



President's Report

Laura Shafer, BSN, RN, CWON



Welcome to Summer everyone!

WOCN National Conference in New Orleans was an exciting conference – the best yet.

Kudos to our very own, **Carolyn Watts**, National Conference Planning Committee Chair for leading her team to another successful conference. I think we all came away with a lot of new knowledge to share with our staff and patients. Our SER Regional Meeting had over 80 attendees which was wonderful! I feel so honored to be involved in such a dynamic region where we have so many people involved in all levels of the WOCN including the National level. I really feel fortunate to work with such a wonderful Board as well! Please get involved and volunteer to run for an office in 2012. I hope many of you are planning on attending the SER Conference in Chattanooga: Sept 15 -18th. If so, I look forward to seeing you then and enjoy the rest of your summer!
Contact me at: lshafer833@gmail.com.

Spotlight on Mentor

by **Nancy Hammer BSN, RNC, CWOCN**
Trudy Huey, MSN, RN, CWOCN

Trudy, you are my inspiration, it's because of you that I'm now a WOC nurse. Trudy was my preceptor in college, she nurtured me as a young nurse, she was a support and excellent contact during many years as a nurse. After graduating from nursing school, I began working on the surgical floor. Anytime Trudy visited a patient on the floor she was always willing to teach and show other nurses and myself the tricks to her trade. Like many of us with so much on our plates, I had every excuse for not attending WOC school. Trudy knew that with WebWOC, I had no more excuses. Again, Trudy thank-you for inspiring and challenging me. Trudy has now spent 5 years mentoring me and guiding me – a true gift! I can honestly say that I have never worked a day sometimes hour by hour with Trudy that I didn't learn something from her!!



Not only has Trudy been a support and inspiration to me but she has also inspired and helped many other nurses, including those of the SER WOCN. As a visionary, Trudy sees the whole picture, she is continually proactive in promoting WOC nursing at our hospital. Just last year, Trudy was the Chairperson SER Conference and for all of those who attended, you know how awesome she is.

Thank-you Trudy – you are my inspiration.



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Communications Report

by Patti Haberer, BSN, MA, RN, CWOCN

Do you remember the song, "Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold"? This familiar song was often sung in-the-round at Girl Scouts events. While most of us are no longer involved with Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, we are all part of another outstanding organization - WOCN.



WOCN Conferences, whether it is National and/or Regional, provide us an opportunity in our hectic, busy lives to reconnect and more importantly meet new friends. For those who attended our most recent Conference in New Orleans, I suspect you met more than one new friend. Think about sending them an email, text or whatever you do on Facebook this coming week and let them know you are thinking of them.

Will you be attending SER Conference this fall? If so, I have a challenge for you. Besides visiting with your long standing friends, extend your hand out to at least one person you don't know. We all have gifts to share with each other. While in Chattanooga, I look forward to spending quality time with more than one new friend. Have a wonderful summer!!

A personal thank you to my newsletter team, you are awesome. And a very special "over and above" thank you goes out to Robbie Sharp and Linda Moore for their article entitled "Cycling across Florida" in tribute to Dr. Katherine Jeter.



*Congratulations Dr. Katherine Jeter
Job Well Done!*



Cycling through Florida:

by Linda Moore BSN, RN, CWOCN
and Robbie Sharp BSN, RN, CWOCN

The Panhandle WOC nurses had the opportunity to participate in FAET's desire to support the WOCN Cycling for Scholarships Campaign and **Dr. Katherine Jeter** on her incredible journey! **Robbie Sharp** and **Linda Moore** worked together to coordinate small events for **Dr. Jeter** and the Cycling for Scholarships Campaign throughout the Panhandle. **Vince Gangemi** (WOCN Society's National Office), also helped us tremendously in planning these events.

Pensacola

Carol Bream, WOC nurse (West Florida Hospital), gladly took on this project for the Pensacola area, and coordinated a wonderful event, with the help of **Sean McMillen** (Hollister). **Sean** made a wonderful sign welcoming **Dr. Jeter** and the entire cycling group to Florida. Cold drinks and fruit also greeted the cyclists as they arrived. That evening, WOC nurses from the Pensacola area, along with **Judy** and **Jim** (Pensacola Ostomy Support Group), **Sean McMillen** (Hollister), **Amanda Brignac** (ConvaTec), and **Traci Pendleton** (KCI), visited with **Dr. Jeter** and shared 'whoopie pies', especially made for the event. **Dr. Jeter** was presented with a donation to the Cycling for Scholarships fund. WOC nurses joining **Carol**, were **Penny** (Sacred Heart Hospital), **Joannie** and **Vicky** (Baptist Medical Center), **Sue** (independent contractor), and **Brittney** (applying to Emory for the fall class). **Joannie** was also spotted washing dishes with the cycling group.



