



Southeast Region

Wound Ostomy & Continence Nurses Society

Fall 2010

President's Report

Laura Shafer, BSN, RN, CWON



Congratulations to **Trudy Huey** and the NC WOCN group. This team did a terrific job in coordinating our Conference in Concord, NC! We had over 250 attendees and they all thoroughly enjoyed the conference. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at our next Conference in Chattanooga, TN. **Martha Davidson**, conference chair has a truly awesome program lined up as well as a lot of fun! And for those of you who really plan in advance. . . the 2012 conference will be held in Savannah, GA. **Cynthia Timms** and **Merrill Fraser** (SER Secretary) have agreed to co-chair this conference. Speaking of **Merrill**, she just sent me our membership numbers. The Southeast Region now has 648 members that is an increase of 23 members since September.

Way to go, SER!!

SER 2010 WOC Nurse of the Year

Carol Parker, BSN, MS, RN, CWON

Carol Parker has worked at Mission Hospital in Asheville, NC since 1991. She was nominated by one of her co-workers, Kristy Aiken RN, CWON. "I can't think of a better person to nominate who has been more influential on my own career than Carol Parker." She is a true example of a WOC nurse who goes the extra mile to ensure that patient care is done in a professional manner and that attention to quality care is of the upmost importance. Carol demonstrates an accessible attitude, teaching others principles she knows well without making the individual feel inferior. She has exhibited diplomacy when dealing with physicians that didn't quite understand current wound care principles in a way that made the MD think about their current practice and in some cases helped to change current practices for the betterment of the quality of patient care. Carol has always demonstrated a "can do" attitude. When things seemed to be discouraged, Carol would always say "we can get through this". She was never above getting a blanket for the patient or changing a pad that had gotten soiled. Carol has been active in many community service activities in her career. Over the years, Carol ran a support group for ulcerative colitis patients, played an active role in the local UOA and helped to facilitate the local WOC meeting. In my opinion, Carol is a person who would never want to be recognized for her career, but as she nears retirement, Carol should be recognized for her valued career to colleagues, patients, staff members, and physicians she has touched on her journey.



Carol was unable to attend Conference, however, another of her colleagues at Mission Hospital, Jim DeGrave RN, CWON, accepted the SER Nurse of the Year award in her honor. Shortly after Conference, Jim secretly arranged a lovely presentation party for Carol at the Mission Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Center.

"I feel so honored to be recognized by my peers. I've had the privilege of working with so many outstanding WOC nurses in the SER and at the National level.

I've seen tremendous improvements in wound, ostomy, continence and foot patient care because of the passion, motivation and dedication of these nurse "specialists". I am excited and hopeful about the future and believe that the eradication of hospital acquired pressure ulcers may be just around the corner. Although it is time for my retirement, I continue to feel the passion for using my knowledge to make a difference for our patients. I wish continued success to my colleagues in the Southeast Region!"

**Southeast Region
WOCN
Board of Directors 2011**

President
Laura Shafer
lshafer@gwinnettmedicalcenter.org

Vice President
Mary McNeil
mary.mcneil@molnlycke.com

Secretary
Merrill Fraser
merrill.fraser@emoryhealthcare.org

Treasurer
Charlene Demers
cdemersn@cfl.rr.com

Director – Awards
Cindy Norris
cnorriscwocn@bellsouth.net

Director – Conference Planning
Dot Lawson
dorothyann.lawson@palmettohealth.org

Director – Communications
Patti Haberer
uspah@coloplast.com

Director – Special Projects
Sharon Traylor
sharon.traylor@winterhavenhospital.org

Nominations Committee Chair
Marta Bullard
marta.bullard@kci1.com

2011 Conference Chair
Martha Davidson
martha.w.davidson@vanderbilt.edu

Association Management Company
Custom Association Management, Inc.
Cathy Womack
cami@rr.com
919-518-0963

VP Report: Bylaws Amendment

Mary McNeil, RN, BSN, CWOCN

At the membership meeting there was a unanimous vote to change the Bylaws to reflect the movement to on-line voting for 2011. The changes to the Bylaws for this are underlined (section 2/voting qualifications remained the same). A PDF of the Amended Bylaws is available on the website.



