

President's Report

Laura Shafer, BSN, RN, CWOCN

Greetings everyone! I am pleased to tell you that we had 58 attendees at the Southeast Region Meeting at



National Conference which was great! We networked and had a great time. Next year the National Conference is in Phoenix, Arizona so hopefully we will have a good turnout there as well.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Jacksonville, FL September 9-13, 2009. Karen Larkan and her team have put together an awesome Regional Conference!

Just a reminder we will no longer be mailing out newsletters as of September. This is not only a green endeavor but it will save the Region a considerable amount of dollars from the mailing of the newsletters. As you all know it takes a team to get new innovations going and I want to thank Patti Haberer and the Communications Committee for their efforts in helping us go green. Look for the updated website soon.

Lastly, I would like to thank Elizabeth Jones who has been SER Secretary for the last 4 years and Elaine Rush our Director of Special Projects who has manned the SER Booth at National Conference for the last 4 years. These two wonderful people really enhanced the visibility of the SER which I greatly appreciate!

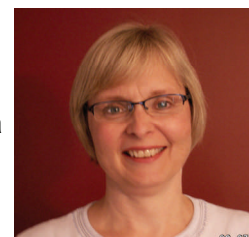
Spotlight on a Mentor

Carla Mellon, BSN, RN, CWON

Submitted by: Suzanne Collins, BSN, MS, RN, CWOCN

It's hard to catch up with Carla. When you do, you better get used to being at the front of the pack.

For 26 years, Carla Mellon has practiced as a Wound and Ostomy Nurse in acute, out-patient, home care, and private practice settings. For that entire time, she has advocated for UOA and facilitated its restructuring to UOAA locally, rarely missing a meeting. Now, she has added another specialty to her practice, that of Diabetes Educator, which she states is a natural and necessary skill set for her burgeoning urban population in north Charlotte, NC.



Leadership has always been Carla's strength. After several years in acute care, she developed a private practice and sold her services to the hospital she left, and along with her partner, contracted to provide wound and ostomy care for acute and long-term care clients. Later, she returned to open her former hospital's out-patient wound center after completing HBO training. Now, she leads the University Hospital wound care center, as well as providing wound and ostomy care and leadership for the in-patient population.

In her commitment to integrate Diabetes Education into her Wound and Ostomy practice, Carla collaborated with the Clinical Nutrition staff in developing an out-patient Diabetes Self-Management Education Program at University Hospital in Charlotte, receiving ADA recognition for this effort. She has designed community diabetes classes for Spanish-speaking individuals sited at the NorthLake Mall LiveWELL Center. It was a natural for Carla to chair the first Patient and Family Education shared governance council at University, and she is currently working through the steering committee at University to obtain TJC advanced certification for in-patient diabetes care.

Her passion for teaching includes staff development related to skin, wound, and ostomy issues, diabetes care, and the Patient Education Committee at Carolinas Healthcare System, the parent company for University Hospital. She is the Pressure Ulcer POA Initiative Quality Improvement Liaison, supervises quarterly prevalence and incidence studies at University, and can remember at least 3 or 4 WOCNs that she has precepted since finishing her specialty education at Emory.

Carla Mellon leads with love and class. It is a joy to work with her, and a privilege to learn from her. There is a generation of wound and ostomy wisdom in Carla, and she unselfishly and energetically gives herself away every day to those with even a spark of the same passion. Got a question? Find Carla. She'll be out in front.

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

Communications Committee Report

Patti Haberer, BSN, MA, RN, CWOCN

As a native Floridian, I look forward to sharing a part of my State with you during the Fall Conference. Growing up, I often visited my grandparents in Jacksonville. During one visit, I was rushed to an ER to have my stomach pumped. While the adults were away, I drank ammonia from under my grandparent's kitchen sink. Yes- Jacksonville has some outstanding hospitals: however during your visit to Jacksonville, I recommend the following sites. All are within walking distance of the conference hotel – Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Waterfront.



Jacksonville Landing - <http://www.jacksonvillelanding.com>

Experience the Landing.

There are full-service restaurants and a large food court all providing gorgeous views of the St.

John's River. To work off

those extra calories, the Landing also has several stores for you to shop, shop and shop.



