



## President's Report

Martha Davidson, MN, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
President  
[president@serwocn.org](mailto:president@serwocn.org)

Dear Members,

The fall conference: "Experience the Magic: Blending the Art & Science of WOC Nursing," September 10, 11 & 12, 2015, in Orlando, Florida was indeed magical and filled with fabulous speakers, presentations and networking. THANKS to the wonderful Florida conference planning committee and Charlene Demers (Conference Chair) for our amazing conference. Karen Edwards spoke to a sold out 3 hour pre-conference session, "The Aftermath of GI Surgery: The Magic and Science of Pouching." Then an additional 14 contact hours were offered to the conference attendees.

A big shout out to our 74 Exhibitors for keeping our membership up to date on the latest and greatest products and educational information. Please note the links (to the right side of our website home page) showcasing of our wonderful Diamond, Silver and Gold sponsors for our conference. With our exhibitor and sponsor support, the Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society is able to provide our annual conference at a reasonable registration fee.

Kudos to our 5 conference scholarship winners who were each awarded \$1200 to help defray their conference expenses: Kimberly Canady, Angela Graham, Sonya Hicks, Jamie Parker and Linda Ravenhorst.

During the conference, Maria Kotula from South Carolina was surprised with the Rookie of the Year Award for being an exceptional WOC nurse with less than 2 years' experience. Jamie Parker from Georgia was awarded the Nurse of the Year Award. Charlene Demers was pleasantly caught off guard when she was recognized by her peers in Florida with the Florida State Recognition Award.

Our region initiated a new scholarship program this year for Southeast Region members who are returning to school for advance practice in nursing or WOC nursing educational program. Our first recipient of the WOC nursing educational program scholarship is Jamie Chambers who is attending Emory. Vicky Bryan, who is attending Georgia State University for her MSN/FNP, is our first recipient of the advance practice nursing scholarship.

We had 17 posters on display at conference with the opportunity for 1 extra CE for viewing the posters. Prizes were awarded for our top 3 posters. First place (\$1000) went to Jamie Parker for *Breaking the Mold: How to Make Homemade Ostomy Models*. The second place poster (\$500) went to Aileen Ankrom, et al for *Pilot Test of Extended Wear Carrier (EWC) for Liquid Deodorants in an Ostomy Pouch*. In third place (\$250) was Jackie Thul, et al for *Sacral Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Trauma Patients*. All of the posters are available for viewing on our website. Congratulations to all our conference winners and recipients of the awards!

In January, we will be saying goodbye to some of our fabulous outgoing board members; Patti Haberer (Past-President), Trena Beckham (Secretary) and Trudy Huey (Director of Conference Planning); while saying hello to our newly elected board members Angela Graham (Secretary) and Elaine Rush (Director of Conference Planning). Pam Whitley (Treasurer) and Renee Epting (Director of Special Projects) will start their second term in their board positions. Thanks to our outgoing Board members who have shared their time and expertise to the Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society over the past couple years.

Sadly our Director of Communication, Nadine Mulligan has resigned her position after 8 months of service to the Southeast Region. We appreciate Nadine's participation and will miss her on the Board. We welcome Colleen Spiller, who has graciously agreed to fill the empty position as Director of Communications for the next year. THANKS Colleen.

Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the board if you have questions.

Martha Davidson  
President - SER of the WOCN Society  
Contact me: [president@serwocn.org](mailto:president@serwocn.org)





## Southeast Region 2015 Board of Directors

### **President**

Martha Davidson  
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### **President-Elect**

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[treasurer@serwocn.org](mailto:treasurer@serwocn.org)

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Nancy Scott  
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### **Director - Conference Planning**

Trudy Huey  
[conf.plan@serwocn.org](mailto:conf.plan@serwocn.org)

### **Director - Communications**

Colleen Spiller  
[news@serwocn.org](mailto:news@serwocn.org)

### **Director - Special Projects**

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

Terry Barton  
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### **2015 Conference Chair**

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

### **Past President**

Patti Haberer  
[past.pres@serwocn.org](mailto:past.pres@serwocn.org)

### **Management:**

Angela Howell - Event Planner  
[events@serwocn.org](mailto:events@serwocn.org)

Bernie Haberer - Manager  
[bhe@serwocn.org](mailto:bhe@serwocn.org)

## Communications Update

by Colleen Spiller, MA, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
Director of Communications  
[news@serwocn.org](mailto:news@serwocn.org)



### Greetings fellow WOC Nurses!

I had no idea when I walked up to register at Southeast Region of the WOCN® that I was going to walk away as Director of Communications. So be forewarned...conference is always full of surprises! I would like to thank the membership for allowing me the opportunity to serve as Director of Communications. It is truly an honor, and I look forward to being a part of the board. I would like to thank Martha Davidson, President; Jennifer Anderson, President -Elect and Bernie Haberer, Webmaster, for helping me as I transition into this role. I am sure I have a lot to learn, and I certainly appreciate the opportunity.