Section 1 - Time and Place

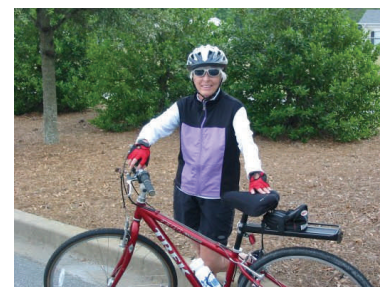
Election of officers and Directors shall take place by way of on-line voting through the web site: SERWOCN.org prior to the annual membership meeting of the Southeast Region. The procedure for this will be outlined in the Policy and Procedure Manual. Election shall be solely from those persons nominated, as set forth in these bylaws.

Section 3 - Elections of Officers

The offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be voted upon singly in above order. Nominations shall remain open until preceding office has been voted upon. The person receiving the majority of the votes for the office shall be declared elected to such office. A tie vote shall be decided by a ballot revote during the annual conference and, if necessary, by casting a lot.

WOCN's CYCLING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to all who attended the SER annual meeting in Concord for your generous donations to the Cycling for Scholarships Fund. We raised \$2872, a little over 1% of the \$200,000 goal we want to reach by April 29, 2011.



What a great region. For those who weren't there, log on to www.wocnfoundation.org and donate today. We had a competition between states on Saturday, Oct. 2 during lunch. SC was the top money giver and NC wasn't far behind. The SER has set the bar high. Let's keep on giving.

Powered by your gusto, I will be pedaling with much more enthusiasm!
Katherine Jeter

Greetings from the Communications Director

Patti Haberer, BSN, MA, RN, CWOCN

Serving this past year as the SER Director of Communications has been a great honor, I want to thank-you for electing me to serve again. It's now time to shake up my report and let you hear from other members of the Communications Committee.

Sharon McKinney BSN, RN, MHA, CWOCN, WCC



I am the CWOCN Program Coordinator at the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center, which consists of LTC, hospice, rehab, mental health and outpatient clinics. I serve on many committees and am involved in the community with nursing schools, churches, nursing homes and Professional groups where I teach WOC education. I enjoy teaching others about what I do and if it benefits others that's what it should be all about, caring for other and improving quality of life. I'm involved with our area WOCN Group where I serve as President. I've been a nurse for 27 years and have been involved in WOCN for the last fourteen years. I attended Conference in NC and enjoyed seeing how the Great Comeback's award winners adapt to life and what a positive impact they have made in so many others lives. I loved how one of them explained that his ostomy did not define who he is. That is such a great example for all of us no matter what we do. The

Conference committee did an outstanding job this year. Email: sharon.mckinney@va.gov

Pat Dittes MPH, BSN, RN, CWON

I have been a WOCN for 12 years, working the last 7 for Deaconess HomeCare in middle Tennessee. I enjoy our active middle-Tennessee WOCN group, which meets monthly in Nashville. If you live near the Nashville area and want to be part of our monthly group, please let me know. Under the direction of Martha Davidson, RN, CWOCN, we are excited about planning the 2011 SER conference and already have some great surprises in store for everyone who attends. Email: pat.dittes@deaconesshomecare.com



Jane Mansfield BSN, RN, CWOCN



I work for South Carolina DHEC Home Health Services and am the WOC nurse for Region 4. Region 4 encompasses 10 counties in rural South Carolina. I also have done some hospital consulting and assist with an Ostomy support group. I've been a certified wound, ostomy nurse since 2004 and have been in home health for over 20 years and a nurse for over 34 years. At Conference, I mentored one of our new bright home health nurses, helped her obtain a conference scholarship and we attended the conference together. It was wonderful discussing the presentations and new information with her. Best of all was coming back to work, and watching her put her new knowledge to work. Everyone should mentor a young nurse! It was rewarding and stimulating to my own nursing and CWOCN practice. Email: mansfije@gmail.com