Museum of Contemporary Art -

<http://www.mocajacksonville.org/> MOCA is one of the Southeast's largest contemporary art institutions. The Museum is located in a historic Western Union Telegraph Building. There are five changing exhibition galleries, permanent collection galleries, a children's interactive center, education studios, auditorium, Museum Shop, and a light filled Atrium Gallery all for \$8.00.

Ritz Theatre and Lavilla Museum – <http://www.ritzlavilla.org/>

Lavilla Museum houses an exhibit of the history of African-Americans in Northeast Florida. The exhibit replicates scenes of everyday life with photos and artifacts.

Museum of Science and History - <http://themosh.org/Home.html>



Take the Jacksonville Water Taxi (\$3.00 one way) to the other side of the St.

John's River to discover the Museum of Science and History. Learn more about science and history through interactive exhibits. General admission is \$9.00.

No matter what you decide to see and do while in Jacksonville, make sure you pack your camera.

From the Desk of Director II—2009 Award Information

Regina Holmes, RN, CWOCN



Hello everyone,

I hope all is well and that you are having an enjoyable summer and that you all are fruitful and productive in all of your endeavors. As the Director of Awards, I have been busy

processing the SER WOCN scholarships and am delighted to announce the recipients of the Dorothy Doughty Research Grant, the WOC Nurse Week activity and Fall SER Conference scholarship. Congratulations Ladies!!

Dorothy Doughty Research Grant

Leanne Richbourg MSN, RN, CWOCN and **Jane Fellows** MSN, RN, CWOCN from Duke University Hospital were the recipients of our research grant scholarship. The subject is "Ostomate Quality of Life". How exciting!

Celebrate WOC Nurse Week Winner

Marie Desiree Lacandola RN-BC, CWOCN from Dr. P. Phillips Hospital in Orlando, FL is our winner this year. As the winner, **Marie** won a paid registration to the Fall Conference.

Fall Conference Scholarship Winners

The winners of the Fall Conference Scholarship are **Macie Craft** RN, BSN from Jackson Hospital in Montgomery, AL nominated by Sarah Covington. **Julia Hall** RN, BSN nominated by Judy Dattilo. **Ashley Williams** RN, BSN and **Cynthia Bond** from Emory University Hospital Midtown in Atlanta nominated by Lorna Buntichai. **Adrian Reid** RN, BSN and **Rhonda Hosey** RN, BSN of Atlanta, GA nominated by Cynthia Timms. **Mini Varghese** from Winter Park Hospital in Orlando, FL nominated by Terry Barton. **Christy Hoke** RN, BSN-C from Catawba Valley Medical Center in Hickory, NC nominated by Trudy Huey. **Letra Davis-McDuffie** RN, MSN

from Palmetto Health in Columbia, SC nominated by Dot Lawson. Fall conference scholarship winners, please go to our website, www.serwocn.org, and fill out the conference brochure registration. Add 'scholarship recipient fee waived' to the form and then fax it 919-844-8119. Contact me with any questions or concerns you have. On behalf of the SER WOCN, we are thankful for your interest in wound, ostomy, and continence nursing and want to help and mentor you all in anyway.

Thanks to **Marie Oren-Sosebee** RN, BSN, CWOCN and **Deborah Thedford** MSN, RN, CWOCN, we are honored to provide assistance to seven children/teenagers from Georgia and Alabama to attend Youth Rally Camp. I am sure those children and youth will have the time of their lives thanks to you all!

Lastly, we have selected our WOC Nurse of the Year, Rookie of the Year and Honorary Scholarship Recipients for the year, but of course this is a secret until Conference!

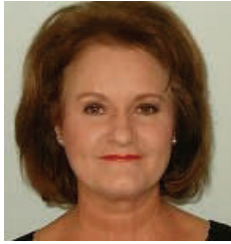
As always I am delighted to serve you all.
Kind Regards,
Regina

P.S. I will be traveling to Peru for a Christian Medical Mission on 6/27/09 to 7/11/09. Please remember to pray for me, specifically for my safe travels and that we may help all we come in contact with.



