

President's Report

Mary McNeil, RN, BSN, CWOCN

I hope that each of you has enjoyed a great summer – a special vacation, time spent with children home from school or college, that slice of melon... Many of us were able to attend the WOCN conference in Salt Lake City in June, which offered a special time to catch up with friends and attend great educational programs. We had a record number of attendees at the SER breakout session during the conference with more than 50 of us gathered together! Dorothy offered insights on mentoring and it struck me that many of the finest WOCN mentors in our country are members of the SE region.

In this newsletter I would like to offer a few myths about mentoring that I found on a Canadian website (<http://www.mentors.ca/mentormyths.html>)

- Mentoring only happens on a one-to-one, long-term, face-to-face basis
 - o (Thanks to technology, mentoring can take place by e-mail, phone, or fax)
- Mentoring is a rare experience and only occurs for a few great people
 - o (Informal mentoring is probably the most frequent method of transmitting knowledge and wisdom in society; virtually everyone has experienced it)
- The best mentors are those who set out to be mentors
 - o (The majority of mentoring occurs without conscious knowledge of either party, but it does help to cultivate a mentoring attitude)
- You need a toga to be a mentor
 - o (Gone are the days of proteges sitting at the feet of the wise one; you never know who might



be a powerful learning influence)

As many of you know, my job offers me the opportunity to travel around the region (and parts beyond). I repeatedly have the opportunity to experience exceptional mentoring relationships –

quite a bonus of my travels! However, I see many of our members that are operating “out there” with limited resources. I encourage each of you to keep up your mentoring activities while reaching out to members that may not have a “professional partner”.

I look forward to seeing many of you in South Carolina – and WOC’N on the River with friends!

SIDE NOTE: During the SER meeting in Salt lake City, some of you indicated that WOCN emails are not being received. Veronica Noble, Member Service Manager for the WOCN, has updated the email addresses we provided and sent the following information:

"Many facilities have tight spam blockers applied to their email networks, and we occasionally hear complaints of members not receiving email from us. Usually what they have to do is consult their IT department at work and ask them to let emails from WOCN go through. If you get any more complaints from your members, you can always tell them to contact me at the National Office and I will do my best to help them."

Veronica Noble, WOCN Member Services Manager
Phone: 856-793-0785
vnoble@ahint.com

Spotlight on a Mentor

A mentoring relationship inspires and gives confidence to the individual while providing the mentor with



a valued colleague. **Dot Weir** has numerous valued colleagues which she has taught by example and guided with patience and humor. The personal time, effort, and devotion Dot has spent mentoring others has contributed to the development of many of our WOCN practices.

Dot has been in the WOCN community since the 80's and has been a teacher and inspiration not only to WOC nurses, but also to other healthcare providers. Dot's experiences include every aspect of the healthcare environment from home health to collaboration with CMS in Washington DC. Through her work and words, she has captured the attention of wound care professionals throughout the country and in other parts of the world.

Dot's gifts of energy, endurance, flexibility, intelligence and passion toward the field of WOC nursing is an inspiration to many.

With gratitude, we celebrate you Dot!

**Southeast Region
Board of Directors 2007**

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

CEU Opportunities Director of Special Projects Elaine Rush, RN, CWOCN

The following articles are available for CEU opportunities:

WOUND:

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, May 2007, Volume 20 , Number 5, "Necrotizing Fasciitis: Reviewing the Causes and Treatment Strategies." page 288.

Journal of WOCN , Volume 34 , Number 3 , May-June 2007. "Discharge Knowledge and Concerns of Patients Going Home With Wounds."

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, Volume 20, Number 6, June 2007, "Common Nail Disorders and Fungal Infections."

CONTINENCE:

Journal of WOCN, Volume 34, Number 3, May-June 2007, Urinary Incontinence After Radical Prostatectomy :Can Men at Risk Be Identified Preoperatively?"

The WOCN Global Learning Center offers seven learning sessions



for CEU. This can be done online www.wocn.org. then clicking on "Global Learning Center" under the education heading.