A very special thank you to our State Reporters who gather news items for our newsletter:

- 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)

State Reporters are active members in the Southeast Region 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 his or her state membership and composing an article to share with our southeast community through this newsletter. If you are considering recertifying through the PGP, this is also a great way to get points and serve your professional organization.

Contact me at: [news@serwocn.org](mailto:news@serwocn.org)



## The Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society 2015 Conference Update

by Trudy Huey, MSN, RN, CWOCN  
Director of Conference Planning  
[conf.plan@serwocn.org](mailto:conf.plan@serwocn.org)



For those of you not in attendance at the 2015 Southeast Region Conference in Orlando, it truly was a magical experience! Thanks so much to Charlene Demers and her wonderful committees who worked so hard to make the conference great. There are so many people who must come together and work for such a magical experience. This was my last year serving as the Director of Conference Planning so this is my final message to the membership and it is bittersweet.



It has been such an honor to serve our region. The SER Board is very committed to the annual conference being of the highest quality and cost effective for our members. Many of our members are responsible for their own conference expenses and the board always keeps this in mind. I would have to write a book to tell you all I have learned from working with this special group of professionals. I will miss you all very much!!

We are blessed with a superb management staff that has helped to streamline the process of planning and implementing a conference. When I took this position four years ago, online registration, evaluation and education were not in existence. He can take your requests and make them reality and is always at least three steps ahead of everyone in his thinking and doing. I will miss the frequent calls and emails with Bernie and cannot tell you what a gem he is for our region!

Some of my most learned lessons I pass on to Elaine Rush, the incoming Director of Conference Planning. She is such a professional WOC nurse and will elevate the role to another stratosphere. Things I have learned:

- Regulating the temperature in a massive grand ballroom is like nailing Jell-O® to a tree. There is a reason the brochure for meetings always says, bring a jacket or sweater.
- I never get over the sticker shock every year when working on the menus and breaks for the conference. A can of Coke for \$5-7 with a plated dinner plate of chicken for \$40-50 was, and still is, incomprehensible to me. And that doesn't include the tax and 20% gratuity!
- Excitement is there every year watching the theme and logo of a conference come to life. It then blossoms into a well-rounded educational program for our members. And conference gets better year after year.
- Watching the number of first time attendees who are YOUNG increase annually is a reassuring sign of growth for our region and specialty!
- After several hotel site visits, you find yourself reviewing every hotel you visit even if you are vacationing with your family.

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- And you may find yourself, even on vacation, counting the number of bathrooms and how many stalls are in each bathroom. Greater than 10 stalls is always a plus!!
- Counting the number of steps between the general session room to the exhibit hall and to the symposia and back to the elevator are all important numbers because someone will always ask: do you know how many steps this ballroom is from my room upstairs. We are quantifiers.
- Realizing that just when you are comfortable with the ANCC guidelines, they change!
- Knowing that year after year, our industry sponsors are the most supportive and generous group of professionals in the world! We truly appreciate their expertise and support in providing the best products to our patients. Please remember to visit their booth and thank them for attending the SER conference.
- Decreasing the number of trees chopped down for our conference by going paperless whenever possible has been a delight to watch. Once again, thanks Bernie for a stellar website making all these things happen!
- And last, but not least, I will miss the entire process and people. It has been such a wonderful learning experience for me.

Thanks to the SER for all the wonderful memories!

Respectfully,  
Trudy Huey MSN, RN, CWOCN





## Awards Update

by Nancy Scott, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
Director of Awards  
awards@serwocn.org



Congratulations to our 2015 Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society Conference scholarship recipients! Five scholarships were awarded to deserving members of our organization. Each recipient was asked to share their experience after attending this year's conference "Experience the Magic- Blending the Art and Science of WOC Nursing" held in Orlando, Florida.