News from South Carolina

Cindy Norris, RN, BSN, CWOCN



Here is what's happening in the Palmetto State. Congratulations to **Ed Vartanian**, he was recently certified in Wound and Ostomy and to **Patricia Moore**, she has recently certified in Wound and Continence. **Mary Kate Skinner** has joined **Rhonda Antonetti** at Roper Hospital. **Lynn Swan** has returned to KCI. **Mary Pippin** has joined the Wound Team in Orangeburg. **Patsy Fulghum** is expecting a grandson on October 31st

and **Cindy Norris** is eagerly anticipating the birth of a grandson on August 1st in Wilmington, NC. Cindy also has a 5-year old granddaughter in Charleston. In August, **Cindy Norris** and **Regina Holmes** will be attending the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants Annual Conference in Myrtle Beach. They will be representing the Calmoseptine booth at King's Plantation Conference Center. **Cindy Norris**, CWOCN (inpatient) and The Wound Center (outpatient) have recently consolidated services at Carolinas Hospital System in Florence.

3M's **Ann Kahl**, CWOCN recently presented a 1 CE program on Wound Assessment and Skin Disorders for our Skin Care Champion meeting. It was excellent and very informative. Jason Bright from ConvaTec presented a program to the Florence Chapter of the UOAA. The group enjoyed his ostomy product presentation.

Some of our SC nurses have not recently reviewed charts for lawyers and were interested in fees. After researching fees being charged by some of our WOCNs in SC, it was found that some charge \$150/hour and others \$200/hour no matter if it is for chart reviews, depositions or court. One nurse charges \$115/hour. Another nurse charges \$150/hour to review a chart, \$300/hour for a deposition with a minimum of 2 hours. If the case is out of town, a base fee for all day is \$1500 plus all expenses. If the case is local, \$300-\$500/hour. The all day rate of \$1500 would be applicable if the case is local and lasts longer than 4 hours. We would like feedback from other nurses in SC. Please send me your input, my email addresses are at the bottom of this article. The new 2008 WOC Nursing Salary and Productivity Survey also has information on this.

Many of our staff nurses are requesting free online CE credit on Wound, Ostomy and Continence issues. I have posted a list for them in the computer. Some of these include: www.woundskin-ce.com, www.Skil-Care.com, www.KCI1.com click on continuing education, www.nurse.com, direct www.cecily.com and www.MedscapeCME.com. Hollister offers a free 4-hour ostomy program. Nestle Nutrition will present programs in house and online for free CEs.

Quote for the Day:

"People who mind their own business often succeed because they have little competition." I once saw a poster with a kitten running across piano keys with this caption, "I mean to work hard Lord, but I keep running across things that are more fun to do."

If any of you have any news to report for our next newsletter, please forward it to me at

Cindy Norris
cnorris@carolinahospital.com or cnorriscwocn@bellsouth.net

SER WOCN
 Educational CDs
 Available for
 Purchase

Lower Extremity
 Ulcers:
 Assessment &
 Management 2nd
 Edition

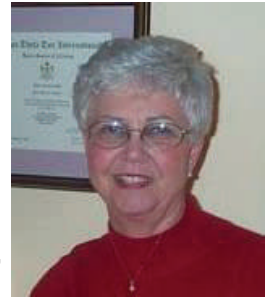
Ostomy Care

Pressure Ulcers
 and Fistula
 Management

Order form
 available on the
 website
www.serwocn.org
 or by calling the
 office at
 919-518-0963

Keeping Up With Georgia Vi Poteete, RN, CWOCN

Sharon Hornbuckle RN, BSN, CCRN, CWOCN continues to work at St. Joseph's Hospital as the Performance Improvement Coordinator in the patient safety and quality department. While **Sharon** can no longer do bedside nursing, she is able to impact patient care from a different, but equally important angle. **Sharon's** daughter, Meg has just completed her first year of college. **Sharon** and Randy solved the empty nest syndrome by enjoying their 3 grandchildren!



Northeast Georgia Medical Center is pleased to welcome **April Herndon** RN, CWOCN to their staff. **April** transferred from the Macon area and has been a wonderful addition to their team.

Susan Steele Ph.D., RN, CWOCN continues to impact the next generation of nurses through her teaching in the nursing program in Milledgeville. **Susan** did a presentation on C-diff at the Hollister booth during the National WOCN Conference in St. Louis. She also had a research poster presentation at conference related to her Ph.D. dissertation which was supported by the SER. **Susan's** daughter; Katie starts college next month....time does fly by!

Piedmont Hospital has a full time WOCN position for inpatient care. More details are posted on the Piedmont hospital website or you can contact: Lacey.Turner@piedmont.org

Vi Poteete will have completed 4 years as chair of the National WOCN Scholarship Committee once this current round of scholarship applicants is reviewed. She will continue to serve for one more year as a resource person for the incoming committee chair.

