



## President's Report

Martha Davidson, MN, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
President  
president@serwocn.org



Dear Members,

The WOCN® Society's 47th Annual Conference in San Antonio, TX was a wonderful start to my summer. Of our 677 membership in the Southeast region, there were over 55 members present at the San Antonio conference membership meeting. Proudly, the Southeast region continues to hold the Society's Presidential reigns for two more years. Phyllis Kupsick (from North Carolina) turned over the leadership to Carolyn Watts (Tennessee), as Carolyn was sworn into the Presidency the final day of conference. These two incredible women follow the footsteps of several other WOCN Presidents from the southeast: Bonnie Bolinger, Debra Broadwell-Jackson, Dorothy Doughty, Laurie McNichols, Margaret Goldberg and Phyllis Bonham.

While in San Antonio, Jennifer Anderson (SER President-Elect), Patti Haberer (SER Past President) and I attended the Regional/Affiliate Presidents Meeting and the WOCN Leadership Workshop. Besides sharing ideas between the other regions and affiliate about our regional websites, conference calls, logos/branding, and our new Operating Guidelines; we learned more about navigating the wealth of information on the WOCN Society website and ANCC guidelines.

If you haven't registered for regional conference, now is the time to do so. Registration is available on-line. Come experience the Magic at the SER Annual Conference in Orlando, FL September 10-12, 2015. Registration fees remain a bargain at \$225 for early bird pricing until July 15th. The Rosen Centre Hotel and Convention Center is beautiful facility and it promises to be magical for all. Charlene Demers and the Educational Committee have been diligently working to devise an excellent line up of speakers and presentations, sure to please every attendee.

The Southeast Region website hosts a wealth of information about our Region's past and present activities. I encourage everyone to explore our website often for updates and news from the region. Also, our new slate of candidates for Board positions and Nominations Committee members has been posted for your review. We have an outstanding slate of nominees, so please review each candidate's qualifications. Voting will be open on July 15th. Please don't hesitate to contact any of the board to answer any questions.

Martha Davidson  
President - SER of the WOCN Society  
Contact me: president@serwocn.org

### Bring on the Sunshine State:

Join us in Orlando, Florida,  
September 10 - 12, 2015

**Experience the Magic:**  
**Blending the Art & Science of WOC Nursing.**



September 10 - 12, 2015



## Southeast Region 2015 Board of Directors

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### **Director - Communications**

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### **Director - Special Projects**

Reneé Epting  
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### **Nominations Committee Chair**

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### **2015 Conference Chair**

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[2015conference@serwocn.org](mailto:2015conference@serwocn.org)

### **Past President**

Patti Haberer  
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### **Management:**

Angela Howell - Event Planner  
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Bernie Haberer - Manager  
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## Communications Update

by Nadine Mulligan, RN, CWCN  
Director of Communications  
[news@serwocn.org](mailto:news@serwocn.org)



### Hello Southeast Region!!

I want to give a hug thank you to our State Reporters for bringing their local news to our region.

- Alabama – Amy Armstrong - [al.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:al.reporter@serwocn.org)
- Florida – Heather Phister– [fl.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:fl.reporter@serwocn.org)
- Georgia – Angela Dye – [ga.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:ga.reporter@serwocn.org)
- North Carolina – Colleen Spiller – [nc.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:nc.reporter@serwocn.org)
- South Carolina – Joan Jackson-Meekins – [sc.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:sc.reporter@serwocn.org)
- Tennessee – Barbara Dale – [tn.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:tn.reporter@serwocn.org)

I want to welcome Heather as our new Florida State Reporter. I truly appreciate your willingness to be part of the Southeast Region of the WOCN Society! State Reporters are Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society active members who volunteer to serve a term of 2 years with the option of a second term with the approval of the Director of Communications. The State Reporter is responsible for gathering information pertinent to their state membership and composing an article to share with our southeast community through this newsletter. If you are interested in becoming involved in your Southeast Region, this is a great way to start! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at [news@serwocn.org](mailto:news@serwocn.org).

Please join us at the Southeast Region of the WOCN 2015 Conference in Orlando for Experience the Magic: Blending the Art & Science of WOC Nursing on September 10-12 at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida. We are providing a link on the website for any member who wishes to share a room or a ride to the conference. For more information about the conference please visit our website at: [www.serwocn.org/2015conference/](http://www.serwocn.org/2015conference/).