### 1. Kimberly Canady BSN,RN,CWOCN Walterboro, SC

*In September I had the pleasure of attending the SER of the WOCN® 2015 conference in Orlando. As the title stated "Experience the Magic", it was a magical time for learning, networking as well as refreshing our knowledge of WOC nursing. The speakers and presentations were phenomenal as well as the facility that the meetings were held in. The poster presentations were an added plus, and also were very educational. The vendors and exhibit hall were great with the variety of areas covered, new products available as well as the educational materials/networking contacts I obtained there. The overall experience at this conference was wonderful for me, and will definitely benefit the education of my fellow staff and patients. I am already using some of the new products from conference and am having great results. I am very thankful for all the hard work put into this conference to provide us with continued education so we can continue to provide excellent care to our patients. I also want to thank the SER board for choosing me as a scholarship recipient, without that I would not have been able to participate in this wonderful event.*

### 2. Angela Graham BSN RN, CWOCN Stevenson, AL

*What did I learn?*

1. We are a great group of WOC nurses who network wonderfully and share a wealth of knowledge openly and proudly!
2. Attending conference is vital to maintaining relationships, growth and knowledge.
3. I will be looking at our formulary in re: pressure relief items based on our NPUAP review from several of the sessions.
4. Re-think Biofilms and how I can intervene!
5. Infection Control practices in my homecare setting in re: C-Diff!!
6. New resources for my WTAs to explore

*I could go on and on....conference is always a great experience and being able to attend thanks to the SER Scholarship is a blessing and an honor. The setting was great. The sessions were informative and well attended. I am honored to be having been nominated and elected as our upcoming Secretary on the board. I hope to increase my knowledge of the SER behind the scenes! I promote conference upon my return each year and look forward to next year's event in North Carolina.*



### 3. Sonya Hicks BSN RN, CWOCN Cullman, AL

*Receiving this scholarship was a wonderful and unexpected surprise. A heartfelt thanks to the SER of the WOCN® for the opportunity to attend such a great learning and networking conference. As the conference theme stated, Orlando offered a magical experience! The preconference workshop by Ms. Karen Edwards whose work with individual ostomy models said volumes about her dedication to her profession. I strengthened my knowledge of pressure ulcer guidelines, sphincter preservation, biofilms and even physical therapy in wound healing. The lecture about establishing an outpatient*

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ostomy service was such a pleasure as Ms. Brenda Rutland was so fun to hear—“bless her heart”! Rhonda Sullivan was very informative regarding the legal aspects of WOC nursing. The topics were well varied and beneficial to all aspects of WOC nursing whether acute, outpatient or community based. The vendors gave a wealth of information and tons of samples! The Great Comebacks dinner was an inspiration as it is always uplifting to hear of the impact ostomy nurses have on ostomates. In viewing the posters this year, it only fueled my desire to explore a poster topic in my own practice setting. As a fairly new WOC nurse, I have so much to learn and the ability to network with professionals with such knowledge and passion is priceless. As I pursue my Master’s Degree, this conference only strengthened my desire to learn something useful every day. I am proud to be a part of such an exceptional organization and call myself a WOC nurse!

**4. Jamie Parker MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN Adairsville, GA**

The conference this year was full of education, seeing old friends (and meeting new ones) and several surprising accomplishments. I was blessed to present two posters, one of which won first place! I was also chosen as a scholarship winner in which I am so grateful and appreciative! Thank you scholarship committee!

The SER of the WOCN® Society always holds the best conference each year to educate and support fellow WOC nurses. This year I won Nurse of the Year, and I'm humbled and honored! While accepting the award, I looked around the room and could see numerous nurses that deserve that award! The one characteristic that WOC nurses have that set us apart is passion. To be chosen as WOC Nurse of the Year among such intelligent and beautiful nurses left me speechless. I'm truly proud to receive the scholarship, first place poster winner, and Nurse of the Year award. I've made great friends and I have learned so much. Thank you SER of the WOCN® Society!!!



**5. Linda Ravenhorst, MBA, BSN, RN, CWON Plant City, FL**

Thank you very much for the opportunity to attend the Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society conference this year in Orlando. The speakers and presentations were so pertinent to the care we provide, the nurses that we work alongside of to teach them and get them excited about what we do in our specialty. I work in homecare, so it is great to learn about in-house care of patients whether acute care hospitals, Rehabilitation Centers, or Clinics. It is good to understand how care may be changing in those areas. The Pre-conference program about Pouching the Impossible was really good with a big dose of humor included. The Lunch and Breakfast symposiums were a nice change of pace as the presenters could talk about their topic with names of products.