Vi Poteete
vipoteete@bellsouth.net

Celebrate WOC Nurse Week

Desiree Lacandola, BSN, RN-BC, CWCN

Dr. P. Phillips Hospital, Orlando, Florida

To celebrate Wound, Ostomy, Continence Nurse Week the Wound Management Support Team planned different activities each day to promote the expertise of the wound,



ostomy continence nurse. We displayed posters for team members to see our theme "Mentors for Excellence". The WOC Nurse Week celebration started that Monday with a new Product evaluation, followed by a survey on best practices for the prevention of CAUTI (Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections). Tuesday, the Wound Management Support Team conducted education on pressure ulcer and ostomy care to the nursing staff. On Wednesday, we took a break from the WOC Nurse Week

festivities to catch up on patient consults. 3M sponsored a 2 hour continuing education seminar for the nurses on "Differentiating Types of Wounds" on Thursday. The week-long celebration ended with a product fair with exhibits from 7 companies. The vendor's inserviced the nurses and PCTs on wound/ostomy products used at Dr. P. Phillips Hospital. The week-long celebration was well received and we look forward to doing it again next year.

Director of Special Projects: CEU Opportunities

Elaine Rush, MSN, RN, CWOCN



Having just returned from the National WOCN Conference, I am always amazed at the many facets of our practice. We have such opportunities to expand our knowledge and our practice and the challenges before us, as a nursing specialty, are numerous. The need for a continuing desire to expand our knowledge base makes it necessary that we seek out programs and avenues for growth. Coming this September in Jacksonville, FL is our regional SER WOCN Conference - the program looks excellent and offers CE classes in all areas of our practice - hope to see you there. The following is a list of some of the current offerings that are available for no cost or for a small fee to acquire contact hours.

Wound Care:

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, Volume 22, Number 4, April 2009, *Methodological Issues in Studies of the Effectiveness of Pressure Ulcer Prevention Interventions*, page 180.

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, Volume 22, Number 5, May 2009, *The ABCs of Skin Care for Wound Care Clinicians: Dermatitis and Eczema*, page 230.

Journal of WOCN, Volume 36, Number 2, March/April 2009, *Comprehensive Model for Improving Wound Pain and Healing*, page 184.

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, Volume 22, Number 6, June 2009, *Pressure Ulcers in Pediatric Patients with Spinal Cord Injury: A Review of Assessment, Prevention and Topical Management*, page 273.

Ostomy Care:

Journal of WOCN, Volume 36, Number 3, May/June 2009, *Sexuality Among Patients with a Colostomy*, page 288.

A variety of continuing education (CE) programs are offered on the WOCN Global Learning Center (wocn.org). New programs include:

Fistula Management (3.0 contact hours)

Using Research to Drive Evidence-Based Bedside Practice (1.0 contact hour)

Management of Enterocutaneous Fistulas (1.0 contact hour)

Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Medication Update (1.0 contact hour)

WOCN Best Practice: Indwelling Urinary Catheter (1.0 contact hour)

On a personal note, I have enjoyed the two terms as your Special Projects Director. It has been a challenging and rewarding experience that has allowed me to meet many people and share opportunities for growth with all of you. Thank you for allowing me this honor; I wish the very best to the new director. I will miss being a part of the leadership and the friends I have gotten to know and I challenge each of you to think about being more involved in the SER organization - what a special group of people!

Hello from Tennessee!

Mona Hector, BSN, RN, CWOCN

Last April the National Student Nurses Association Annual Conference was held in Nashville and the WOCN had a session. **Barbara Dale** of Livingston, TN had the privilege of representing the WOCN Society by presenting an educational session entitled, "Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing: A Special Calling". **Barbara** used a version of the student nursing PowerPoint on the WOCN website. According to **Barbara**, there was a large turnout from all over the Country. She believes that several students will eventually seek out WOC nursing as their specialty.