*Pensacola Group
with
Dr. Katherine Jeter*

Marianna

A couple of days later, (with **Sean** and **Robbie** racing ahead with the welcome sign and to set up drinks and fruit for the cycling group), the community of Marianna welcomed **Dr. Jeter**. **Melody Hatcher** (Administrator, NHC Homecare) worked hard, along with help from **Melissa Sinch** (Administrator, NHC, Chipley), to plan an event that included local physicians and hospital case managers. **Dr. Jeter** was as energetic as always while visiting with everyone, including **Shanna Watson**, RN, a wonderful, young nurse interested in becoming a WOC nurse. The local newspaper was also on hand to cover this event held at Beef O'Bradys. After riding 94 miles that day, **Dr. Jeter** rode her bike to the restaurant as soon as she arrived in Marianna, to take photos with owner, **Scott O'Brien**. What an amazing woman! So, if you are ever at Beef O'Bradys' in Marianna, look for Dr. Jeter's picture on the wall.



*Dr. Katherine Jeter
with
Marianna physicians*



*Dr. Katherine Jeter,
Sean McMillen,
Melody Hatcher*

Crawfordville

Easter weekend, the small community of Crawfordville (just south of Tallahassee) hosted **Dr. Jeter** and the cycling group. It was now **Robbie's** turn to arrive early and set up the sign, drinks and fruit that the cyclists seemed to appreciate as they arrived at each stop. Saturday afternoon, members from the Wound Care Wine Club visited with **Dr. Jeter** to hear stories of her adventure so

Cycling through Florida cont'd:

far, and thank her for her great contribution to the WOC nursing profession. She was presented with a donation to the Cycling for Scholarships fund. **Harriett Loehne**, PT, DPT, CWS (Archbold Center for Advanced Wound Management) traveled from Thomasville, GA to meet **Dr. Jeter** and support this event. Joining **Robbie Sharp** and **Harriett** were: **Sharon Aronovitch**, **Farrah Hamilton**, RN (Gentiva Health Services) and husband **Rick**, and **Lisa Hamilton**, RN (Barnes Healthcare Services) and husband **Tom**. **Louise Bruner** (Healthsouth Rehab) and **Jennifer Payne** (TMH Wound Healing Center) were unable to attend, but sent greetings and gratitude via the phone. On Easter Sunday, the cycling group attended services at Crawfordville United Methodist Church, with the help of church secretary, **Fern**, who was kind enough to arrange for transportation by church members.



*Crawfordville Group
with
Dr. Katherine Jeter*

Palatka

Dr. Jeter and the Women's Tour group arrived in Palatka, Florida on April 27th. **Kathy Cirincione** and **Linda Moore** (ConvaTec), a close friend of **Dr. Jeter** had driven up from the Tampa area that afternoon to greet the riders when they came into the hotel for the day. **Kathy** and **Linda** provided drinks, bananas and granola bars and congratulations for being at the last stop before the final day of their cross country trip! It was hot and humid when the cyclists arrived, but they came in looking like they had just started riding for the day – it was incredible. **Linda** and **Kathy** visited a short time, then they were off to St. Augustine for the Finish Line Celebration.

St. Augustine

On Thursday, April 28th, after riding 47 miles **Dr. Jeter** and fellow riders were escorted by the St. Augustine police on their way into Anastasia Island State Park.



Dr. Phyllis Bonham, WOCN Society President, **Kathleen Lawrence**, WOCN president-elect, and several other WOCN home office personnel as well as several manufacturers' representatives and numerous family members were on hand to cheer and salute the group as they entered. It was an emotional moment as they entered and then carried their much used bicycles down to the beach to dip their front tires into the Atlantic Ocean completing the "sea to shining sea" ride. **Dr. Phyllis Bonham** announced, right there in the sand, the latest tally on fund raising as of that morning – over \$208,000.00 raised for scholarships for future WOCN nurses. The energy and vision of one member really can make a difference!



That evening there was a lovely dinner reception at the Lightner Museum in St. Augustine hosted by the WOCN to honor **Dr. Jeter**. Her husband, **Jack** and two sons, **John** and **Stephen** attended as well as several Florida and corporate representatives from several companies. All were there to celebrate our hero, **Dr. Katherine Jeter** and the effort she extended on behalf of WOCN nursing.

Linda Moore BSN, RN, CWOCN
Robbie Sharp BSN, RN, CWOCN

Cycling through Florida cont'd:

On a personal note, I would like to especially thank those that helped with each of these events. Without you, it would not have happened! **Linda Moore** (my motivator - for all the great ideas and being such a good friend to **Katherine**), **Vince Gangemi** (for taking my phone calls and helping provide needed information), **Terry Barton & FAET** (for asking me to be the FAET communication person for this event and for communication support and emails), **Traci Pendleton** (for hooking me up with **Carol**), **Carol Bream** (for your dedication to the WOC nurse profession by willingly taking on a project from a phone call with someone you have never met...I am so proud to be your colleague, and now call you a friend. Hope to meet you soon!), **Sean McMillen** (for your professionalism, kindness, support, willingness to help with so much(!), the signs, the food, your time...thank you just does not seem enough!), **Melody Hatcher** (for your continuous support of WOC nurses, being a patient advocate, and all of the hard work for planning this event and increasing the awareness of the WOC nursing profession. Your efforts make a difference...your community is so fortunate that you are there), **Louise Bruner** (for always being the quiet, wonderful, humble, and generous WOC nurse that you are), **Farrah Hamilton & Lisa Hamilton** (for the wonderful cupcakes and cookies, your support of WOC nursing and all of my little "projects", giving of your family time to help make it happen, and for being my friend and colleague, to your families as well for coming to meet **Dr. Jeter**), and last, but certainly not least, **Katherine Jeter**. Thank you for all you have done in the past, the present, and in the future, to help promote awareness for our profession and help for the patients that we all serve Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your wonderful and amazing journey!

~~Robbie



Dr. Katherine Jeter and Dr. Phyllis Bonham



*Dr. Katherine Jeter, Linda Moore and Marge Galloway
(Katherine's friends)*



Robbie Sharp and Dr. Katherine Jeter



SER WOCN 2011 Conference

by Martha Davidson, MN, BSN, RN, CWOCN
SER Conference Chair

It is time to register for the 2011 SER WOCN Conference in Chattanooga Tennessee. Our meeting is fast approaching at the Chattanooga Marriott and Convention Center September 15 - September 18, 2011. Registration forms and the conference brochure will soon be available online at www.serwocn.org. This conference, "WOCNs on the River: We Go with the Flow", promises to be one of the best.



The Education Committee has worked hard to present a balanced, quality program encompassing all the areas of our practice. Conference attendees will be provided up to 20 contact hours and priceless hours of networking.

Dr. Katherine Jeter, our keynote speaker has successfully completed her cross country biking adventure designed to create awareness and raise support for the WOCN Society Foundation Scholarship Program. She will share stories from her adventure and journey. To close our conference, WOCN President **Dr. Phyllis Bonham** will inspire and challenge us to continue to "go with the flow" in our WOCN practices.

Our generous vendors have sponsored events throughout the conference, including breakfast symposia Friday and Saturday, and dinner events Thursday and Friday evenings. We are grateful for their generous support.



Please share the 2011 SER WOCN conference website information with your colleagues. Also, as you are visited by your local sales representatives, please invite them to participate in the conference. The Trade Brochure for vendors is available on the website. Thanks in advance for spreading the word and for being a part of the 2011 conference.

For those interested in submitting a poster for the SER conference please contact **Pat Dittes** at pldittes@bellsouth.net. Also, if anyone has anything to donate to the silent auction, contact **Janeen Lee** at janeen.lee@kci1.com.

On behalf of the Tennessee WOCN group, look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga.

For further questions/information, please contact **Martha** at martha.w.davidson@vanderbilt.edu



On-Line Voting Update

Reminder: at the 2010 SER Membership Meeting, members approved to change SER's voting system. Beginning this year members will cast their votes on-line, unlike years past when members cast their votes during the SER Annual Conference.



The 2011 slate with each candidate's bios is now available for preview on our website.

When voting opens on July 15th, all current WOCN members who are part of the SER will have an opportunity to cast a ballot. You will be asked to provide your first and last name, email address and WOCN membership number. Your information will only be used for eligibility validation purposes, and will not be seen by any SER officer or member. Only one vote per member will be counted. If you submit more than one vote, only the latest vote to be cast is counted.

Important 2011 dates to remember:



- **July 15:** On-line Voting Opens



- **August 15:** On-Line Voting Closes



- **September 17:** Election Results will be announced during the Membership Meeting



Director - Special Projects

by Sharon Traylor, RN, CWOCN

Thank goodness for good old iced tea and a shaded swing. I don't know where everyone else is but it's just plain HOT here in Florida. Summer's close upon us (I can tell by the enormous yellow grasshoppers eating my yard) and I'm already looking forward to FALL.



Let's look forward to:

- SER WOCN – Sept. 15-18, 2011 – Chattanooga, Tenn.
- 6th Annual Wound Care Symposium – Beneath the Surface In-Depth Focus on Wound Care - Sept. 10, 2011; Miami, Florida; Baptist Health South Florida, 786-596-2398
- SAWC/Fall - Oct. 13-15, 2011 – Las Vegas, Nevada
- SER Certification Review webinar is still available until Dec. 31, 2011. Go to SER website to register.

Here's what is available on-line:



- WOCN website – Global Learning Center
- www.NursingCenter.com/CE – CE articles:
 - CE's from WOCN journal
 - CE's from topic skin/wound
- www.medlineuniversity.com – pressure ulcer prevention, continence, wound care programs and more
- www.us.coloplast.com – pressure ulcer, continence and ostomy management programs
- www.ehob.com – educational webinars
- www.nursingceportal.com – online specialty courses
- <http://mhcwoundcare.com>
- www.BariatricTimes.com – 1 Free Contact Hour

Don't forget to add our DVD's to your collection of educational material.