The Exhibit Hall filled with wonderful Sales Consultants to let you know about the newest products. I will use the information for the few WOCN nurses in my area that were unable to come. In closing, I must say that the following Saturday September 19, I was at University of South Florida to sit for my Certification Exam. 4 hours later, I walk out in a daze, brains drained and realize that I was fortunate to go to conference as some of those things on the exams I heard and were refreshed in my mind just the week before. So, I am grateful that I attended the conference through this scholarship. I have certified by examination for the fifth and final time! I thought how often I would have loved to have a magic wand like the one given to us by the Conference Chair, Charlene Demers (her idea for a magical conference). I wore it to work and the social worker wanted one too! That is what makes Charlene so special as the recipient for the Florida “State Recognition” award.

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## NEW Education Scholarship Awards

### “WOC Nursing Education Program”

**Jamie Chambers BSN, RN**  
New Market, TN



### “Advanced Practice”

**Vicky Bryan BSN, RN, CWON**  
Woodstock, GA



## Nurse of the Year 2015

**Jamie Parker MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN**  
Adairsville, GA



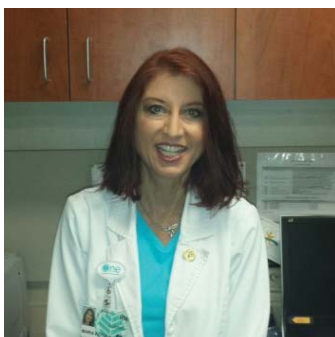
## Florida State Recognition Award

**Charlene Demers MSN, RN, CWOCN**  
Cocoa Beach, FL



## Rookie of the Year 2015

**Maria Kotula BSN, RN, CWON**  
Lake Wylie, SC



Note from Director of Awards:  
Thanks to all the members and vendors who made donations to the Silent Auction. It was a huge success and raised over \$2600 towards the 2016 conference scholarships.

Please submit your applications for next year as soon as the information is available on our website.  
[www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org)

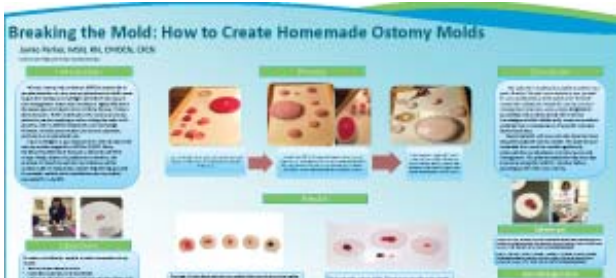


## Special Projects Update

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



It was another banner year for posters at the 2015 SER of the WOCN® Society annual fall conference in Orlando. My sincere thanks go out to all of our poster presenters for sharing their research and projects with the rest of us. We had a total of seventeen abstracts submitted for consideration, and all were accepted and displayed at conference. The topics were wide and varied but very applicable to our WOC nursing practice. Congratulations to the official winners of the competition:



**First Place (\$1000):** Jamie Parker, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN for “Breaking the Mold: How to Create Homemade Ostomy Molds”



**Second Place (\$500):** Aileen Ankrom, BSN, RN, CWOCN, Susan Shapiro, PhD, RN, FAAN, Lauren Flook Brown, BSN, RN, CWOCN, Melinda Higgins, PhD, and Cynthia Timms, BSN, RN, CWOCN for “Pilot Test of Extended Wear Carrier (EWC) for Liquid Deodorants in an Ostomy Pouch”



**Third Place (\$250):** Jackie Thul, MA, BS, RN, CWOCN and Esli Valero, BSN, RN for “Sacral Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Trauma Patients”

If you didn't make it to conference, you can still see these awesome posters. We are proudly displaying them now on the SER website. Go to [www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org) and look under the “Conference” tab at the top of the page and then “2015”. I promise you will find multiple ones that will be of interest to you in your personal practice. In 2016, we hope to see YOU at conference with a poster presentation of YOUR own! Now is the time to be thinking about it and planning...it's not too early to start!

Also, we are still looking for your PowerPoint presentations on topics that may be of interest to our membership. If you provide the presentation, we'll do the work for the CE's and then put it up on the website for our members to review. It's a good way for our membership to get free CE's, and you benefit by earning PGP points. Contact me at [projects@serwocn.org](mailto:projects@serwocn.org) if you have a presentation that you'd like to submit a presentation for consideration.