The SER Special Projects program was taken to the national WOCN conference in Salt Lake City in June where we had a booth. The booth featured our CD programs, registration information on our September SER Conference, and information brochures regarding the SER WOCN. The CD program made over \$1300 for our region. Thanks to all who assisted in the booth!

The CD programs on Ostomy Care and Lower Extremity Ulcer Disease will be available at the

SER WOCN

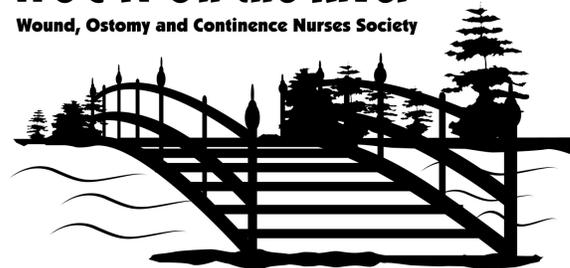
Conference.

Work is under way for our next educational program - Pressure Ulcers and Fistula Management.

Look forward to seeing you all in Greenville, South Carolina.

WOC'N On the River

Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society



September 27-30, 2007

Greenville, South Carolina

Greetings from the Great State of Alabama

Jessie Dickerson, RN, MSN, CWON, CFCN

To those of you who attended the WOCN National Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in June, may have seen our flyer informing you that it is "Time to Come to Alabama in 2008". The 2008 SERWOCN Conference in Huntsville, Alabama is going to be a stellar event! All of the appointed committees are working very hard to make the Southeast Region proud to have the great state of Alabama as a member. For those of you who may not know it, Huntsville is a beautiful and historic city. It is especially known for its Rocket and Space Center and strong ties with NASA. The fall of the year is great for football fans, for there are several colleges and universities in Huntsville, the leaves begin to change into magnificent colors and the weather is pleasant. We want you to feel at home, relax and enjoy the wonderful presentations that you will hear. As you make your plans to attend the 2008

SERWOCN Conference in Huntsville, we want you to know that you can expect to hear from some dynamic speakers, listen to a great debate, hear interesting case presentations, visit the space center, eat, shop till you drop, take leisurely strolls among the beautiful scenic walkways, and inform Houston along the way that there are "problems on ET Nightmare Street". Mark your calendar for September 11 – 14, 2008 in ALABAMA. *YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS GALACTIC EXTRAVAGANZA!!!*

Deborah Thedford, CWON
Chairperson SERWOCN 2008

Jessie L. Dickerson, CWON, CFCN
Co-Chairperson SERWOCN 2008



Continuing Education Course

UAB Hospital Bariatric Surgery Service will host the Certified Bariatric Nurse (CBN) Examination Review Course. Mark your calendar for December 13, 2007 in Birmingham, Alabama. The course will be approved for 6.25 CEU.

Register early, seating is limited. Registration fee is \$125.00 if registered before November 30, 2007. Another option available for registration fee is \$95.00 per person if three or more register at the same time before November 30, 2007. After November 30, 2007 registration fee will be \$150.00. Hotel accommodations are very near the site and in walking distance. For more information contact **Deborah Thedford**, WOCN at 205 996 6984 or Email: dthedfor@uabmc.edu.

Hello from Florida

Kathryn Dere, RN, CWOCN



People must be on vacation as news is slowly trickling in. Weather so far is treating us well, with only violent thunderstorms to contend with vs. hurricanes.

The Florida Association of Enterostomal Therapists (FAET) had a very successful annual conference. Over 100 attendees enjoyed the full scope practice of intriguing topics in the beautiful Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa. They are busy planning for next

year's conference slated for March in Orlando and will be their 30th Anniversary as an organization. So I am sure the conference will be outstanding. As I get more information I will pass it along.

I know that Florida was well represented at the WOCN conference, especially from the central Florida region. **Karen Durigan** and **Georgene Hadley** presented their poster on Productivity Tool. **Donna Sellers** assisted ConvaTec in their booth during exhibits relating her experience with the new Moldable wafer. **Sally Matson** also assisted ConvaTec in their booth during

exhibits relating her experience with the new Moldable wafer. But she had the extra luxury of going to Austria for the European Conference for her presentation.

