

# Southeast Region News



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— BY MARY MCNEIL, CWOCN

"Thank You, Southeast Region" for the opportunity to serve as your President. What a great experience to follow in the path of those before me, to work with a creative and energetic board and to look forward to exciting times with each of you and for WOC nursing within the Southeast Region.



The board met in January to reflect, review and plan for what is shaping up to be another exciting year for us all. Aside from me, new this year to the board is Ruth Gordon, Vice President. As our public policy representative, Ruth brings to the position a rich history of nursing in Georgia as well as past involvements with the ANA. Regina Holmes from Loris, SC has infectious enthusiasm toward her new role as Director of Awards... already ramping up for 2007 Fall Conference awards.

And, after 5 dedicated years of having Georgene Hadley serve as Chair of Communications, Laura Shafer, from Atlanta will be assuming that position. Many thanks to Georgene for keeping us all 'in the loop' for the last 5 years... job well done! Laura brings many good ideas to this role as well as years of experience and history within the SE Region. She has exciting plans for refashioning our newsletter so read carefully through this newsletter and be on the lookout for new things to come. Welcome to our new leaders and grateful appreciation to those still serving.

2007 is shaping up to be a year of good things. A fun and information filled fall conference is being planned by the SC conference team, led by Dot Lawson. Greenville, SC, is a beautiful city and the

conference hotel is located in the heart of this delightful town. Mark your calendars and talk it up to your co-workers and colleagues... "WOC 'n on the River" will be a conference to enjoy and remember. And, the 2008 meeting to be held in Alabama is already in the works.

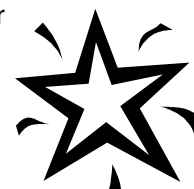
For those planning to attend this year's national WOCN conference in Salt Lake City, we will kick off the conference as a region on the evening of June 9<sup>th</sup> so plan your travel accordingly. We are looking forward to a record turnout at our SE region meeting and want to see you there! Stay tuned for more information.

It is exciting to share you that we have increased our donation to the WOCN scholarship fund to \$5000.00. Additionally, new scholarships are planned for the fall conference. Please find within this newsletter the names of the 9 WOCN scholarship honorees from the SE Region. What an honor to have such qualified clinicians entering WOC nursing from within our states! We can all look forward to welcoming these talented nurses into our specialty and into our region.

To have the opportunity to look forward is very exciting for us all. How can anything but positive energy happen in the Southeast Region? We have great mentors everywhere we turn, we have passion toward our work and the patients we serve, and we have energy as a group to further impact the footprint of WOC nursing. Thank YOU for allowing me to be part of this excitement!

## SPOTLIGHT ON A MENTOR...

A mentor is a special person who knows how to communicate with others in such a way as to inspire them to learn and grow in their profession. **Phyllis Bonham PhD, RN, MSN, CWOCN**, is such a person. She is always available to her colleagues to help with questions, seek out resources, and expand their horizons in our practice. She responds to the community as they reach out for help and she finds a local CWOCN to assist that person. Her dedication, motivation, and excitement for our practice



serves as a mentor and role model for us all. She is a "shining star" for all to see and strive to become.

**Congratulations Phyllis** for all you do and for the example you set for others.

*Spotlight on a Mentor is a new feature in the Southeast Region News. If you have a mentor that you would like to spotlight, please contact Laura Shafer at [lshafer@ghsnet.org](mailto:lshafer@ghsnet.org)*

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Board of Directors 2007**

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**Visit our Website at  
[www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org)**

## HELLO FROM FLORIDA...



Hello to one and all. I hope each of you had a marvelous and safe holiday season. It's a new year and everyone has been really busy.