Barbara Dale BSN, BC, RN, CWOCN, CHHN

I'm the CWOCN for a for-profit rural home health agency serving 16 counties in Middle/Eastern Tennessee. I'm 70% patient care/30% administrative. When I'm not seeing patients, I orient new staff, audit wound-related chart audits and maintain our protocols and supply formulary. Besides facilitating our local ostomy support group, I also have a website 'woundostomycontinence.com' that helps WOC nurses help each other without reinventing the wheel. And, I am the co-chair of the WOCN Membership Committee. I started out as a nursing assistant at age 19, became an LPN, then RN, then received my wound certification from Emory in 2003, ostomy in 2005, and continence in 2006. I love what I do and couldn't see myself doing anything else. I feel like I make a difference in our patient's lives and they make a difference in mine. Email: bdale@qualityhomehealth.com



Patti Haberer
uspah@coloplast.com

SER WOCN 2011 Conference: Go With the Flow

Martha Davidson, MN, BSN, RN, CWOCN,
SER Conference Chair

Life is not static; it is a continuous flow of change. No matter how much structure we create in our lives or how many good habits we build, there will always be things that we cannot control. If we let them, these things can be a huge source of anger, frustration and stress. The simple solution: we should learn to go with the flow. Learn to let things flow naturally forward. What is "go with the flow" you ask? It's rolling with the punches. It's accepting change without getting angry or frustrated. It's taking what life gives you, rather than trying to mold life to be exactly as you want it to be.

As a WOC nurse in hospital or clinic setting, in home health, or as a WOC nurse in the industry, we must all adapt and change our practices as outside forces influence the way we work. (i.e., insurance changes, CMS requirements, increases/decreases in patient population, not enough help to complete the workload, administration, ...). We must arm ourselves with knowledge, networking, and tools in order to help us deal with our practices and allow us to be happy and successful WOC nurses!

The Tennessee WOC nurses are working diligently to provide a fabulous conference full of sessions to renew, educate, and excite each of us in our practices. The Fall 2011 SER WOC nurse conference theme is "WOC Nurses on the River... We Go With the Flow".

The conference will be held in beautiful Chattanooga Tennessee, September 15-18, 2011, at the downtown Marriott Convention Center. We will provide a wide variety of topics in all four practice areas along with motivational sessions. Our pre-conference workshop is sponsored by NuHope. We will be armed with unique tricks and learn how to adapt pouching products for our challenging patients. We will hear from our colleagues on a wide range of topics from hernia repair, urodynamic testing, unique wounds, pyoderma gangrenosum, to educational strategies for teaching.

Plan on joining the Tennessee WOC nurses as we "go with the flow" in our WOC practices and lives. Mark your calendars for September 15-18, 2011 for the next SER WOC nurse conference.

Please e-mail me if you would like to participate in future conference planning sessions, or if you have any suggestions/comments for our SER conference 2011.

Martha Davidson
Martha.w.davidson@vanderbilt.edu



Director—Special Projects

Sharon Traylor, RN, CWON

It's hard to believe we are already in October. Where is the time going? The cooler mornings and evenings are a wonderful change though. But with the beginning of each fall comes school and time for each of us to think about adding to our knowledge base. Hope to see ya'll at some of the upcoming conferences.

Let's look forward to:

- **SER Certification Review webinar: January 15, 2011**
- NPUAP 12th National Biennial Conference – Emerging Healthcare Issues: February 25-26, 2011 – Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas, NV
- Memphis Area WOCN Conference: April 8-9, 2011 – Memphis, TN - Holiday Inn at U of M, Memphis, TN
- SAWC Spring: April 14-17, 2011 – Gaylord Texan Hotel, Dallas, TX
- FAET: May 6-7, 2011 – Lago Mar Resort and Club, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- WOCN 43rd Annual Conference: June 4-8, 2011, New Orleans, LA
- **SER Conference: September 15-18, 2011 – Marriott Hotel, Chattanooga, TN**



Here's what available online:

- WOCN website – Global Learning Center
- www.NursingCenter.com/CE – continuing education articles:
- CE's from WOCN journal
- CE's from topic skin/wound
 - www.medlineuniversity.com – programs on pressure ulcer prevention, continence, wound care and more
 - www.us.coloplast.com – programs on pressure ulcers, incontinence and ostomy management
 - www.ehob.com –educational webinars
 - www.inquisit.org - online/live programs
 - www.nursingceportal.com – online specialty courses

Don't forget to add our DVD's to your collection of educational material.

Happy Fall Ya'll...