I know that there are a lot of people who went to conferences. PLEASE let me know so that I can include it in the next newsletter. Also, let me know about vacations, lectures, babies, etc. I really like to share the news about the wonderful group in Florida. E-mail me!

Kathryn.dere@orhs.org

SER 2007 Election Information

Elections Committee Chair

Terry Barton, BSN, RN, CWOCN

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

Offices to be filled:

Secretary

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

Treasurer

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

Director #1: Special Projects

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

Director #3: Conference Planning

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



Nominations

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

Voting

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

Absentee Ballot Instructions:

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

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

AL: Jan Hale Stevens
256-494-4116
janstevens@gadsenregional.com

FL: Terry Barton
407-646-7523
terry.barton@flhosp.org

GA: Aileen Ankrom
404-712-5621
aileenankrom@emoryhealthcare.org

NC: Pam Whitley
704-984-4595
pam.whitley@stanly.org

SC: Dorothy Lawson
803-434-7127
dotmike86@yahoo.com

TN: Alvin Word
423-339-5698
etwoundnurse@charter.net

SER REGIONAL CANDIDATES FOR 2007

YOUR NAME COULD BE HERE TOO!

Take a moment to learn about some of the 2006 candidates. Remember there is still time to submit your name! Thanks to all of the current candidates for committing to serve SER.

Candidates for Secretary:

Elizabeth S. Jones
Presently serving as SER Board secretary. CWOCN in Columbia, SC. Education: USC School of Nursing/ Emory University

Candidates for Treasurer:

Bill Burns
Presently serving as SER Treasurer. CWOCN in South Carolina

Candidates for Director #1 (Special Projects)

Elaine Rush
Presently serving as SER Special Projects Director. CWOCN in South Carolina

Candidates for Director #3 (Conference Planning)

Dorothy Ann W. Lawson
Co-chaired a committee for the 2001 SER Conference. Present Chair of the 2007 SER Conference. Member of Chi Eta Phi. SER Nominating committee SC Representative 2005-2007

**6th Annual WellStar
Advanced Clinical Symposium on Wound Care:
Challenges of the Diabetic Foot**

Presentations are aimed to address the educational needs of the primary and specialty physician, surgeon, podiatrist, nurses and other advanced practitioners involved in wound care and diabetes. Current practices and research advances will be reviewed.

**September 15, 2007
7:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Cobb Galleria Centre**



Registration/Information
call 770-956-STAR (7827)

Greetings from Tennessee!

Mona Hector, BSN, RN, CWOCN

The lazy days of summer are here but Tennessee WOC nurses are busy making changes and staying involved. **Deborah Gray MSN, RN, CWOCN** will be serving a 3 year term on the WOCN Accreditation Committee which will include participation in site visits for the WOCN programs around the country for accreditation of their respective programs. She has also been asked to serve as a member of the Clinical Advisory Committee for Hollister for a 1 year period. Deborah is Wound and Skin Care Coordinator at Skyline Medical Center in Nashville. **Judy Grier** has returned to Vanderbilt Medical Center as one of 5 WOCNs. Please note that there is a 6th position open for another WOCN. Any takers? **Elliot Douglas** graduated from the Emory Educational Program in June and started at Vanderbilt's

Children's Hospital. This is the first WOCN for this facility so I am sure this new WOC nurse is very busy setting up the program and covering all the multitude of duties! We wish you the best!

Jill Cutright is a new CWOCN working with North Crest Center in Springfield, TN. **Suzy Scott MSN, RN, CWOCN** was one of the main speakers at the District 1 Tennessee Nurses Association 3rd Annual Evidence Based Nursing Seminar. Her topic was "New Definitions and Skill Set for the Bedside Nurse". **Carol Holmes, CWOCN** with the Methodist/Lebonheur Health System in Memphis has been selected as one of their "Methodist Stars". Proud of her! **Jill Monfre, CWOCN** at St. Francis Hospital in Memphis is another Tennessean that has been chosen to serve on the national planning committee for

next year's WOCN national conference. She welcomes any ideas or suggestions for topics to be sent to her.