## 2015 Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society Election Results



by Terry Barton, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
Nominations Committee Chair  
[nominations@serwocn.org](mailto:nominations@serwocn.org)

Thank you to everyone who participated in voting for the SER of the WOCN® Society Election for Board of Directors and Nominations Committee. Congratulations to the following candidates who were elected for a two year term which will begin on January 1, 2016:

- Secretary: Angela Graham
- Treasurer: Pam Whitley
- Director of Conference Planning: Elaine Rush
- Director of Special Projects: Reneé Epting
- Nominations Committee: Priscilla Grant, Bonita Terry, Kristin Matarazzo, Nina Blanton, Amy Bandelier and Terry Barton

Please join us in welcoming our newest Board members!

It is not too early to think about running for next year's available positions:

- President –Elect
- Director of Awards
- Director of Communication

Criteria to run for a Southeast Region Board position:

1. Must be an active member of SER of the WOCN® Society for one year immediately prior to election.
2. A dedicated commitment to serve your fellow Southeast Region colleagues.

Please contact me if you have any questions at: [nominations@serwocn.org](mailto:nominations@serwocn.org)  
Terry Barton BSN, RN, CWOCN Nominations Committee Chair

## Silent Auction Report

by Teri Robinson, BSN, RN, CWON  
Silent Auction Chair  
[auction@serwocn.org](mailto:auction@serwocn.org)



It was a pleasure to chair the silent auction for SER of the WOCN® Society Conference in Orlando. Although a lot of work, my goal was to raise enough money to send a candidate to school. However, the funds can go to meet any need. With everyone's participation, we raised \$2,659.64!

Many people participated to help make this event successful. I want to thank individuals, as well as industry, for items donated. A special thank you to Javier Alvarado, Cindy Fernandez, Cindy Norris, Charlene Demers, Bernie Haberer, Terry Barton, and Nancy Scott for your time and support. I would also like to thank the volunteer crew: Karen Guritz, Laura Shafer, Colleen Spiller, Christine Glosson, Kathryn Dere, Maria Botero, Janice Shuman, Betty Simms, Karen Laikan, Angela Alder, Imma Baylor, Anju Kandel, Kathleen Soreano.

There is a discussion whether to continue with the auction. Please let us know if you enjoy this event and would like to keep the tradition.



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

## Alabama News



*Cheryl, Deborah, and Sharon.*

Sharon White, Cheryl Lane, and Deborah Thedford-Zimmerman spoke at the pre-conference of the National Black Nurses Association conference in Atlanta. They spoke on lymphedema, venous and arterial ulcers.

Congratulations to Katie Warriner for passing all of her certifications as a CWOC nurse and for joining Misty Edwards and Joy Lynch at Princeton.

Congratulations to Catrice Potts on recertifying and on her new job in Utilization Management at UAB.

Najla Washington, CWOCN has taken on a new job closer to home as the lead WOC nurse at DCH.

Michelle Duckett, CWOCN will be joining Elizabeth Day at Children's of AL.

Jennifer Anniston, CWOCN has also taken a job closer to home as a WOC nurse at Anniston Regional Medical Center.

In October, Katie Warriner sponsored a "Wanna Wear One" Virtual 5 K to raise funds for the UOAA. Make plans for next fall to join Katie and other WOC nurses in this fun charity event.

Karen Edwards headed to Montreal in July for the International Skin Tear Advisory Panel meeting. She also went to Chicago for the Chronic Wound Panel. Such a traveler!



*Karen and the International Skin Tear Panel in Montreal.*



Congratulations to Alabama's own Angela Graham on her winning the SER of the WOCN® Society election for secretary. We are so proud of you!

Congratulations to Deborah Thedford Zimmerman on her retirement from UAB.

*The Birmingham Group enjoying journal club at the Southern Kitchen in Birmingham's Uptown.*



*Deborah receiving her rocking chair upon retirement.*

On October 1, the Birmingham Area WOC nurses group held a journal club led by Najla Washington and Misty Edwards. The group reviewed an article regarding peristomal skin issues and using a moldable barrier. A lively, informative discussion was held. Thanks to Key Mosley for sponsoring.

In September, Karen Edwards conducted the preconference on fistulas and problem ostomies at the SER of the WOCN® Society conference. Jennifer Day also attended the conference. Amy Armstrong and Kelly Suttle traveled to Las Vegas for the Wild on Wounds Conference.