Voting is opened from July 15th through August 14th, online. Candidate biographies for 2015 SER WOCN® elections are posted on the website. Please take the time to review the candidate biographies and then vote. This year you will be voting for:

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Director of Conference Planning
- Director of Special Projects
- Nominations Committee Members (6)

Have safe and wonderful summer! See you in Orlando!  
Contact me at: [news@serwocn.org](mailto:news@serwocn.org)



### The Southeast Region 2015 Conference Chair Update

by Charlene A. Demers, ARNP, CWOCN  
2015 Conference Chair  
2015conference@serwocn.org



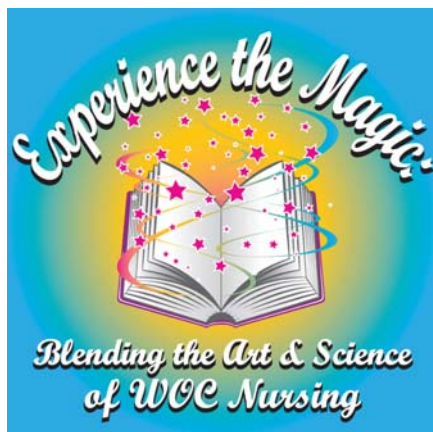
The Florida WOC nurses are planning an exciting conference for you in Orlando, Florida. We have an excellent group of speakers to enhance your knowledge of WOC nursing, a lovely hotel for your comfort and networking opportunities, and a great location on International Drive at the Rosen Centre.

International Drive is a thoroughfare of restaurants and entertainment establishments, many within walking distance from the hotel and others only a short trolley ride away. Of course, you will also be in the land of theme parks. Whatever your pleasure, Orlando has it – Disney World, Epcot, Universal Studios, and Wizarding World of Harry Potter, Madame Tussauds, Sea World, Gatorland, and Legoland among many other activities.

So come and Experience the Magic of Blending the Art & Science of WOC Nursing and plan on having a great time while you are here. You deserve it! See you in Orlando September 10-12, 2015.

Florida WOC nurses who have not yet signed up to help out with conference can still join the fun. Email 2015conference@serwocn.org for volunteer opportunities.

Charlene A. Demers, ARNP, CWOCN



**Full Conference information  
is on our website**

**[www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org)**

**If you have not yet registered  
do so now.**



## Elections Update



by Terry Barton, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
Nominations Committee Chair  
nominations@serwocn.org

Voting for board and nominations committee members is online only, and is now open.

Please take just a few minutes to participate in this election and cast your ballot. You may find the Election information on our website at: [www.serwocn.org/AnnualElections/](http://www.serwocn.org/AnnualElections/) to access the candidate profiles and ballot form.

While voting will remain open through August 14th, I encourage you to cast your vote soon, and check this off your to-do list. Let your voice be heard and help choose our organization's future leadership.

Winners will be announced during our General Membership Business Meeting in Orlando on Saturday, September 12, 2015. We hope to see you there for what promises to be another fantastic Southeast Region Conference!

Terry Barton



## Special Projects Update

by Reneé Epting, MN, RN, CWOCN  
Director of Special Projects  
projects@serwocn.org



### Members.....we need you!

Have you successfully cared for a particularly difficult patient (aka a Nightmare on ET Street), or have you cared for an unusual wound? Have you presented on an interesting WOC topic such as Calciphylaxis or Deep Tissue Injury.

Have you successfully navigated the PGP path and would you be willing to share advice with our membership? Do you have advice for new WOCNs just starting out in the field? I know there are a number of you out there with presentations that would be interesting to our membership.

We'll be glad to take care of submitting paperwork for contact hours for you if you just share your topic in a PowerPoint presentation with us. We'll also put them on the SER website as Contact Hour opportunities for our membership, and you earn PGP points in the process. It's a win-win opportunity for all! Please submit your ideas to [projects@serwocn.org](mailto:projects@serwocn.org).

Reneé Epting



by Amy Armstrong, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
Alabama State Reporter  
al.reporter@serwocn.org

In October, the Birmingham WOC Nurses group formed a journal club, coordinated by Najla Washington, facilitated by Sharon White and sponsored by Julie Bray of Acelity. The group reviewed the JWOCN article, Smoking, Chronic Wound Healing, and Implications for Evidence-Based Practice. An informative, interesting discussion with great food and fun was enjoyed by all who attended.

In November Jennifer Day welcomed a new daughter to her family. Congratulations to Jennifer and her family! Jennifer has also moved from Children's of AL to Anniston Regional as a WOC nurse.

