returning to Romania June 28th—July 11th on a Mission Trip. **Kathy Deco** is going to France for 2

weeks with family. **Elizabeth Jones** From Palmetto Richland just completed Legal Nurse Consulting Certification. **Katrina Bair** from Orangeburg is a recent MUSC graduate working for TRMC Home Health. **Marie Gehling** recently published an article in Ostomy Wound Management Journal relating to chronic wound pain. **Regina Holmes** from Loris passed her Foot and Nail Certification Exam. We wish her well as she undergoes knee surgery in May. She is coordinating and developing an out patient wound service and would appreciate any advice!

Regina Holmes asks that everyone vote for a recipient Honoree for the Education Grant from our state since we are hosting the annual conference. This would be the "Outstanding Nurse of the Year Award." We will vote at our next conference planning meeting in Lexington.

All SER members are encouraged to nominate nurses for the "WOC Nurse" and "Rookie of the Year"

awards. Please refer to the Regina's article in this newsletter and visit the SER web site at www.serwocn.org for additional information and criteria.



Carolyn Cuttino reminds every one to make a special effort to attend our SER in Greenville. Its going to be Great!

Please contact your Reps and vendors and ask for Silent Auction Items. We welcome any items donated by our nurses to add a "personal touch" and to have the greatest auction yet! Any one have an old ET they would like to auction? This is not an old living ET but the figurine!

Have a great day until we see everyone at conference in September! Signing off...

Cindy Norris RN, CWOCN.
Email cnorris@carolinahospital.com

AWARDS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE

REGINA HOLMES, RN, CWOCN



I would like to thank the SER WOCN members and SER WOCN Board for the opportunity of serving on the SER Board. I look forward to seeing you at this years conference in Greenville, South Carolina. Below are some important upcoming dates:

Celebrate WOC Nursing Day—April 19, 2007

The SER WOCN is proud to sponsor and support Celebrate WOC Nursing Day. The SER will give one paid registration fee to the fall SER WOCN Conference in Greenville, SC for the WOCN that submits an entry stating what you did for WOC Nursing Day including photos. Entries should be submitted to Regina Holmes by May 31, 2007. Just a reminder if you have several WOCNs in your department only one member will get their registration fee paid.

SER WOCN Outstanding Nurse of the Year and SER WOCN Rookie of they Year Awards

Deadline May 31, 2007

The SER WOCN feels strongly that we recognize our peers for their contribution to the WOCN Society and to our patient population. Qualifications include excellence in the practice of WOC Nursing, exemplification of high professional standards, service to community, and the promotion of pride in the WOCN and SER WOCN. The rookie of the year should be a WOCN that has a year or less as a WOCN. Applications can be obtained by contacting Regina Holmes at rholmes@lorishealthcaresystem.com or on the SER web site, www.serwocn.org. The deadline is May 31, 2007. The winner will be presented at the SER WOCN Conference in Greenville, SC.

UOAA Youth Rally—July 7-July 11, 2007

This years UOAA Youth Rally will be held at the University of Colorado, Boulder. If you work with youths between 11-17 years old who have had ostomy or related surgery they may apply to have the SER pay the registration fee which will cost \$350/youth. Last year we sent 6 campers and one counselor from the SERWOCN. For more information and applications contact Regina Holmes or the SER web page, www.serwocn.org. Applications should be submitted by April 15, 2007 for WOCN's that would like to attend and by May 31, 2007 for the youth campers that would like to go to camp

Dorothy Doughty Research Grant

This grant is available to support planned research expenses, such as supplies, research consultation, med/ surgical supplies etc... Please submit your application by May 31, 2007. The maximum research grant amount is \$1,000 per researcher project.

For more information on all of the above contact
Regina Holmes
rholmes@lorishealthcaresystem.com
Cellphone 843-602-5732
Work 843-716-7579

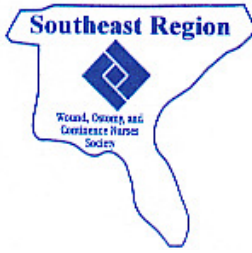
2007 SER WOCN Annual Conference

WOC'N on the River
Hyatt Regency Greenville
Greenville, South Carolina

September 27—30, 2007

Brochures have been mailed if you
have not received your please call the
office at 919-518-0963 or e-mail
cami@nc.rr.com.

The brochure is also available on the
website www.serwocn.org



Southeast Region WOCN
P O Box 98073
Raleigh, NC 27624
919-518-0963
cami@nc.rr.com

WOCN CONTENT VALIDATION

Over the past year the WOCN National Office has been compiling a list of members who have expressed an interest in participating in content validation. please contact Gail Haas with your name and area of specialty if you are interested in participating as a content validation reviewer. We will be starting a new round of projects in late summer/early fall. As the documents are ready to go through the content validation process I will be in contact with the reviewers based on your area of specialty and interest.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Gail M. Haas
Director of Membership Services
856-642-4203
Email: ghaas@ahint.com

WOCNCB NEWS—POSSIBLE NEW CREDENTIAL?

The WOCNCB is exploring the feasibility of providing a unique credential for non-BS RNs and LPN/LVNs. They are inviting those interested to complete a job analysis survey regarding current practice.

For additional information, please visit the WOCNCB website at www.wocncb.org or contact Kathy Meyer via info@wocncb.org or 1-888-496-2622.

SHARING THE SUNSHINE FROM FLORIDA...

The sun is shining and we are playing. See the next issue for more information about our state.

Kathryn Dere
Kathryn.dere@orhs.org