Suzy Scott will be speaking at the SER Fall Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. **Suzy** is currently a Principle Investigator for a pilot study entitled, "Assessment of Peri-operative Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Surgical

Patients: Efficacy Study of Pressure-Relieving Heel Protective Device." She is working with Dr. Deborah Fawcett of Wishard Health Services in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Too late for last newsletter was this welcome to **Britney Swor**, a new CWON at Baptist Hospital in Nashville. She is an Emory graduate. **Tara Hester** was also completing the Emory program and was to be working with her. She should be broke in by now... **Jennifer Vandiver** just took certification and is now CWON. I know she is breathing a big sigh of relief. On the other end is **Lona Sharpe** who just recertified for her 6th time in wound and ostomy. Icing on the cake- she got high scores on both exams. Congratulations to **Linda Fine** who recently completed her nurse practitioner program at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. In addition to CWOCN she will



now be FNP-BC. **Diane Pullium** ran the Music City half-marathon, and by doing so raised money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. That is really giving back! I recently had the privilege of viewing the Pressure Ulcer Prevention DVD that **Jenny Hurlow** did with Dr. Thomas Stewart, sponsored by Healthpoint and Gaymar. It was presented at the Healthpoint booth during National Conference. Hope many of you got to see it.

That's all I have for now. Remember to contact me with news at any time.

Mona Hector
monahector@bellsouth.net
(901) 358-2667

Dorothy Doughty Research Grant Winners

Leanne Richbourg, MSN, RN, CWOCN

Jane Fellows, MSN, RN, CWOCN

Leanne Richbourg and **Jane Fellows** at Duke University Medical Center have received the Dorothy Doughty Research Grant to study "Quality of Life Following Ostomy Surgery." They will be attending the UOAA biennial conference in New Orleans in August to survey attendees about their ostomy QOL. They may be asking those of you who have ostomy groups in your community to distribute the survey to persons with ostomies who are over 18 and have had an ostomy for 6 months or

longer. A secondary goal of the research is to assess the validity and reliability of a QOL tool in the United States that has been used in several European studies. If you have further questions about this research or wish to volunteer to distribute questionnaires to members of your local ostomy group, contact Leanne (leanne.richbourg@duke.edu) or Jane (jane.fellows@duke.edu).

North Carolina News

Judy Plemmons, RN, CWOCN

Suzanne Collins attended the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) in March. Along with Mary Wolfe, chairperson of the National WOCN Public Policy Committee, **Suzanne** met with staffers for North Carolina Senators and Congressmen from various States. **Suzanne** represented the WOCN Society on three issues:

- Funding the Nursing Workforce Development programs to support faculty and nurse numbers. The US will be 1 million nurses short by 2020, even without a move to universal healthcare coverage.
- Funding for the National Institute of Nursing Research, who is charged with evidence-based research into reduction of medical errors and quality of care.
- Introducing the soon to be published position statement on Avoidable vs. Unavoidable Pressure Ulcers in Acute vs. Long-Term Care for the WOCN Society. This position statement will be very important as action goes forward to address this funding disparity.

There are quite a few North Carolina hospitals and nursing homes participating in the "Carolina Center for Medical Excellence - Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment

Quality Improvement Initiative". This program is designed to pair nursing homes and hospitals to work together to reduce the incidence of pressure ulcers and improve the care of patients with pressure ulcers. The official "kick-off" of the program was in March and the first set of face-to-face provider meetings was scheduled for June.

Congratulations - **Susan Stafford**, RN, BSN who has become certified as a CWOCN and CFCN. **Colleen Spiller's** oldest son Kingsley is a Summerall Guard at the Citadel in S.C. Her son Luke is a bagpipe player with the Jamestown Pipe and Drum Band. Colleen's family is going to Scotland this summer. **Mary Kay Wooten** has retired from the Durham VA Medical Center but has returned as a part-time contractor. WakeMed welcomes three nurses to their CWOCN team. **Gloria Tabron** and **Sara Griffith** are at the Raleigh campus and will be pursuing their certification in the upcoming months. **Joanna Burgess**, RN, CWOCN has taken the position at the Cary campus. **Joanna** recently presented a program on Pediatric Ostomies to the Wake County school nurses. **Jan Johnson**, **Stephanie Yates** and **Joanna** took part at National Conference, they presented on

Leg Ulcers. On May 1st, **Marti Link** RN, CWOCN was promoted to Branch



Director at Gentiva Home Care in Salisbury, NC. Marti has 14 years of home care experience and more than 5 years experience as a CWOCN. She will continue to provide consultant services for the patients serviced by the Kannapolis/Cabarrus, NC Gentiva Home Care office as well as bring educational, expert assistance per patient visits, to the staff and patients of Salisbury/Rowan NC area. **Marti** is excited about her new role and is thankful for the opportunity to serve the folks of Rowan, Cabarrus, and Stanley Counties. On April 25th, for the 5th consecutive year, the team "WOC Nurses for Chris" participated in the Angels Among Us Walk in remembrance of Chris Johnson, son of **Jan Johnson**. The 5K and Family Fun Walk raises awareness and funds for brain tumor research at Duke University.