Sharon Traylor
sharon.traylor@winterhaven.org

A Special Fall “Hello” from Tennessee!

Mona Hector, BSN, RN, CWOCN

Susan Nielsen has finished her online education in wound & ostomy at webWOC Nursing and is now precepting with me. She hopes to take her certification exam in January and is excited about her new role and will soon be in the job market. **Susan Rodgers** is working on long distance learning from Emory. She has completed the wound module and is working on the ostomy module. She has plans to also complete both continence and foot & nail modules. Currently, she works two days a week at Parkridge while studying and she previously worked at Skyridge Wound Center in Cleveland, TN. **Lesley Myers** and her family have just returned from Disney World®. She and **Nancy Crisler** have both stepped down from their full time positions and are now job sharing at Memorial Hospital.

Barbara Dale's poster “Show me the evidence: Do larger size indwelling urinary catheters really increase the risk of catheter associated urinary tract infection?” won the Research Merit Award at National Conference last June. She was thrilled and we are proud of her! Oh by the way, YES, they do increase your risk by 5.9%!!!!

SER Conference 2011

From **Martha Davidson** comes the latest updates on 2011 SER WOC nurse conference. She is excited so many Tennessee WOCNs have volunteered to help with the conference planning. **Marilyn Hargrove** and **Bonnie Thompsen** are assisting with coordinating the Education Committee, while **Sara Davidson** is heading up the CE committee. The Poster Committee is chaired by **Pat Dittes**. **Amy Bandelier** and **Jenny Evangelist** are compiling a list of sales representatives and are expecting a full house of exhibitors. Janeen Lee is looking for a group of helpers to help her solicit donations for the goody bag and for the silent auction. **Linda Lipscomb** and others from Chattanooga are helping to solicit Tennessee products for the goody bag. Some special entertainment is being coordinated by **Elliott Douglass** for our conference fun. We promise to have a conference full of excellent

educational opportunities, fun and networking. Please mark your calendars for September 15-18, 2011 for next

fall's SER WOC nurse conference at the beautiful Chattanooga Convention Center!



Memphis Area WOC Nurse Spring Conference

AVOID the fall rush and start the year with an exciting conference to be held in Memphis! The Memphis Area WOC nurses group is presenting: “Heal on Beale in Memphis”, April 8 & 9, 2011 at the Holiday Inn at University of Memphis. In addition to general sessions there will be advanced & basic track breakout sessions. Nationally and internationally known experts in all three areas of practice will examine the latest advances in direct patient care including brand new topics. Honest, there are some! As an added bonus, group tourist events will be available Friday night (paid separately at ~\$50). Knowing that the education dollars are short, the Memphis WOC's have an affordable and economical conference organized for your CE needs. For further information and/or brochures contact **Rachel Curbow**, e-mail: rachel.curbow@rocketmail.com

East Tennessee State University Conference

ETSU is holding a conference on December 3, 8:00am - 4:30pm called ‘Every Body's Business: Urinary Incontinence’, at the Millennium Centre in Johnson City. Topics include: bedside evaluation and differential diagnosis, urodynamic studies in UI, physical therapy & other “non-medical” programs in the management of UI, and surgical interventions and nerve stimulation. For further information: <http://www.etsu.edu/cme>

Feel free to contact me

Mona Hector
monahector@bellsouth.net

North Carolinians in the News

Judy Plemmons, RN, CWOCN

The news from NC begins with an end. **Gloria Johnson** will be retiring after 21 years of being a Wound/Ostomy nurse, and an RN for 40 years. She was in the first class of the UNC-C nursing school. She concludes that she has had a great career that included Director of a Nursing School, working in OB/GYN, Med/Surg, LTC, and as a Diabetic Educator. Gloria adds that she has enjoyed learning from each role, but the years being a WOCN have been the most rewarding experiences of all. She is very excited about retirement since she was married recently. They have plans to enjoy time together with their families, church/volunteer work, hobbies, and travel. Gloria wants all to know that she will truly miss the wonderful and supportive friends she has made throughout her career and will reflect often on these cherished memories.



The SER Conference here in NC was a great success! **Leanne Richbourg** won the Honorary Scholarship, and **Carolyn Parker** won the WOC Nurse of the Year. In addition, we had several of our NC members who presented at the conference. We want to acknowledge **Trudy Huey** along with her team who did an excellent job at putting things together.

