



The Great State of Alabama

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

The Alabama WOC Nurses are back to work as usual after taking a two (2) month break during the hottest period this summer (July/August). Most of us took vacations and spent much needed time with family and friends. After resuming our regular meetings the first Thursday in August we have started working on the following project(s): Updating our ostomy booklets (this is a huge project as we look at possible ways to contain cost in an attempt to avoid rate increases in the future). We solicit input from our ostomy booklet users and the SER WOC nurses. Thanking you in advance for your suggestions.



Congratulations Corner

Karen Edwards (WOC nurse at UAB Hospital) has been extremely busy this year. Karen is one of the contributing authors on the article written about the Skin Tear Consensus Panel. This article appeared as a supplement in the September 2011 *Advances in Skin and Wound Care Journal*. The article is titled "Skin Tears: State of the Science: Consensus Statements for the Prevention, Predictions, Assessment, and Treatment of Skin Tears".

In addition, Karen asked four (4) members of SER WOCN to review the above article and they are listed on the International list of reviewers: Angela Graham, Michael Byars, Regina Holmes and Mary McNeil.

Karen also did a presentation for Hollister on Skin Tears at the SAWC in Baltimore, Maryland in September.

This is good stuff folks! We are so proud of the work this group of dedicated WOC nurses who are producing and we wholeheartedly thank them so very much.

Nancy Strunk, President of the Birmingham Area WOC Nurses, is the proud (first time) grandmother of a handsome grandson, named Zechariah. What a beautiful prophetic name. Congratulations to Nancy and Zechariah's proud parents.

Sharon White has recently left her position at Princeton Hospital to return to her first love as a representative

at Kinetic Concepts Inc., (KCI). I first met Sharon many years ago when she was employed as a clinician and sales representative for KCI. She was an inspiration and so helpful to me and others in the clinical arena. I take this opportunity to speak on behalf of the Birmingham area WOC nurses as we wish Sharon the very best in her career chose.

Michael Byars has accepted the position of SER WOCN nominations committee chair. He will represent our great State at the SER Board meetings.

And finally we want thank Kelly Suttle for representing Alabama for the past 2 years on the SER nominations committee.

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Karen Edwards and Alicia Stack at the Milliken Booth