Judy Plemmons
JDPlemmo@aol.com

2009 Election Information

Terry Barton, BSN, RN, CWOCN

This is your opportunity to serve *your* Southeast Region!! As we continue to evolve and grow SER will continue to need high caliber member volunteers whose backgrounds, skills and experience match the WOCN's mission and its current and future needs. As a valued member we would like to invite you to consider nominating an individual (or yourself) for an open position for election this year. Positions available are (4) Board positions and (6) Nominations committee members, one from each state. 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 in the Fall. 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. **Please see page 11 for the current list of candidates.**



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

This director shall 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

This director shall be the liaison to Conference Planning committee, including support and guidance to chairperson.

Nominations Committee Members

Committee members shall be responsible for soliciting nominations for all elected positions. They shall also support the Nominations chairperson with the voting process.

Voting

Active members can vote during the conference in Florida. Information will be posted to familiarize you 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	jan_stevens@gadsdenregional.com
FL:	Terry Barton	407-646-7523	terry.barton@flhosp.org
GA:	Lorna Buntichai	404-686-8174	lorna.buntichai@emoryhealthcare.org
NC:	Pam Whitley	704-316-3483	pswhitley@novanthealth.org
SC:	Tena Jordan	864-725-5018	tjordan@selfregional.org
TN:	Denise Goodwin	423-902-9667	douganddenise1@msn.com

Greetings from the Great State of Alabama

Jessie Dickerson, RN, MSN, CWON-AP, CFCN

On May 2, 2009 the newly-formed Central Alabama WOCN Society hosted a State-wide conference in Montgomery. The Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center was the venue in the historic and revitalized downtown, riverfront district. It was well attended by 70+ participants from all over the State. An exciting and informative group of speakers presented pertinent topics. Dr. Courtney Lyder enlightened the attendees regarding new policies on pressure ulcers. Dr. John Mark Vermillion enforced the management of the surgical patient. Ann Marie Kahl, RN, MSN provided an update on urinary incontinence and Ace Anglin, DPM informed the group on techniques to save the diabetic foot.

Many thanks to the 23 vendors for their interest and kind support. The encouragement from WOCN's in other Alabama cities also was greatly appreciated. The planning committee for this event were **Michael Byars**, RN, BSN, CWOCN, **Karen Eubank**, RN, BSN, CWOCN, **Jackie Giddens**, RN, BSN, MSN, CWOCN, **Kay Raxter**, RN-BC, CWOCN, **Rebekah Grigsby**, RN, BSN, CWON and **Ramona Reed-Chism**, RN, BSN. Over 20 WOCN's signed up as interested in joining this organization which sole functions are to support the many facets of the wound care community and build strength in our wonderful and worthwhile profession. Who knows? With this kind of success and support, Montgomery may be the perfect setting for the next SER WOCN Conference to come to Alabama! A big thank-you goes out to **Michael Byars** and his very capable team of assistants for a great State Meeting.



Good News

We want to congratulate the following four UAB CWOCNs for their recent article entitled: "Topical Treatment Protocol for Stevens - Johnson Syndrome and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis". This article was published in JWOCN, May/June 2009 issue. What a way to go: **Hattie Stokes**, **Kelly Suttle**, **Karen Edwards** and **Catrice Potts** for a job well done. We are so proud of the four of you. Another congratulations goes to **Hattie Stokes** for successfully renewing her WOCN certification. **Jessie Dickerson** recently celebrated her retirement on the Carnival Spirit cruise line to Alaska with family and friends. They sailed from Vancouver, Canada to the Northern tip of Anchorage, Alaska for the trip of a lifetime. We want to remember all of our recent retirees and thank them again and again for the many, many years of service they lovingly gave to the wound, ostomy and continence nursing profession. Thank you for your labor of love: **Dot Tuggle**, **Patricia Blakely**, **Jessie Dickerson** and **Mardell Davis**. All of you were great Mentors to those who are now left to carry the mantle.