From the legislative side, **Suzanne Collins** provided an outstanding update. She reported that Chris Rorick, our legislative consultant in Washington, gave an excellent presentation on how WOCN interests are being impacted by health care reform at SER WOCN. We now have a wound care nurse in Congress!

Renee Ellmers, RN (R-NC) was elected to the House of Representatives, from Dunn, NC. She and her husband run Trinity Wound Care Center in Dunn. Suzanne also reports that nationally, the WOCN Reimbursement Task Force is busily investigating the details of Incident-to billing for WOCN services in ambulatory care, and a web link to state-by-state reimbursement, prescriptive authority, and scope of practice for APRNs. This will soon be launched on the Advocacy tab of our WOCN website. She notes that forums are full of requests for this information, nearly every day across all the sub-specialties. The WOCN will be signing on to a House

Resolution about ostomy care in the very near future. Look for an article about this in the upcoming WOCNews.



There may soon be a new, WOCN-centered alternative to NIWI. The National Public Policy Committee is submitting a proposal for a two-day experience that supports a specifically WOCN-produced agenda to take to the Hill. The purpose is to develop a more intensive program that occurs at a more favorable time in the legislative year than does the Nursing Alliance-sponsored NIWI. Lastly, Suzanne adds that if you or a colleague is interested in becoming more politically dialed in, the Grassroots Toolkit is being updated and will be available to educate you on all things governmental by early December.

The NC WOC Nurses have completed their second group research project. The topic is suspected deep tissue injury, and the article will soon be ready for submission. The NC WOC Nurses poster at SER Conference won first place!!

Judy Plemmons
JDPlammo@aol.com

Director of Conference Planning

Dot Lawson, RN, BSN, CWOCN



The WOC nurses of the Southeast Region have experienced yet another awesome SER Conference.

Our last conference was held in Concord, North Carolina with **Trudy Huey** as chairperson. **Trudy** and the North Carolina WOCNs hosted a wonderful educational conference for the SER membership and visiting WOC nurses from other regions. We truly “Closed the Gap: with

Evidence, Knowledge, and Practice”. There were 237 attendees, 26 first time attendees, 39 registered for the pre-conference, and 54 exhibitors. With a recommendation from the North Carolina WOCNs, the SER marked its first year as going green with the conference booklet available on-line for the attendees to download or print. North Carolina WOCNs, thank-you for a job well done.

Our next conference will be in Chattanooga, Tennessee, September 15-18, 2011 with

Martha Davidson as chairperson. The Tennessee group is planning an exciting conference with the theme: “WOCNs on the River: We Go With the Flow”. Mark your calendars and start preparing to attend this upcoming conference. As always, it is such an honor to serve the SER membership. May God bless you and see you in Chattanooga.

Dot Lawson
dorothyann.lawson@palmettohealth.org

Great News! Save the Date...

Certification Review

Webinar

Featuring

Dorothy Doughty MN, RN, FNP, CWOCN, FAAN

January 15, 2011

8:30am – 5pm EST

**Further Details will be Posted
When Available**

SER website: serwocn.org

Cycling Through Georgia

Kathie Fuller, BS, RN, CWOCN

Hello from Georgia! My name is **Kathie Fuller** and I am a CWOCN at Northside Hospital in Atlanta. I am the new SER Reporter for the State of Georgia—attempting to fill some very BIG shoes left vacant by **Vi Poteete** of Wellstar Kennestone Hospital.

Speaking of Wellstar Kennestone, **Marlies Niehuser** has been promoted to Clinical Supervisor of the WOCN Department. **Marlies** started her career at Kennestone in 1998, as a Med-Surg RN and attended Emory WOCNEP in 2003. **Marlies** says she really enjoys this profession and plans to continue working until she is ready to retire..."which is a long time off!" Congratulations to **Marlies**!

Kudos also to **Laure Kraker** of Wellstar Kennestone Hospital who was selected the Winner of Best of the Best this quarter. Best of the Best is a Wellstar awards program that honors outstanding nurses, nominated by their peers for exemplary patient care based on Wellstar Standards of Gold. **Laure** was presented this award for "making excellence the goal in everything she did!" By the way, the team at Kennestone is



looking for a new certified WOCN member for their in-patient department.