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



## Updates from the State of Florida:



Thank you to all the Florida members that assisted this year at the Southeast Region conference! As you know, Charlene Demers from Florida won the State Recognition Award at the SER conference here in Orlando. Charlene has been a big part of FAET for many years! Congratulations Charlene!

Stephanie Barrett, the recipient of the Scholarship from FAET last year, is a new WOC nurse at James Haley VA in Tampa, FL. She is currently out on maternity leave but when she returns will be working in SCI in a new program, Hospital in Home.

FAET sponsored a camper for this year's Youth Rally and received a wonderful letter from both the Youth Rally and a camper that we sponsored to attend.

FAET Positions up for election 2016 are President, Vice-President, and Membership Director. Fort Lauderdale, FL will be the site of the 2016 FAET Conference! The conference will take place April 29-30, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-six Hotel. Amparo Cano is the conference coordinator and already has topics outlined with possible speakers!



Nancy Scott and S.W.A.T team are presenting their 7th biannual Skin Integrity Conference Oct 21st for the interdisciplinary staff at Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL. 4 CEs are pending and topics relate to "Moisture Matters", "Identifying/Managing Stoma Complications"; "Legal Implications" and "Pressure Ulcer Identification and Prevention".



Linda Ravenhorst receiving her Conference Scholarship Award

Charlene hearing her name announced for the State Recognition Award



Martha Davidson, President, congratulating Charlene on her award.

Charlene is surprised by her family





by Angela Dye, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
Georgia State Reporter  
ga.reporter@serwocn.org

## Georgia News Report



### Group Updates and Announcements:

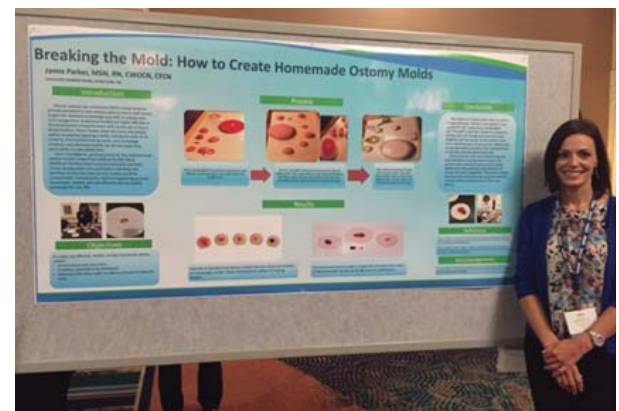
- Eastside Medical Center: Charlene Hines is now the WOC nurse for Eastside Medical Center. She has been in outpatient wound care for 17 years. She graduated from Emory University distance learning program in 2013 and passed certification exams in February of 2014. She looks forward to networking with fellow WOC nurses! She also recently attended the Southeast Region of the WOCN® Society conference in Orlando.
- Emory University Hospital (EUH) is excited to welcome Frankie A. Mitchell, RN, BSN, CWON!!! Aileen Ankrom, BSN, RN, CWOCN attended SER conference and presented a research poster.
- Emory University Hospital Midtown (EUHM) would like to announce Katy Stafford, BSN, CWOCN has joined their team. It's been 9 long months, but we finally filled Lorna's big shoes! Lauren Flook Brown, Christina Palau and Nancy attended SER conference.
- Gayle Jameson, BSN RN CWCN CWS, Director of Clinical Services for Devon Medical Products is currently traveling and teaching customers and clinicians about Negative Pressure Therapy. She is teaching in Rome and Italy in October and just finished in Tokyo, Japan.
- Northside Hospital: Sadly, Northside said farewell (but not goodbye) to our friend and colleague Lacey Lee. Lacey has taken a teaching position near Macon, GA. She is "back at home" living near her family in Perry, GA. Northside has hired two new WOC nurses. Olesja Dolguikh is a CWOCN who has worked on the Flex Team at Emory. This is her first WOC nurse role. Jessica Wood is a Northside Med-Surg RN now in the Emory Distance Learning WOCN Program. Northside is very excited to have these two new team members.

Jamie Parker, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN of Healogics and Cartersville Medical Center, was recognized as the 2015 SER WOCN® Nurse of the Year.