Have an adventurous, fun summer...and don't forget to pack your sunscreen

Sharon Traylor, RN, CWON
Director of Special Projects

**SER Certification Review webinar is
still available until Dec. 31, 2011.**

Register NOW on the SER website



North Carolina NEWS

by Judy Plemmons, RN, CWON

The NC nurses recently met this past May. Initiatives for the group this year include developing a sexual counseling booklet and a single page promotion of WOC nursing. Links for CE's will be added to the NC webpage with a disclaimer. Congratulations are in order!! The NC group's research project, article, "NC WOC Examines Suspected Deep Tissue Injury" has been submitted to JWOCN.



Suzanne Collins reported on WOC Nurse in Washington. Eleven regional presidents or public policy chairs attended to seek support for HR 152. Discussion was also related to a Senate Ostomy Bill authored by Senator Burr but not yet in effect. The bill should reflect the skills of the ostomy nurse, and rescission of the 2.3% medical device tax that will become effective in 2013. Ostomy supplies will be impacted by this tax. A total of 2 ½ days were spent in Washington advocating for the needs of our patients and our profession.

Dawn Engels, RN, CWOCN, graduated from East Carolina University with her Master's of Science in Nursing with a Clinical Nurse Specialist focus.

Judy Plemmons, RN, CWOCN, graduated from Liberty University also with an MSN.

Jane Fellows, RN, CWOCN and **Leanne Richbourg, RN, WOCN**, are speaking this June at the European Council of Enterostomal Therapists (ECET) conference in Bologna, Italy.

Judy Plemmons jdplemmo@aol.com

From the Director of Awards

Cindy Jones Norris, RN, BSN, CWOCN



A very warm and exciting greeting to all of the SER dedicated, compassionate, caring, professional nurses who deserve a "hug" every day for all that you do. Our 2011 annual SER Conference is fast approaching and some of our colleagues will be recognized for their contribution to our nursing profession. I want to thank everyone for nominating or submitting an application to honor several of our nurses. The online process has been user friendly. Thanks to those who took their valuable time to submit these applications and nominations. All of the applicants are very deserving. Our SER Board is very excited about informing the winners at conference. These include WOC Nurse of the Year, Honorary Scholarship Award, Rookie of the Year, UOAA Youth Rally Camp Scholarship Recipient, SER Conference Scholarship, Dorothy Doughty Research Grant and WOCN Week Recognition. Anyone who submitted an application or nominated a nurse or camper needs to E-mail me a picture of the applicant or nurse who was nominated for the award. This is so a Power Point presentation can be completed prior to conference. Hopefully the Youth Rally recipient will share her experiences with us with photos of her experience at camp. Please start thinking about next year's nominations. See you at SER Conference in the Great city of Chattanooga, Tennessee! I encourage all of you become involved in our great SER Society and think about running for office or maybe even applying for the research award next year.

Your Awards Director, Cindy Jones Norris
cnorriswcocn@bellsouth.net; work phone 843-674-5645



Greetings from Tennessee!

by Mona Hector, BSN, RN, CWOCN

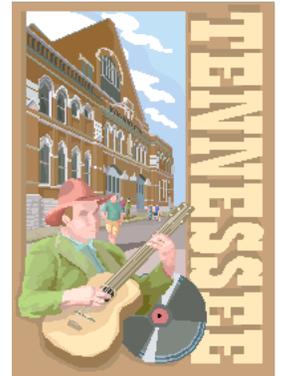
Tennessee is truly green at this time of the year!

We begin with welcoming a newer graduate from the Emory program, **Kim Greer**. She is working at the new wound clinic in Jamestown that opened in January. **Barbara Dale**, another WOCN in the area, is glad to have her close and we all wish her the best in establishing her new position.

Mary Talbird reports that despite some severe damage from tornadoes all over the area there is some good news. **Lesley Meyers** CWOCN from Memorial Hospital, Chattanooga was expecting her third baby. Riley Elizabeth was delivered by C section on June 3. Riley has two older sisters, Chloe and Sophie. Memorial has also hired **Beth Tipton** who is beginning her WOCN studies at Emory. **Ginger Fitzpatrick** from Memorial is starting long distance ostomy studies at Emory.

Lisa Switter CWOCN from Parkridge and **Nancy Crisler** CWOCN from Memorial attended the Memphis WOCN conference in April and came back raving about the event and the city. **Mary Talbird** CWOCN from Parkridge is taking an Alaskan cruise in June with her husband to celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to all.

Susan Scott-Williams was telling me that the South Central Veterans Healthcare Network (VISN 16) was hosting a Pressure Ulcer Summit 1 in New Orleans, LA during national conference June 8th-10th, 2011. The purpose is to develop a strategy and action plan for prevention of hospital acquired pressure ulcers within the Veteran's Health Administration. She is duty bound to let us know how things went and to share.