Congratulations to Randy Broach from the Birmingham VA on passing his wound and ostomy certification-great job!

Congratulations to Ming Hsu from St. Vincent's of Birmingham on passing her wound and ostomy certification-way to go!



In March, Kelly Suttle and Amy Armstrong ran in the Rumpshaker 5K for colon cancer awareness. Where else would you find 2 WOC Nurses than inside a giant inflatable colon?

Congratulations to Birmingham area WOC Nurses Group President, Misty Edwards on the birth of her son Jack.

Karen Edwards is staying busy! She spoke at the National WOCN® Conference Innovation Theater in June and will be traveling to Montreal as part of the International Skin Tear Advisory Panel in July.

We all appreciate the efforts of both Deborah Thedford-Zimmerman and Jackie Doubleman. Jackie retired from St. Vincent's in April and Deborah retired from UAB July 1.

Both of these women have left a lasting impression on not only their patients, but colleagues and friends too. We know we will still see them and wish them all the best!

Amy Armstrong graduated from UAB with a MSN, Clinical Nurse Leader in April.

Our condolences to Catrice Potts on the loss of her grandmother and Joy Lynch on the loss of her mother.



Congratulations to Laura Taylor from Brookwood in Birmingham on passing her wound, ostomy, and continence certification-awesome!

The Birmingham Area Group held a conference April 17, 2015 at the Bruno's Conference Center in Birmingham. Layers of Care by Your WOC Nurses featured our own WOC Nurses discussing topics such as Bariatric Skin Care, Layers of Linen and Driving Down Pressure Ulcer Rates, Lower Extremity Ulcers with Compression Wrap Skills Workshop, Continence/Bowel & Bladder Issues and the Wound Treatment Associate Program. We appreciate all the vendors who supported the Conference. The informative conference was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.



*WOC Nurses from around the state gather at Layers of Wound Care Conference in April.*



*Misty, Cynthia, and Deborah at the Layers of Care conference.*



by Heather Phister, BSN, RN, CWCN, COCN, CCCN  
Florida State Reporter  
fl.reporter@serwocn.org



The Florida Association of Enterostomal Therapists had their annual conference this year in Cocoa Beach on March 6th and 7th. It was the 36th annual conference called "Riding the Waves of Change". There were 85 paid attendees as well as 32 vendors. Many thanks to the Conference Committee which included Jacqueline Wiseman, Katie Schmidt, Jana Rochette, Tammy Turner, Lynn Shrieves, Kim Kehoe, Shawna Philbin, and Kathy Ellis. Presentation topics included "Pouching the Challenging Patient", "Compression from the Inside out, not the Outside In", "Smooth Sailing: Navigating Presentations- Full Steam Ahead", "Hyperbaric Oxygenation Therapy in Wound Care", "Understanding Urinary Catheters: Keeping the Flow Going", "Progressive Mobility", and "Surfing Ostomy and Fistula Challenges".

The Youth Rally started on the 13th through the 18th at the University of Colorado in Boulder. This camp is for kids between the ages of 11 and 17 with any sort of bowel or bladder dysfunction. It is designed to help campers understand that everyone has the same opportunities to achieve their goals regardless of medical or physical differences. At FAET business meeting in Cocoa Beach FAET members voted to sponsor one camper at this year's Youth Rally. Thanks FAET!

Miami will be the site of the 2016 FAET Conference! The date will be announced shortly. Amparo Cano is the conference coordinator and already has topics outlined with possible speakers. Please remember to keep up to date on your dues for FAET so you can get the member rate for the 2016 conference. Renewal is in January. Check out FAET.org Newsletter for 7/2015 for the form to complete.

(<http://faet.org/news.html>)



by Angela Dye, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
Georgia State Reporter  
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### Summer greetings from Georgia!