Time of Recovery

We request your prayers and get well wishes for: **Jeanenne MacKnight** and **Gayle Moore** as they continue to recover at home.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessie Dickerson, RN, MSN, CWON-AP, CFCN
Retiree

News from Sunny Florida

Kathryn Dere, MSN, RN, CWOCN

Shawna Philbin and **Lynne Lake**, CWOCN's from Holmes Regional Medical Center, Melbourne presented a poster at the Annual WOCN Conference. The topic section was Wound-Evidence-Based Interventions and entitled "Bringing Down the House: The Inside Story". The poster was related to choosing and purchasing the best redistribution surface for a Trauma Center's patient care beds in these challenging economic times. **Jackie Wiseman**, CWON of Parrish Medical Center, Titusville, and **Donna Crossland**, CWOCN of Cape Canaveral Hospital, Cocoa Beach also attended the National Conference. **Kim Kehoe**, CWOCN is now working for Medline and is really enjoying her new job.

Nancy Scott, CWOCN attended National Conference where there were over 1400 attendees. **Nancy** is an active member of WOCN Public Policy Committee. This Committee is active with finalizing a WOCN request to send to the HILL - regarding Avoidable vs. Unavoidable Pressure Ulcers. Please check WOCN website if you are interested in learning more about WOCN's sponsored scholarship to Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI).

In May, **Christine Bennett** attended the Nursing Leadership and Chief of Staff Conference in San Antonio. While there she presented a poster describing the process and benefits of selecting, preparing, and mentoring 4 RNs at James A Haley VA Hospital, Tampa ultimately becoming 4 new CWOCNs. They won an award for this presentation. James A Haley VA Hospital also won the WOCN Employer of the Year, for increasing the number of WOC nurses from 2.4 to 8.

A patient of **Amy Evans**, CWOCN with Crohn's Disease and an ileostomy, won the National Best Comebacks Award earlier this year. **Amy** was honored

at National Conference as the nurse who made the difference for the winner of the Great Comebacks Award.

HCA Oak Hill Hospital celebrated 25 years as a hospital in Hernando County--going from 96 beds in 1984 to 204 beds today. Oak Hill is the only hospital in the County with a CWOCN. **Linda Ravenhorst**, CWOCN has been accepted to the Ambassador program for this hospital, which helps to promote positive attitudes within the hospital and goodwill to the community. In July, **Linda** will be vacationing for a week in Denver renting a 5 bedroom house to enjoy her 3 sons and their wives, 3 grandsons and 1 grand-daughter (a princess of course), all under the age of four and another Ravenhorst boy on the way in November. Does that sound like fun or chaos??

Barbara Bagby, CWOCN is the proud NEW grandmother of baby boy Liam, born May 12. According to Barbara, "He was a peanut at 5 lb, 11oz, 18 inches".

Many thanks to those of you who sent in information. Please don't wait to send me news of your accomplishments as I keep a file for SER news. If you attend local or national conferences, submit posters or present lectures, please take credit and let us know. Have a great summer. Hope to see you in Jacksonville.



Kathryn Dere, RN, MSN, CWOCN
Kathryn.dere@orlandohealth.com

SER Regional Candidates for 2009

Your name could be here too!! (As of printing there are no candidates for Nominations Committee for Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.)

Candidate(s) for Secretary:
Merrill Fraser

Candidate(s) for Director of Special Projects:
Sharon Traylor

Candidate(s) for Treasurer:
Charlene Demers
Pam Whitley

Candidate(s) for Director of Conference Planning:
Dorothy Ann W. Lawson

Candidates for Nominations Committee:

Florida: *Kim Kehoe*
 Alabama:
 South Carolina:

Georgia: *Kathy A. Boyle*
 North Carolina:
 Tennessee:

SER WOCN
P O Box 98073
Raleigh, NC 27624
919-518-0963

Southeast Region Conference 2009
Sun, Sea and Science...
The Art and Science of WOC Nursing
September 10-13th, 2009
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront
Jacksonville, Florida

This year promises a great educational program, a wonderful chance to network and a lot of fun. Our educational program will be one of the best ever with outstanding speakers. Dr. Katherine Jeter will be providing the Key Note Address – WOCN: Looking Back Moving Forward. **Save money and register now, early registration closes August 10th.** Also don't forget our Call for Posters and Case Presentations. Deadline for submissions is August 10th. See the SER Website (serwocn.org) for further details.