The Florida Association of Enterostomal Therapists (FAET) is planning their annual conference for March. The agenda includes topics: Evidence-based Wound Care, Minimally Invasive Techniques for Colorectal Cancer, Skin and Soft Tissue Infections, Surgical

Interventions: Flaps and Grafts, Patient's Perspective on Humor and Healing, Mind and Body Medicine: An Integrative Approach to Patient Care, Urological Interventions, Skin, Our Best Protection, and Radiation Therapy Treatment and Toxicities. The conference will be Saturday March 24 and Sunday March 25 at the H. Lee Moffit Cancer Center in Tampa. The team has planned a full scope WOC agenda and includes time with vendors. For more information, call **Carolyn Hewett** at 727-420-8393, **Nancy Scott**, Chair, at phone 813-745-4507, or visit the FAET website to download a registration form [www.faet.org](http://www.faet.org). This sounds like a really awesome conference.

In Orlando, **Dot Weir** will be traveling to Peru to do a site visit for the World Wide Wound Care Association (part of the AAWC) at a hospital in Lima. She's also going to visit Machu Picchu while there.

The Pan Handle group, based in Tallahassee, continues to be a strong, viable and growing group. Their dinner wine club meetings include speakers and vendors in a networking environment. I applaud **Robbie Sharpe**, who is the contact person for those of you new to the area [rsharp9376@aol.com](mailto:rsharp9376@aol.com).

From Tampa, **Pattie A Haberer**, "The beginning of October, I was admitted to Mease Countryside for 4 days with a ruptured appendix. Two days post-op I developed an ileus. Then the Saturday after Thanksgiving, I developed sbo (jejunum). I was readmitted for 10 days. At first they thought I had Crohn's. They finally decided to take me to surgery. They found adhesions. I want to thank the CWOCN's at Mease who made sure I was well taken care of during my hospital stays. Thank you to **Cheryl Lynch, Cindy Owens and Susan Snyder**". Welcome back, I am so glad to hear you are better, Pattie.

I hope to see many of you in March at the FAET conference. H. Lee Moffit Cancer Center is an outstanding state of the art venue for a conference. Please send me your information any time so I can include it in the next newsletter. I like to brag about my fellow Floridians.

Until next time...

**Kathryn Dere, RN, MSN, CWOCN** [Kathryn.dere@orhs.org](mailto:Kathryn.dere@orhs.org)

## GREETINGS FROM TENNESSEE



From East Tennessee comes word that **Karen Kallather** recently passed the wound certification and is working at UT Knoxville. Her fellow WOC nurses want her to know they are proud of her!

Since last newsletter the Memphis area has welcomed 2 WOCN's into the area. **Sophia Chandler, NP, CWOCN** has joined Myrtis Taylor full time at the Memphis VA and **Jill Monroe, BSN, CWOCN** has come on board at St. Francis Hospital.

The whole WOCN group in Memphis has been rooting for **Kris Wilson** as she plugged away getting her degree while holding down the WOCN position at Methodist Germantown. She finally made it and is now in Atlanta at the WOC course at Emory along with **Tonya Warmbrod**, also being sent from the Methodist Hospital system.

*Mona Hector, BSN, RN, CWOCN  
monahector@aol.com*

## SCHOLARSHIPS HONOREES FROM THE SOUTHEAST

### Accredited Nursing Education Program (WOCNEP)

Patricia Barrett	GA
Judy Berube	TN
Judy Hawkins	VA
Anna Radford	NC
Mario Ricio	GA
Danielle Simon	GA
Nancy Stapp	AL
Patina Walton-Greer	SC

### Advanced Nursing Education Scholarship

Sandra Wilusz NC

Congratulations!

## CEU OPPORTUNITIES

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROJECTS—ELAINE RUSH, RN, CWOCN

The following articles are available for CEU hours.

### WOUND

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, November/December 2006, Volume 19, Number 9, "Debridement: A Vital Component of Wound Bed Preparation." page 506.

Advances in Skin and Wound Care, October 2006 Volume 19, Number 8, "Increased Bacterial Burden and Infections: The Story of NERDS and STONES." page 447.

### INCONTINENCE

Journal of WOCN, Volume 34, Number 1, January/February 2007, "Incontinence -associated Dermatitis." page 45.