Emory University Hospital welcomes **Angela Smith Dye** as the newest member of their WOCN team! **Angela** graduated Summa Cum Laude from Emory School of Nursing in 2008 and will complete the WOCN Education Program in November 2010. **Angela** lives in Snellville, Georgia and enjoys

anything in the mountains including spending time with her husband and three dogs.

Cynthia Timms also of Emory fame has found a unique way to support charitable causes including the WOCN Foundation. Check out OneBuckBack.com where you can find high quality, brand name clothes and other items at deeply discounted prices. For each item purchased at the site, \$1 will be contributed to a worthy cause selected by the purchaser. To contribute to a WOCN Foundation initiative, type WOCN in the search box and all the options will show up—there is no limit to the amounts contributed and there is no cost to the purchaser. OneBuckBack has added an extra dollar to Katherine Jeter's scholarship fund. If anyone selects this fund, not \$1.00 but \$2.00 per item will be added to Cycling for Scholarship Fund. OneBuckBack.com was co-founded by **Cynthia Timms**, a certified Atlanta WOCN of 13 years. Questions about the site can be addressed to GTimms@OneBuckBack.com or call 877-396-3887.

Kathie Fuller
kathie.fuller@northside.com or
jefkat@comcast.net



From the “new” Director of Awards

Cindy Norris, RN, BSN, CWOCN

Regina Holmes is now serving on the National WOCN Society Board. She has done a great job as our Awards Director for the past 4 years. **Regina** will be greatly missed; she will be an asset to our WOCN Board. **Regina's** enthusiasm, dedication, compassion and professionalism and willingness to serve have been greatly appreciated.

Our SER Conference in Concord, North Carolina was a "home run." The lectures, food, networking, accommodations and vendor displays were excellent. If you did not attend, "right now" would be a great time to start planning to attend next year. One of the reasons is so you can be actively involved in the AWARDS. It is very important that we begin thinking about who we would like to nominate for the awards for next year

2010 Winners

Carolyn Parker, RN, BSN, MSN, COCN received the SER WOCN Nurse Award of the Year. She was nominated by **Kristy Aiken** RN, CWOCN. (See her article on the front page.)

Rookie of The Year was **Alice Lowery**, RN, BSN, CWOCN and was nominated by **Fran Perren** RN, CWOCN.

Leanne Richbourg MSN, APRN-BC, CWON-AP, CNS was the SER WOCN Scholarship Honoree.

Poster Presentation winners: 1st place was **Leanne Richbourg**, 2nd place winners were **Gwen Lambert** and **Brenda Rutland** and 3rd place winners were: **Melody Austin**, **Fran Harris**, **Peggy McCracken** and **Laurie McNichol**. (Copies of the winning posters are on the website.) The Dorothy Doughty Research Grant Award Recipient went to **Cary Dowdy** RN, BSN, CWOCN.

WOC Nurse Day winner was

Cindy Norris RN, BSN, CWOCN from Carolina's Hospital Systems in Florence, SC.

Our very deserving Fall Conference recipients were as following: Conference Scholarships recipients were **Alison Baggette** RN, BSN from DHEC Home Care in Sumter, SC, nominated by **Jane Mansfield** RN, BSN, MSN and **Kelli Potter** RN, BSN from ANMed Health in Liberty, SC. She was nominated by **Kathy Galofski** RN, BSN, CWOCN.

The SER WOCN donated \$2000 to the Youth Rally. We assisted 3 campers and 2 counselors to attend the UOAA youth camp.

I'm looking forward to a great year working as the Awards Director. With everyone working together as a team, nominating some of our valued colleagues, we can achieve great success and honor those who are compassionate about our profession. Thanks to all of you for your support in this endeavor.

Cindy Norris
cnorriscwocn@bellsouth.net
843-674-5645



Fall Conference Scholarship Winners and the WOC Nurse that Nominated them



Alice Lowery, Rookie of the Year (right)



Alison Baggette, Fall Conference Scholarship Winner (left)



Kelli Potter, Fall Conference Scholarship Winner (left)



Carol Parker, WOC Nurse of the Year (middle)



Cary Dowdy, Dorothy Doughty Research Grant Winner



Leanne Richbourg, Honorary Scholarship Recipient Winner (middle)

Hello from Sunny Florida!