Tennessee was well represented at WOCN Annual Conference this year with two poster presenters. The first noted was **Cheryl Ritter** and **Judy Berube**. **Carolyn Watts** also was a presenter with her colleague, **Richard Benoit**. Carolyn has been appointed new chairman of the National Conference Planning Committee. What an honor and undertaking. We wish you luck!

Leslie Myers has joined **Karen Huske** at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga. **Marta Bullard** has taken over Memorial Hospital Wound Center.

See what I mean about being busy? Keep the news coming!

News from South Carolina

Cindy Norris, RN, CWOCN



Trena Beckham from Lexington went on a mission trip to Romania June 28 to

July 11th. She was just recertified through PGP. **Faith Singleton** of St. Francis Hospital in Charleston recently completed the Emory Ostomy Program and passed her certification. Congratulations to the both of you!

Dr. Phyllis Bonham of Medical University in Charleston was elected to National Academies of Practice a "Distinguished Nurse." She was recognized as a Palmetto Gold recipient for 2007 and is our new WOCN President-Elect. What a great honor to have her as a part of our WOCN Society.

MUSC is pleased to announce there is a Scholarship of \$3,900 for a nurse in South Carolina to attend the Wound Program in Charleston. Contact the program for information and

an application at 843-792-2651.

Thoughts for today: "You cannot change your behavior without changing your thinking. Discipline is the major factor in success."

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the SER Conference in Greenville in September!

Any news for our next newsletter, please e-mail me at cnorris@carolinahospital.com

North Carolina News

Judy Plemmons, RN, CWOCN



Leanne Richbourg graduated from Duke School of Nursing with her MSN and she

received the outstanding graduate student award for her research and publication. It was very exciting to hear the dean say that this year's award goes to a Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurse! (see photo right).

Heather Ebert, RN has joined **Mary Kay Wooten, MSN, RN, CWOCN**, at the

VA in Durham. She has started the Emory WOCNEP and hopes to have it completed by October.

Joanne Burtner, CWCN, recently relocated from New Jersey to join the growing practice at WestCare Wound Clinic in Sylva, North Carolina.

Interesting tip from the WOCN ostomy forum for those of you who may have missed it:

Have your ileostomy patient eat 2 large marshmallows

before pouch change to slow effluent.

Editor's Note:

Our sympathy to Judy Plemmons and her family on the death of her father on May 31.



Spanish Translation Ostomy Teaching Booklets Revised and Reprinted in 2002

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

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

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

Order Form

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

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

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

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

Please call 205-934-6903 for additional information

Please allow 4—6 weeks for delivery.

SER WOCN
P O Box 98073
Raleigh, NC 27624

Award Update– Director #2 Regina Holmes, RN, CWOCN

Hello everyone! I hope you all are doing well. I am very excited about our upcoming fall conference. I always am inspired by our conferences and enjoy the fellowship and professionalism of my friends and colleagues. Below you will find the recipients of our scholarships. I'll see you all "WOC'N ON THE RIVER"



Recipients of Free Fall Registration

Winner of Free Fall Registration in the category of: Celebration of WOCN Week was Sharon K. McKinney BSN RN, MHA, CWOCN from Tuscaloosa, VAMC in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

These are those recipients of the SER WOCN Free Fall Conference registration. These deserving ladies have shown an interest in the care of patients with wounds, ostomies, and continence.

Mary Mataxis	SC	June Smith	NC
Avrille Davis	FL	Ruby Renee Green	SC
Joanna J. Burgess	NC	Laura D. Leininger	NC
Lisa Thompson	NC	Yolanda Colman	FL
Peggy Peters	TN	Carol Bailey	SC

As budgeted we gave \$2000.00 to UOAA for Youth Rally for campers from Georgia in July. The recipients of The Outstanding WOCN of the Year, The Rookie of the Year and Honorary ET Nurse for SC will be announced at the SER WOCN Fall Conference in Greenville, South Carolina!

Thank you all for all of your nominations they were all winners in my eyes! The board and I thank you for each one!