A brief word about our Memphis spring conference, "Heal On Beale". Feedback was very complimentary and thrilling from the capacity audience and participants. For those who attended and/or are interested there is a website with a number of pictures from the event. Just Google "Heal on Beale". We cherish the experience and the opportunity to share our specialty and our city.



Now for the great fall SER conference being held in Chattanooga, September 15-18, 2011. Look for the more detailed article submitted by chairperson, **Martha Davidson**, in this issue of the newsletter. Registration, the conference agenda, and hotel reservations are all available online at

the SER WOCN website. **Pat Dittes** is calling for poster presentations - anyone interested contact her at pldittes@bellsouth.net. And everyone can be a part of sending items for the goodies bags (you know how we love those) and the silent auction. **Janeen Lee** reports WOC nurses from the Nashville and Chattanooga areas are helping but we still need east and west groups to help. There is a form letter that can go to the contributors that includes a tax number so their donation can be tax-deducted. Anyone interested or with questions can contact **Janeen** at janeen.lee@comcast.net.

In closing, I am thinking of retiring my "reporter's pen" since I have been doing the TN news for several years. This is a great chance to network across the state, hear the news first and be nosy. Also consider it for perhaps some professional growth points for certification. We have only three issues a year now.

Keep the news coming - monahector@bellsouth.net or (901) 358-2667

Tennessee WOC Nurses

Tennessee needs a new state reporter starting with the next newsletter. (Fall 2011 - after Regional Conference) Becoming a state reporter is a perfect way to get involved with other Tennessee WOC nurses, the SER and as a bonus earn PGP points! Each article is worth 5 professional practice points, up to 15 points per specialty. If you're interested, contact:

Mona Hector: monahector@bellsouth.net

Laura Shafer: lshafer833@gmail.com

Patti Haberer: phaberer@tampabay.rr.com

Thank-you Mona for all your years of service to the SER!



A poster presentation is an opportunity to earn PGP points and enhance a resume. Do you have an interesting case study? original investigation? product trial? clinical review? innovative treatment? Our Region wants to hear from you!

The deadline for submitting poster abstracts has been extended to August 15, 2011.

For more information, go to: <http://serwocn.org/events.html>

**Submit your
Posters Now!**



Summer WOC'N in South Carolina

by Barbara Righter, RN, CWOCN

Success Tale

One tidbit for us to remember: Be persistent and never give up! If you know or have a gut feeling that something needs to be done for your patient...be persistent, even pushy, if necessary.



Case in point: Patient with quadriplegia secondary trauma; developed Stage IV pressure ulcer with osteo (4 x 6 x 4 with 4-6 cm tunneling/undermining). Treated with Cipro PO for 6 weeks per infectious disease. I questioned effectiveness of this order but was told that this was adequate. Continued to treat the wound with everything but the kitchen sink! Wound decreased in depth/undermining and then increased. This continued for several months with little progress and with me continuing to press every new Hospitalist that came through the unit that I thought he had chronic osteo. Despite excellent nutritional interventions (thanks to my dietitian); excellent pressure relief (thanks to the Kin-Air bed and nursing staff); excellent wound care (thanks to my PT dept for MIST, advanced therapies/dressings (silver alginates, Iododorb gel, Dakins, VAC, OASIS, Prisma, yada, yada, yada!), and nursing staff...(I'll take a little credit here too!); and overall excellent medical management, his prealbumin remained relatively low (12-14), his inflammatory markers were elevated, and his wound was slow to non-healing. Finally, a Hospitalist listened. MRI revealed osteo. Plastics consulted and after our discussion agreed to a flap. Bone debrided, culture done (thank goodness) and appropriate antibiotic for osteo started (IV!), flap done!! Patient is 3 weeks post-op and flap looks great. He is still on antibiotics and his prealbumin is now 18. "Pushy" may not seem like the right word after many months, but you have to be pushy with "charm" in the south and it may take longer! However, my point is: be persistent and pushy for your patients if you know what needs to be done...no matter how long it takes! We have the knowledge; we have to use it for our patients! Okay, forget the charm if you need too! **Carolyn Cuttino**

WOC nurses on the move

- Carolinas Hospital System in Florence, SC has hired **Denae Blanks**, RN and WON full time to work with **Cindy Norris** CWOCN. Denae has relocated from Rockhill, SC. And will begin working June 6th. She completed the Emory Program 5 years ago.
- Congrats to **Marie Gelhing**, of Orangerburg Regional Medical Center, who is officially a Nurse Practitioner....and hats off to **Alex** and **Laura** who recertified through the PGP Program.
- ANMED Health in Anderson SC has added **Kelli Potter** to the WOC inpatient team. Kelli is joining **Kathy Galofski** CWON & **Valarie Haisley** CWCN & will be attending a WOC Education program in the future.

Charleston CWCN receives funding from NIH....