*Nurse of the Year, Jamie Parker, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN (center)*

She also won first place for her poster presentation and was awarded a scholarship for \$1,200. Below is a link to a newspaper article written about Jamie. We are proud to have her as our colleague. <http://www.daily-tribune.com/newsx/item/3664th>



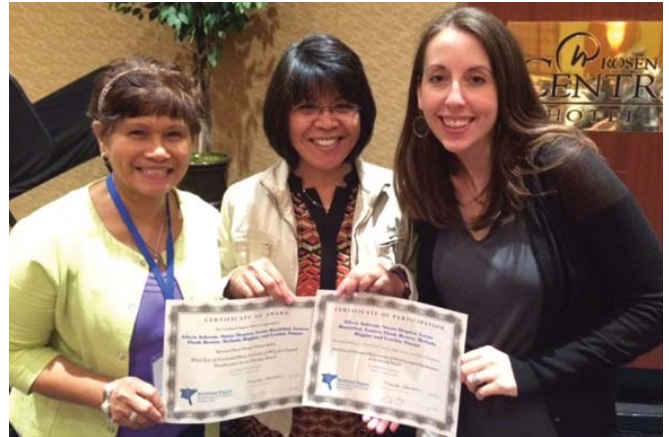
*First Place Winner, Jamie Parker, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN*

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## Georgia continued

In September, Lorna Buntichai, BSN, RN, CWON, Aileen Ankrom, BSN, RN, CWOCN, and Lauren Flook Brown, BSN, RN, CWOCN attended the SER of the WOCN® Society 2015 Conference in Orlando, Florida. Their poster, Pilot Test of Extended Wear Carrier (EWC) for Liquid Deodorants in an Ostomy Pouch, was awarded Second Place. Other study team members include, Cynthia Timms, BSN, RN, CWOCN, Susan Shapiro, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Melinda Higgins, PhD, Senior Biostatistician and Associate Professor.



by Colleen Spiller, MA, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
North Carolina State Reporter  
nc.reporter@serwocn.org

## North Carolina News

### Professional news...



NC WOC Nurse Contingency

And of course, none of this would have been possible without the expert conference planner, our very own Trudy Huey. Thanks Trudy...you are awesome!

Trudy Huey MSN, RN, CWOCN receiving thanks from Martha Davidson, SER President



Many of our North Carolina WOC nurses recently had the opportunity to attend the SER of the WOCN® Society Conference in Orlando. We had a great time, which involved lots of fun and lots of learning! I am always so proud of the NC representation at our conferences. Your support is so appreciated, and it is wonderful to see your dedication toward keeping up with cutting edge information to best support positive outcomes for our patients. Just look at all these smiling faces!



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### North Carolina continued

Brenda Rutland, BSN, RN, CWON gave a fabulous presentation on "Establishing and Running an Outpatient Ostomy Service". I personally found the information and the way it was presented, to be highly motivating, and I think many other attendees felt the same way. Thank you Brenda for sharing your knowledge, and your passion.



Brenda Rutland BSN, RN, CWON

Donna Brickman, BSN, RN, CWOCN will be starting dkb Ostomy Nurse Consults service. This is a part-time endeavor, and we wish you all the best Donna.



Brenda, Amanda and Tricia

The pre-conference workshop held by Karen Edwards on "The Magic and Science of Pouching" was a big hit. Brenda Fox BSN, RN, CWON; Amanda Griffin RN, CWCN, COCN, and Tricia Moore BSN, RN, CWON are happy to have learned some new techniques!

Brian Lehr, ND, RN, CWOCN is on the move! He recently completed his 7th successful triathlon season. Brian has completed in races in both North and South Carolina, and finished 1st in South Carolina last year. However, North Carolina had eluded him until this year when he finally took 1st in the 55-60 age group out of over 220 competitors. Brian was undefeated in his age group this season in the 7 sprint distance races that he did, and had 6 top 10 overall finishes with his best finish being second overall. Brian is currently ranked 35th (out of 1,372) in the US by USA Triathlon, and earned All-American status again for the 2nd year in a row. Congratulations Brian. We know there is a tremendous amount of training and discipline involved in this...great job!

### Family news...

Congratulations to Jan Johnson MSN, CWOCN, ANP, and her husband Thurman, who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year. That is just wonderful, and we wish you many more!

Colleen Spiller's son has just returned from a nine-month deployment. She is very thankful for his safety and everyone that kept him in their prayers. Time for Colleen to get some good sleep again!

## SAVE the DATE...

The SER of the WOCN® Society Conference will be in North Carolina in 2016. Come one, and come all to Greensboro, North Carolina...you won't want to miss it!