Group Updates and Announcements:

- Cartersville Medical Center has a new advanced wound care center opening this fall! Jamie Parker graduated in April with a Master's Degree in Nursing Leadership and Healthcare Administration from the University of West Georgia. Congratulations, Jamie! CMC has hired a new CWOCN, Stephanie Feller, to work in the outpatient wound center. Stephanie's bio:

*I received my RN in 2009 from Shawnee State University in Southern Ohio. I finished my BSN in 2011 from Kent State University (Go Flashes). I always knew my calling in life was to be a nurse and help people. After getting my feet wet in management positions, it appeared that chronic wounds, pressure wounds and other skin issues were a real challenge for my nursing staff. After working closely with our contracted wound nurse and learning about the skin's healing process, the self-reward of knowing I could help heal a wound was a great feeling. I enrolled in Metropolitan State University's webWOC program. I enjoy the challenges and personal connections that come along with WOC nursing. I graduated in Dec 2014 and am now a CWON with plans on conquering the Continence exam in the next few months. I moved to*



*northwest GA to be a part of an advanced wound care clinic. I enjoy cross stitching, music, exploring my new town and surrounding areas, winery tours and up for anything that seems fun!*

Welcome Stephanie!

- The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Education Center (WOCNEC) Lynette Franklin had a chapter published: Chapter 7 Optimizing the study in Rapid and Practical Interpretation of Urodynamics by Rovner & Koski, 2015. Way to go, Lynette!
- Rose Murphree & Lynette Franklin attended The WOCN® Society Conference in San Antonio last month.
- Rose will spend her 30th summer as Camp Nurse with the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Camp Walk N' Roll at Camp Twin Lakes in Rutledge, GA (July 11-17).

General News:

- Susan Steele, PhD, RN, CWOCN is speaking at the Southeast Region conference in Florida in September. She is "really looking forward to reconnecting with her Southeast Region colleagues."

Many thanks to those who shared their news!



by Colleen Spiller, MA, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
North Carolina State Reporter  
[nc.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:nc.reporter@serwocn.org)



Professional news

Laurie Crookenden has been accepted to UNCC MSN program in Community Public Health Nursing. Congrats Laurie, and best of luck.

Angela Richardson, at Duke Hospital begins her MSN program with a concentration in Adult/Geriatric Clinical Nurse Specialist in the fall of 2015 at East Carolina. We wish Angela all the best in her studies.

The 2nd Annual WannaWearOne Ostomy Awareness 5K will be held on October 3, 2015 at Omega Sports in Durham. Go to [www.ostomy5k.org](http://www.ostomy5k.org) to register. This is a lot of fun y'all, come on out and enjoy the outdoors as well as spending some time with your peers...and all for a great cause!

Southeastern Regional Medical Center held a Wound Care Symposium in May at the Southeastern Agricultural Center in Lumberton, NC.

UNC Medical Center, Chapel Hill, has one FT WOC nurse position open.

Teri Ourada from Rex Hospital won the \$500.00 scholarship for The Southeast conference. The money was transferred to Rachel Beth Breazeale who represented Rex. We hope you have a good time at conference Rachel! Rachel also wanted to say thank you to the NC WOC Nurses Group for the opportunity.

Family News

Tracie Bullins daughter has graduated from cosmetology school, and is working full time at a salon. Congratulations, and we know she is helping lots of ladies have a good day!

Laurie Crookenden's son, Collin, has graduated from Lee University and starts law school at William and Mary in the fall of 2015. We know you are very proud of him Laurie.

Colleen's Spiller son is getting married in November. Now that all the members of the family who are in the military will be in the States at the same time, a ceremony is possible!



by Joan Jackson Meekins, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
South Carolina State Reporter  
sc.reporter@serwocn.org



Cindy Norris has officially retired after 45 years of nursing. She said it is great with no more reports, no more QI, no more surveys, and she can go and come as she pleases. There is a real world out there! She has been spending time with grandchildren ages 2, 4, 5, 6 and 11 years old. Her youngest daughter and family are moving to East Asia as Baptist missionaries indefinitely. She says she misses her patients. Cindy is only working 1 day per month at the Williamsburg Regional Hospital Wound Center. Cissy Deas is the new Wound Center Director at Williamsburg Regional Hospital.

#### Funded Grants:

1. INVESTIGATOR: Teresa J. Kelechi, PhD, RN, FAAN

SPONSOR: NIH/NINR

TITLE: Monitoring and Managing Newly Healed Chronic Leg and Foot Ulcer Skin Temperature: A Cooling Intervention (MUST- COOL) to Prevent Ulcer Recurrence

GOAL: To prevent chronic leg and foot ulcer recurrence. Using infrared thermography to identify leg and foot skin "hot spots" at risk for ulcer recurrence, participants will monitor this identified at-risk skin over newly healed chronic venous leg and diabetic foot ulcers. Hot spots will be managed using a sequenced cooling regimen for prophylaxis and a bolus dosage for elevated skin temperature above baseline. A pack will be applied to at-risk skin to reduce inflammation during the six month study. The overall aim is to compare this home-based prevention intervention to a placebo pack in adults aged 50 and above on ulcer recurrence, pain, physical activity and quality of life.