Dr. Teresa Kelechi, PhD, GCNS-BC, CWCN, Associate Professor, College of Nursing, Medical University of South Carolina was recently awarded a multi-million dollar grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research to study the effects of a cryotherapy gel cuff on blood flow and venous leg ulcer occurrence in patients with chronic venous disorders. The cuff, designed to slide onto the lower leg, will be tested over a 9-month period, where the patient will use the cuff while elevating the leg on a special pillow, for 30 minutes each day, for the first month of the study. Patients will take their leg temperatures before and after the treatment, to monitor how cold the skin gets to prevent injury and to see if the skin temperature stays down over time. Each month the frequency of using the cryotherapy cuff will be reduced until prn, around month 7. Patients will keep track of the skin temperatures, in hopes of reducing the temperature by about 2 degrees, and sustaining the reduced temperature over time. The theory is that if inflamed skin, commonly associated with venous disorders is cooled and stays cool, blood flow will be reduced (high blood flow is associated with ulcers) and it will be less like to ulcerate. **Dr. Kelechi** has several publications related to her previous work with cyrotherapy and the use of thermometers to measure skin temperature. She hopes to add skin temperature monitoring to the standard of care (compression, leg elevation, physical activity) for patients with chronic venous

disorders. Once a baseline temperature has been established, patients will monitor skin temperature several times a week, and if an increase of about 4 degree over baseline is noticed, the patient will cool the skin, and thus, prevent a leg ulcer. For more information about the study, **Teresa** can be reached at kelechtj@musc.edu.

After Hours

- **Regina Holmes** of Loris Hospital coordinates the North Grand Strand Ostomy Support Group. **Jane Mansfield** CWCN for SC DHEC Home Health Region 4 assists **Regina**. The group meets the first Sunday of every month (Sept thru June) at the Loris Wellness Center. Any one interested in the group, can contact **Jane Mansfield** at mansfije@gmail.com.
- **Tena Jordan's** youngest son Taylor was graduated from Greenwood High School and will be attending The Citadel in August.
- **Barb Righter** has a new granddaughter, Lucy Ann~Elizabeth born 4/10/11.

Classified Section

Going to SER and need a roommate to share expenses? Shoot me an E mail (Barbara.Righter@HCAhealthcare.com) and I will help to make the connection.

Got WOC News? Send to:

Barbara.Righter@hcahealthcare

Save the Date: September 15-18, 2011

**We look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga, Tennessee
at the Chattanooga Marriott Convention Center!**



The Great State of Alabama

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

2011 ...What a year this has been in the first six (6) months for Alabama and many of our sister States. Alabama made history in terms of producing the most F-5 tornadoes (3) to hit our State in one day. The tornadoes caused wide-spread destruction throughout the land. As you already know, many lives (230) and thousands of homes were lost in the aftermath. Still, we rise above the rubble and ashes as thousands of community supporters joined hands with those who lost so much to began the process of rebuilding their shattered lives. Support has come in so many different ways from people around the world in their unparalleled efforts to reach out and help their fellow man. Words cannot adequately express how grateful and thankful Alabamians are to God for His beautiful people and their outpouring of love.

It was this type of tenacity and determination that allowed the Birmingham Area Wound, Ostomy and Continent Nurses Association to continue with their plans which subsequently turned out to be one of the most dynamic and successful spring workshops. The workshop was entitled: "Treatment Choices in Managing Complex Wounds and Ostomies". It was held on May 19, 2011, an unbelievable beautiful sunny day, at the Bessemer Civic Center. Even though the

number of participants were smaller than we normally expect; the amount of enthusiasm and air of expectancy made up the difference. Our speakers did an amazing job of keeping the atmosphere charged and electrifying: starting with **Dr. Steven Thomas**, Director of UAB Regional Burn Unit, and his presentation regarding the newest advancements in burn treatments; **Dr. Joyce Black**, Associate Professor, University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing, and her interactive presentation "Is This Pressure Ulcer Avoidable? **Dr. Black** gave us plenty of food for thought as we studied her pictures and the stories behind them. We were then, graced with three equally dynamic presentations from our own CWOCNs: **Cynthia Hill's** presentation on "Compression Therapy" with a hands-on session with audience participation was a big hit, as well as **Karen Edwards's** suggestions on pouching difficult ostomies and fistulas and lastly **Sharon White's** roundup on "New Horizons in Wound Therapy". The event ended with sixteen (16) lucky participants receiving beautiful door prizes provided by our wonderful vendors.



We take this opportunity to thank all of our wonderful vendors who provided the necessary support to make this workshop possible. In addition, we also want to thank our committee chairpersons and their teams for their relentless hard work and dedication in helping to make this event into a successful spring workshop.

Committee Chairs:

- Brochure **Karen Edwards**
- CEs **Cynthia Hill** and St Vincent Home Health Care (formerly Care First Home Health)
- Food **Joy Lynch**
- Goody Bags **Julie Bray**
- Registration **Hattie Stokes Reasor**
- Speakers **Sharon White**
- Vendors **Patricia Blakely** and **Patrice Potts**

Alabama Continued...