Journal of WOCN, Volume 33, Number 6, November/December 2006, "Pharmacotherapeutics in Older Adults." page 630.

The **OSTOMY CARE** and **LEG ULCER DISEASE** power point programs are available. Please download the order form from the website [www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org) to purchase your copy. The next power point program to be developed will be on pressure ulcers and fistula management. If you have any free or low cost CEU opportunities available to our membership in our areas of practice, please contact- me at [elainewr@bellsouth.net](mailto:elainewr@bellsouth.net).

Take a look at the WOCN web site for CEU programs available on line through the WOCN. New ones are being offered periodically.

## GREETINGS FROM THE GREAT STATE OF ALABAMA

We take this opportunity to congratulate two of our outstanding WOC Nurses for their recent accomplishments:

**Sharon White, RN, BSN, CWOCN**, one of our Industry WOC Nurses with KCI, successfully passed her WOCN recertification in all three categories. We salute you and applaud you for a job well done!!

**Deborah Thedford, RN, MSN, CWOCN** has taken the position of Bariatric Coordinator at the UAB University Hospital in Birmingham, effective December 10, 2006. UAB University Hospital has been accredited by the American College of Surgeons as a Level 1A Bariatric Center of Excellence. Level 1A is the high-

est accreditation offered. UAB University is the first Bariatric Surgery program in Alabama to earn this National distinction.

Deborah is very proud to be a part of this distinguish Team and rightly so. She brings to the position fourteen years as a WOCN and Care Manager for the Burn Service at UAB University Hospital. To read more about the bariatric center of excellence log into its website, <http://www.uab.edu/obesitysurgery> or, you may reach Deborah via e-mail at [dthedfor@uabmc.edu](mailto:dthedfor@uabmc.edu) or call 205-996-6984.

Lastly, I would like to appeal



to ALL OF THE ALABAMA WOCN OR WOUND CARE NURSES to send me their Email address and/or telephone number so we can update our list in preparation for planning our annual Alabama State meeting and SER Conference in 2008. We need everyone on Board. Also include any news you may have for the next newsletter.

Jessie Dickerson, RN, MSN, CWON, CFNN  
[Jessie.Dickerson@med.va.gov](mailto:Jessie.Dickerson@med.va.gov)  
 or VM 205-933-8101 Ext: 6158

### **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.



## NEWS FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA



I know that the entire SER will join the Georgia WOC nurses in extending our deepest sympathy to **Dorothy Doughty** on the recent death of her mother.

*News from the kiddo nurses at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta: **Marie Sosebee, Trish Burdett, & Peggy McGarity** are partnering up with the community-based Dream House for Medically Fragile Children. They will be volunteering their services to the Dream House for 4-6 hour quarterly ostomy training classes for foster & adoptive families who will potentially care for babies and/or children with ostomies within the Atlanta community. For more information on the Dream House or how you can help, please visit [www.dreamhouseforkids.org](http://www.dreamhouseforkids.org) or contact your friendly pediatric Children's WOC Nurses at 404-785-4858.*

News from the WellStar Healthcare System includes:

- Congratulations to **Betty Gunthorpe** and **Kathy Owens** who have both recently passed their WOCN certification exam.
- Congratulations to **Laurie Carlyle** who received both a nursing leadership award and a site specific leadership award!
- **Denise Lindhardt** (and her husband) are expecting baby # 2.
- September 15<sup>th</sup> is the date for the annual WellStar Wound Care Symposium. Mark your calendars now for an excellent educational offering.

Gwinnett Medical Center is pleased to welcome **Amanda Heard Shepherd** as their newest WOCN.

Congratulations to **Maureen Fincher** and **Brenda Smith** from Gwinnett Medical Center who just received Nursing Excellence Awards. Also, the Atlanta WOCN's will be having a retirement party for **Prebble Smith** on Feb 22, 2007 at 5:30.