August 25 - 27 Sheraton Hotel / Koury Convention Center





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

## SC Fall 2015 News



Congratulations to Allyson Malick of East Cooper Medical Center for becoming ostomy certified. She is the new wound ostomy nurse at East Cooper Medical Center.

Please continue to keep South Carolina in your prayers. Many people lost their cars, houses, and everything they owned. Some people also lost their lives. #SCStrong

Palmetto Richland, Palmetto Baptist, and Palmetto Parkridge Hospitals did not have clean drinking water or water that was safe to use until October 13th.

Joan Jackson-Meekins, RN, BSN, CWOCN of Florence Visiting Nurses has welcomed her newest great niece Huntley Seay Hardin on July 30th. Huntley Seay was welcomed by her big sister Paisley Bee. Joan is also celebrating the marriage of her niece on October 24th. She has had lots of new additions to her family!!!

Joan Jackson-Meekins, RN, BSN, CWOCN is the administrator of Florence Visiting Nurses for the past 2 years. She was recognized for Boss's Day- by her staff- with a beautiful floral arrangement and a chocolate cake and cards.



by Barbara Dale, BSN, RN, CHHN, CWOCN  
Tennessee State Reporter  
tn.reporter@serwocn.org

## Tennessee State Report



Howdy from Tennessee! As fall has set in upon us and so nicely delivered to us our first frost, we are hard at work here in the Volunteer state. Sheree Lee, CWOCN, reports that Christine Reuscher, CWOCN, joined the Vanderbilt WOC team after working in Atlanta for 5 years before moving back to Nashville. She did her preceptorship there in 2009 and they are so happy to have her back. Pat Smith, CWOCN, tried to retire but just couldn't stay away so she is now also at Vanderbilt helping them out on a PRN basis. Hard to find a PRN WOC nurse so Vanderbilt is happy about that too! They are also celebrating World Ostomy Day on Oct 20th by visiting all the nursing units, asking simple ostomy trivia and handing out candy treats! Pat Dittes, CWON, and I attended the SER of the WOCN® Society conference but didn't see much of each other as we were networking with others. Pat reports she received tremendous help from WOC nurses in other states in several areas that were of concern to her. Also in attendance, of course, from Tennessee were Martha Davidson, CWOCN (SER President), and Carolyn Watts, CWON (WOCN® President). I got to hang out with them a little since they, myself and Pat, were the ONLY people from Tennessee in attendance! I realize with health care changes that employers are less generous with conference

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*Tennessee continued*

fees, hotels, and travel but it does seem that employers will allow us to take off and not have to use our personal or vacation time.

The Florida group did a great job with the conference. It was a really nice conference in a beautiful, luxurious hotel that was very reasonably priced with all the amenities. The speakers and topic selection were NOT the same old stuff but some new faces with energetic powerful sessions. Since there were only 4 of us from TN, I decided to pose a different format of questions to all our Tennessee WOC nurses. I didn't get a lot of responses but here is a collation of the responses:

- Did you attend National conference in San Antonio: 30% yes, 70% no
- Some stated reasons for not attending: Saving money for Canada, Costs, lost interest and hard to get work coverage, only allowed one conference and chose another.
- Did you attend SER conference in Orlando: 20% yes, 80% no
- Does your employer fund conference: 30% Yes, 70% no
- Do you have to use personal/ vacation days: 20% yes, 80% no
- Going to the joint conference in Montreal next year: 30% yes, 70% no  
Some reasons listed why they are not attending National in Montreal: prefer regional to network(invaluable), costs, lost interest, hard to get coverage at work, Canada is too expensive to travel there, and too much travel time to Canada.
- Aware of SER conference scholarship: 80% yes 20% no
- Aware of Dorothy Doughty research grant: 80% yes, 20% no

Finally, what's going on now around the state on a regular basis?

The Nashville WOC group meets quarterly with speakers and a meal.

Memphis Area WOC professionals group meets bi-monthly.

The Knoxville group meets monthly with speakers and a meal. The Knoxville group is also already forging ahead on the 2017 SER conference to be held in Knoxville. Anne Rogers, CWOCN, is heading up that group.

We will all miss Jenny Hurlow, CWOCN, who has informed me she is moving to England. Jenny has been an invaluable resource to myself and I am sure many, many others, and we hope she stays in touch. Thank you Jenny for all your years of service and mentorships!

I look forward to seeing everyone in Montreal or North Carolina OR BOTH!

**There was cash to be had at the Florida Conference!**



*Martha Davidson, MN, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
bringing a smile to everyone's face!*