2. INVESTIGATOR: Teresa J. Kelechi, PhD, RN, FAAN

SPONSOR: FirstString Research, LLC.

TITLE: Open Label Pharmacokinetic Study of Granexin® Gel in Patients With Venous Leg Ulcers

GOAL: To examine the concentration of Granexin® that enters the body after application of the study drug to human subjects venous leg ulcerations. This type of testing, called pharmacokinetics (PK), measures the fate of a drug from the time it is administered up to the point which it is eliminated from the body.

3. INVESTIGATOR: Teresa J. Kelechi, PhD, RN, FAAN

SPONSOR: NIH/NINR

TITLE: FOOTFIT mHealth Physical Activity Intervention for Leg Ulcer Patients

GOAL: This study will test a low intensity foot exercise program for people with lower leg ulcers and who have problems with walking to see if it improves the condition of the legs. A small activity monitoring tracker called an accelerometer will be placed on the foot during the exercises that are to be done in the home for about 6 weeks. The tracker sends movement information to a cell phone that lets the patient and wound care specialist know about improvements in the foot movements. Better foot movements help condition the muscles and joints and may improve activity such as walking and getting up from a chair. While not the focus of the study, these exercises might also improve the healing of leg ulcers.

People living near Spartanburg, Orangeburg and Charleston are invited to participate. Referrals are welcomed from anyone. We compensate the patients for their participation.

Many South Carolina WOC nurses attended the National WOCN Society conference in San Antonio, Texas.





by Barbara Dale, BSN, RN, CHHN, CWOCN  
Tennessee State Reporter  
[tn.reporter@serwocn.org](mailto:tn.reporter@serwocn.org)



Tennessee is so proud of all of our Volunteer State WOC nurses especially all of those serving on committees, task forces, as facilitators, or in leadership positions with local WOC groups, National or The Southeast Region. As I was pulling the emails together I noticed that the two highest positions in both the National and Southeast Regions are held by Tennessee Volunteers!! Carolyn Watts of Vanderbilt is the current President of The WOCN Society and Martha Davidson, also of Vanderbilt, is current President of The Southeast Region of the WOCN Society. Martha reports that the 2017 Southeast Region WOC conference will be held in Tennessee!! "We are currently in negotiations with a Knoxville area hotel and Convention Center for the conference.

Vanderbilt welcomes their newest WOC Nurse hires: Christine Reuscher (full time) who moved back to Nashville from the Atlanta area, and Pat Smith (part time). Pat recently "retired" from her full-time WOC nurse position and is helping several local hospitals on a prn basis. I guess she didn't retire completely!

Amy Bandelier: HCA is looking at starting "Anyone Can Stage". Skyline (Nashville) has been the pilot hospital for HCA. It will be a huge undertaking to get this off the ground.

Rita Blafeld is newly employed at University of TN Knoxville Medical Center as a Nurse Specialist.

Karen Turbett is working for Brookdale Senior Living corporate. She is their National corporate WOC Nurse. Her office educates associates across 47 states. Right now she has a team finalizing a Regional Wound Education program for the company. Their Regional Wound Education Basics is across the continuum of care. It is their first flipped learning style of teaching and we are very excited. The presentation will be recorded and hopefully will become the standard for how their company provides education. They plan to begin with wound care basics and each year provides 4 Regional presentations and then moves their associates from basics to advanced wound care education. They are creating a Facilitators (reproducible) tool kit for train the trainer education.

Virginia Kanner, reports Mountain States Health Alliance "will be offering the WTA program here in our system very soon!" We are excited. The initial offering will be to our own staff nurses, hopefully to have a wound "super-user" on each unit, in the ER and in home health. We have hospitals in Tennessee and in Virginia, so we hope to reach staff in each facility. Early next year we hope to offer it to our community nursing homes, all of whom have voiced their excitement about the program. We have two WOC nurses here in the Outpatient Wound Clinic who will spearhead the program, Tina Hein and me. Here at Mountain States Health Alliance our motto is "bringing loving care to healthcare." We want to provide our team members with the knowledge and support that they need to provide our patients with the best care possible.

And on a side note, I am getting a new grandson in December! What a precious Christmas gift.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in Orlando September 10-12th