Please contact Vi Poteete at [vipoteete@bellsouth.net](mailto:vipoteete@bellsouth.net) if you have any newsworthy items to include in this space. Thank you.

## ELECTIONS WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT! TERRY BARTON, NOMINATIONS CHAIR

**Officers needed for SER Office in 2007 -2007**

**Treasurer**

**Director #1-Special Projects**

**Nominations Committee Member from each state (AL, SC, NC, GA, FL, and TN)**

**Secretary**

**Director #3- Conference Planning**

Am I eligible and qualified?

- Any active member of SERWOCN
- Member for one full year immediately prior to election.
- Ability to work with a team, listen, and communicate well.
- For job descriptions, please see the board brochure on the website at [www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org)

Check with your state committee members for more information:

Alabama—Jan Stevens

Georgia—Aileen Ankrom

South Carolina—Dot Lawson

Florida—Terry Barton

North Carolina—Pam Whitley

Tennessee—Alvin Word

For Addition information please call Terry Barton at 407-646-7523 or email [terry.barton@flhosp.org](mailto:terry.barton@flhosp.org)



## NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA



Coloplast provided a CEU presentation of fistulas at the November meeting for the NC WOCN group.

**Felicia Street** has completed her WOC program at Emory and is working as a WOC nurse at Durham Regional Hospital in

Durham.

**Dawn Engel's**- New WOCN graduate from Emory with successful completion of WOCN certification.

*Judy Plemmons*  
*JDPllemmo@aol.com*

## GREAT NEWS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA!

**Lynette Franklin, MSN, APRN-BC, CWOCN** and the Urology Continence Coordinator at MUSC, located in the romantic city of Charleston reports "Hey-nothing new on the Bladder and Pelvic Floor front. We are accepting patients. There will be a breakfast that is open to the public March 17th. This will be an "Update on Bladder and Pelvic Health 2007 from the MUSC Bladder & Pelvic Health Program and the National Association for Continence co presentation." It will begin at 8 a.m. Providers and public invited and is free. Presenters are Dr. Eric Rovner, Dr. Steven Swift and Lynette Franklin. To register call 843-792-8347

Our famous and esteemed **Carolyn Cuttino RN, BSN, CWOCN** from Charleston, a forerunner in our profession asked that we remind everyone to mark

their calendars for THE SER Conference in Greenville, SC September 27th to 30th. She and her husband just returned from a trip to The Turks and Caicos Islands.

**Lynette Franklin and Cindy Norris** will be participating in the Annual AHEC Incontinence Workshop May 11th in Florence.

**Cindy Norris, RN, BSN, CWOCN** is Chairperson of the Silent Auction Committee for the SER Conference in Greenville and invites anyone to donate items to auction. Cindy will be training a staff nurse Mary Metaxis, BSN to work with her at Carolinas Hospital System in Florence.

**Yvonne Quillens RN, BSN, CWOCN** resigned from CHS and is working at Regency. Hopefully Mary Metaxis will be sent to the Emory Program in the future.



If there is anyone going to the National Convention in Utah and would like to share a room/expenses with someone, please e-mail me at [cnorris@carolinashospital.com](mailto:cnorris@carolinashospital.com) and I will inform those who may be interested

**Smile-Maker for the day:** *There was an 86 year old lady who decided to go out with a 90 year old man since he was kind enough to ask her. When she came home her granddaughter asked her if she had a good time. Her reply was "I had to slap him 3 times before he brought me home." To her granddaughter's surprise, she asked "Did he get fresh with you?" No! I thought he was dead! she replied. Remember laughter is good for the soul!*

Cindy Norris, RN, CWOCN  
[cnorris@carolinashospital.com](mailto:cnorris@carolinashospital.com)

## FROM THE EDITOR

### LAURA SHAFER, RNC, CWOCN



I am pleased to be a part of a dynamic organization like the SER WOCN. After our exciting board meeting in Charlotte last weekend it made me very honored to be your Communications Director. I appreciate the confidence the SER has placed in me and I appreciate all of your support. We are hoping to change the format of the

newsletter as well

as the Web Site this year. Also, starting with this newsletter we are doing a Shining Star /Mentor Highlight with each newsletter. This is someone that has helped to enhance your practice or simply someone you feel you can call if you have a problem patient. I hope each and everyone of you will nominate your Mentor and I think we are starting with an excellent choice this month. Please send your nominations to me at [lshafer@ghsnet.org](mailto:lshafer@ghsnet.org) or call me at 678-442-4378.