Thank you and thank you again Committee Chairs and your teams for a job well done. It could not have been done without you.. I have been a member of the Birmingham Area WOCNs since 1992 (almost twenty years) and I have yet to meet a more cohesive and hard working group of men and women who have a sincere passion for what they do. My prayer is that we will always continue to work as one with no big I and little U in the midst. I count it a blessing and a privilege to be apart of such a loving group for so many years. Remember our commission is to: Love and Respect one another.



- **Karen Edwards** received the UAB Clinical Nurse Excellence Partner in Caring Award on May 6th during our Annual Nurses Week celebration. Karen was presented this honor during a special luncheon and award ceremony.
- **Karen** also continues her impressive work on the International Skin Tear Consensus Panel. The Panel developed twelve (12) consensus statements that were sent out to fifty (50) wound care professionals for their input. **Karen** reports that we should keep an eye out for the white paper publication expected this Fall from **Kim Leblanc** and **Sharon Baronoski**.
- **Karen** is actively searching for a Foot and Nail Care Certification Class or Program that UAB RNs can attend. If anyone knows of such a program – please contact **Karen** at: (205) 934-6903.
- **Michael Byars** out of Montgomery is running for the SER WOCN Nominations Committee. He is an excellent candidate!!
- **Betty Reid**, Diabetes Nurse Specialist at the Birmingham VA Medical Center has just recently passed her WOCN Certification exam and will be working closely with **Bonnie Keisler** at the VA. The Birmingham Area WOCNs are looking forward to having them both become active in our group. They are two very beautiful spirited people and will be a lovely addition to the group.
- **Sharon McKinney** and the Tuscaloosa Group of WOCNs had to postpone their scheduled Wound Care Workshop in April due to the massive destruction that occurred when they suffered the brunt of the F-5 Tornado. They have since rescheduled this free Wound Care Workshop. The workshop will be held June 23rd at the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center.

Jessie Dickerson would like to use this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers, calls and well wishes for a speedy recovery when she was recently hospitalized. I am home now and doing well. Thank you again for your concerns. ALL IS WELL!!!

Respectfully submitted,
Jessie Dickerson, RN
Retiree



Summer in Georgia

by Kathie Fuller, BS, RN, CWOCN

Congratulations to **Rose Murphree** MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN! Rose graduated on May 9, 2011, from the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University with a MSN in Public Health Nursing Leadership. Way to go, Rose!

Rose is one busy lady. The CCFA Take Steps Be Heard for Crohn's & Colitis Walk was held in Atlanta on May 15, 2011. The Atlanta WOCN team walked from Centennial Park and collected \$530! Pictured below are **Robert** and **Rose Murphree**, **Cynthia Timms**, **Angela** and **James Dye**.

In the world of peds... **Marie Oren-Sosebee** BSN, RN, CWOCN has been busy representing pediatric WOC nursing and education at several conferences. Her poster presentation on the 2010 Youth Rally Medical Education Session, "The Great Race: Blending Reality TV with Medical Education," was a poster winner at the February Georgia Association for Nursing Education (GANE) conference in Savannah. The purpose of GANE is to promote excellence in nursing education within the state of Georgia. It is exciting to blend our area of specialty nursing at this education conference, ultimately providing a collaborative platform for promoting WOC nursing professionalism in the education environment! **Marie** also partnered with fellow pediatric WOC nurses in 2 additional poster presentations at the national WOCN Society Conference in New Orleans. In particular, a shout-out goes to poster co-authors from other regions: **Jeannie Thompson** (Texas), **Elizabeth Hildabidel** (California), and **Victoria Beall** (Arizona)!

Also in the world of peds... **Patricia Perlow** has joined the staff at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta-Egleston. **Melissa Sheffer** has left CHOA to join the Children's Center for Digestive Health Care (CCDHC), LLC. In addition to her many responsibilities, **Melissa** provides a monthly ostomy

Crohn's Walk-A-Thon

clinic for kids specializing in education, skin care, gastric tube and fistula management. For clinic information call 404-503-2239.



Lorna Buntichai has been awarded the 1st (annual) Nightingale Award by the Philippine Nurses Association of Georgia (PNAGA). She is past President of the PNAGA. During her two year term, she was involved with organizing annual conferences as well as numerous outreach activities. Recently, **Lorna** was one of the main speakers at a PNAGA Seminar: Making Sense of POA: Pressure Ulcer Identification and Prevention. Every 4th Sunday, she and other PNAGA members "staff" a health clinic for the Chinese Lion's Club. **Lorna** is active in the community as well as in the Philippine nurses association. She is a member of a Filipino choir; they sing carols and other selections for nursing home residents during December each year. **Lorna** also finds time to participate in a monthly Ostomy Support Group in Gwinnett. Congratulations Lorna!

Thanks for letting me serve Georgia . . . if you have any news, please sent it my way.