## AWARDS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE

### REGINA HOLMES, RN, CWOCN



I would like to thank the SER WOCN members and SER WOCN Board for the opportunity of serving on the SER Board. I look forward to seeing you at this years conference in Greenville, South Carolina. Below are some important upcoming dates:

#### **Celebrate WOC Nursing Day—April 19, 2007**

The SER WOCN is proud to sponsor and support Celebrate WOC Nursing Day. The SER will give one paid registration fee to the fall SER WOCN Conference in Greenville, SC for the WOCN that submits an entry stating what you did for WOC Nursing Day including photos. Entries should be submitted to Regina Holmes by May 31, 2007. Just a reminder if you have several WOCNs in your department only one member will get their registration fee paid.

#### **SER WOCN Outstanding Nurse of the Year and SER WOCN Rookie of they Year Awards**

##### **Deadline May 31, 2007**

The SER WOCN feels strongly that we recognize our peers for their contribution to the WOCN Society and to our patient population. Qualifications include excellence in the practice of WOC Nursing, exemplification of high professional standards, service to community, and the promotion of pride in the WOCN and SER WOCN. The rookie of the year should be a WOCN that has a year or less as a WOCN. Applications can be obtained by contacting Regina Holmes at [rholmes@lorishealthcaresystem.com](mailto:rholmes@lorishealthcaresystem.com) or on the SER web site, [www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org). The deadline is May 31, 2007. The winner will be presented at the SER WOCN Conference in Greenville, SC.

#### **UOAA Youth Rally—July 7-July 11, 2007**

This years UOAA Youth Rally will be held at the University of Colorado, Boulder. If you work with youths between 11-17 years old who have had ostomy or related surgery they may apply to have the SER pay the registration fee which will cost \$350/youth. Last year we sent 6 campers and one counselor from the SERWOCN. For more information and applications contact Regina Holmes or the SER web page, [www.serwocn.org](http://www.serwocn.org). Applications should be submitted by April 15, 2007 for WOCN's that would like to attend and by May 31, 2007 for the youth campers that would like to go to camp

#### **Dorothy Doughty Research Grant**

This grant is available to support planned research expenses, such as supplies, research consultation, med/surgical supplies etc... Please submit your application by May 31, 2007. The maximum research grant amount is \$1,000 per researcher project.

For more information on all of the above contact  
Regina Holmes  
email  
[rholmes@lorishealthcaresystem.com](mailto:rholmes@lorishealthcaresystem.com)  
Cellphone 843-602-5732  
Work 843-716-7579

2007 SER WOCN Annual Conference  
WOC'N on the River  
Hyatt Regency Greenville  
Greenville, South Carolina

September 27—30, 2007





Southeast Region WOCN  
P O Box 98073  
Raleigh, NC 27624  
919-518-0963  
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## MEET YOUR NEW BOARD!

**Your new 2007 Board of Directors** met in Charlotte, January 26—27 for their first board meeting of the year. See their many of their individual pictures throughout the newsletter.

Front row, left to right:  
**Elizabeth Jones**, Secretary; **Laura Shafer**, communications chair; **Susan Steele**, past president. Second Row: **Regina Holmes**, Director #2—Awards; **Cyncere Neal**, Director #3—Conference Coordinator; **Ruth Gordon**, Vice President; **Mary McNeil**, President; **Terry Barton**, Nominations Chair. Back Row: **Bill Burns**, Treasurer; **Elaine Rush**, Director #1—Special Projects