Kathie kathie.fuller@northside.com





Florida - The Sunshine State

by Linda Ravenhorst, BSN, MBA, RN, CWON

The State of Florida is into summer for sure when we hear that June 1 is coming, which means Hurricane preparedness for everyone. Besides the high temperatures and high humidity! So get your sun block ready and head for the pool, beach or at least some air conditioning and a cool drink.

The Florida Association of Enterostomal Therapist (FAET) was treated to a wonderful conference in Fort Lauderdale put together by **Amparo Cano** and her wonderful team. We were located in a beautiful private resort on the beach called Lago Mar Resort and Club. Our title was "WOCN Practice: The Gold Standard".

Some of our well-known speakers included **Dorothy Doughty** - speaking on "Prevention and Management IAD, CAUTI, and Complications 2^o Indwelling Bowel Management Systems". **Dr. Nancy Collins** - speaking on "Minimizing the Risks of Practice: What Practitioners Should Know About Lawsuits and the Common Care Issues That Give Rise to Litigation". **Dr. Marie Williams**, Podiatrist, speaking on "Diagnosis and Management of Lower Extremity Wounds". **Dr. John E. Roberts III**, Colorectal Surgeon, - discussing "Complications of Stomas". **Dr. Juan Bravo**, MD, CWS showing healing with "HBO and the Walking Wounded". **Michael Gerard**, BA - delivering Motivational Skits using the Ostomates of the Broward County UOAA.

New this year was a session called Case Studies Presentations. **Patricia Paxton-Alan** was the moderator. **Molly Brethour** presented "Atypical Peristomal Ulcers: Assessment and Treatment." **Karen Durigan** and **Donna Lehman** presented "Management of a Gastrostomy Tube: A Pouching Nightmare". **Brandee Heath**, and **Vivian Bartlett** presented "Managing a Complex Enterocutaneous Fistula within a Wound". **Argelia Welber** presented "Challenges in Managing Wound in a

Patient with Lower Extremity Peripheral Artery Occlusive Disease (PAOD)"



Our election results for this coming year are **Nancy Scott** re-elected for Secretary for her second term, **Kathy Kwiatkowski** re-elected for her second term as Treasurer, **Shirl Nix-Rogers** was elected as Director of Awards, and **Patrice Muse** was elected as the Nominations Chairperson with **Lori Fuhrer** and **Marsha Thoenke** as part of the Nominations Committee. It was voted by a majority to go forward with pursuing a name change for our organization to more closely follow the National Organization name change. Two of the FAET members were honored by receiving a \$250 scholarship from FAET. **Malou Madarang** BSN, CWOCN is working toward her graduate degree at Walden University and **Patrice Muse** just completed her NP degree from Graceland. The 2012 FAET Conference will be in the Tampa Bay area with **Sheryl Fulmer** as the Conference Chairperson.



Panhandle Area News

Wilson Enfinger has retired from Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. He is now working in industry for Barnes Healthcare Services. **Aimee Swope** BSN, RN, has moved into that position. We wish her much success in her new role. In case you missed it, the research study, 'Quality of Life for Patients Living with Ostomies: Influence of Contact with an Ostomy Nurse,' by **Sharon Aronovitch**, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, CWOCN-AP and **Robbie Sharp**, BSN, RN, CWOCN was published in the November/December 2010 WOCN Journal. The "almost famous" Wound Care Wine Club has agreed to partner with Save a Leg, Save a Life Foundation for some of its meetings. The mission to educate clinicians in our community remains the same.

Orlando Area News

Charlene Demers was recently awarded Orlando 2011 Secretary of Veteran's Affairs Award for Excellence in Nursing for Advanced Practice Nurse. Congratulations **Charlene**, job well done! Some re-certifications by PGP are **Ron Sotomayor**, **Brenda Reinhart** and **Terry Barton** by PGP from the Orlando area. **Maria Botero** is the newest addition to Florida Hospital. She worked previously at South Seminole and most recently in home care. Welcome **Maria**. The following nurses from Orlando area were given awards at the FAET for length of time as WOC's: **Sloan Bartlett** for 20 years and **Brenda Reinert** for 10 years.

Tampa Area News

Tampa Bay Networking group will be meeting on July 20, at 6 pm at the Mythos Greek Tavern off Ulmerton Rd. east of US Highway 19. Contact Sherylfulmer@baycare.org for further information. Topic of discussion will be the upcoming 2012 FAET conference as well as an update from Hollister. Please let **Sheryl Fulmer** know if you are coming so we have the correct amount of food and seating. Thank you very much!! **Cheryl Lynch** recently re-certified by testing. **Joan Jacoby** will be attending the Youth Rally. Retiring from St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa is **Pamela Brown**. **Linda Ravenhorst** has an exciting family reunion in Albuquerque planned this summer.

I look forward to serving; please send any Florida news to **Linda Ravenhorst** at: jravenhorst@tampabay.rr.com.



Certification Review Webinar

presented by **Dorothy Doughty**

On-line recorded Webinar is available anytime

through **December 31, 2011**

Cost: \$100.00

www.serwocn.org/webinarinfo.html