Terry Barton, BSN, RN, CWOCN

The sign that Fall has come to Florida is when you smell the cinnamon brooms in Publix! It's still quite toasty with temperatures in the high 80's yet we still are thankful for our little bit of Fall with pumpkin pie here too.

Kudo's to **Karen Durigan**, our conference chair for a successful FAET 2010 Cruise Conference "Adjust Your Sails"! Congratulations to **Donna Lehman**, the recipient of the FAET Scholarship for 2010. Thank-you also goes out to **Charlene Demers** our outgoing President for her hard work and commitment to FAET. Newly elected positions include President: **Terry Barton**, Vice President: **Ron Sotomayor**, and Director of Membership: **Barbara Bagby**. FAET honors those WOCNs who have achieved 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service. Congratulations for 15 years of service to **Kathryn Dere**, **Linda Ravenhorst**, **Elizabeth Reid** and **Nancy Scott**!



Next year the FAET Conference chair is **Amparo Cano**. The Conference will be held in Ft. Lauderdale, May 6 & 7 at the luxurious Lago Mar Resort and Club. The theme is **"Gold on the Beach"**. Some say that this subtropical area of Florida is named the Gold Coast since pirates gold from the 1700's actually washed up on its beaches. Once again there will be gold on Ft. Lauderdale's beaches as members of FAET, the Gold Standard of WOCN gather for our 2011 Conference. Anyone is welcome to join us. There is additional information on our website **FAET.org** or you may call Amparo at 954-355-5927. Speaking of Amparo Cano, she and Patricia Corvino's case study poster, 'Use of Porcine Urinary Bladder Matrix (UBM) In a Dehisced Wound between Stomas Promoted Rapid Healing Facilitating Routine Pouch Changes in a Premature Neonate' won an award at WOCN Annual Conference.

Congratulations to **Nancy Scott** and **Janet Hill** who have successfully recertified their CWOCN through WOCNCB PGP. Congratulations are also in order for **Mini Varghese** and **Rebekah Field** from Florida Hospital in Orlando for successfully obtaining their first WOCN certification! **Teri Robinson** RN, BSN, CWOCN from Orlando Health was a guest speaker at Spring SAWC in Florida and Fall SAWC in California lecturing on pediatric wounds. **Sheryl Fulmer** is interested in organizing a networking group for WOCNs for the Tampa Bay area. If you would like to join her in this effort please contact her at sheryl.fulmer@baycare.org. **Cheryl Lynch** presented a poster at SER entitled "Pressure Ulcers and Bed Surfaces". **Charlene Demers** gave an oral presentation on prevention of urinary tract infections at the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurse Association annual conference in Albuquerque NM in September. Her poster "Preventing Urinary Tract Infections in Long Term Care with Team Work" won best of show at the Florida Medical Directors Association annual conference in Orlando FL in October.



Late Breaking News

Linda Ravenhorst recently went to Kansas City to attend he grandson's 1st birthday. She must have come back full of energy as she has volunteered to become the new State Reporter for Florida. Welcome Linda!!

Please send me any news to
terry.barton@flhosp.org or
jravenhorst@tampabay.rr.com

Greetings from Alabama the Beautiful!

Jessie Dickerson, RN, MSN, AP-CWON

The Alabama WOC Nurses are busy as usual making preparations for our annual WOCN State meeting to be held in Bessemer/ Birmingham in the Spring of 2011. Stay tune for the final plans later.



Reports around the State

Karen Edwards was selected to serve on an International Panel of ten nurses for a consensus on skin tears. This panel will meet in Chicago in

January 2011. Their consensus statements will be published as a "white paper", with the panel as authors.

Karen has every right to be excited and honored to be a worthy participant. **Angela Graham**, CWOCN at Alacare won the 2010 CEO Excellence Award for Alacare Home Health and Hospice. Congratulations **Angela** - we are so proud of you and your accomplishment.

Pat Blakely represented the Birmingham Area Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses during a recent presentation of a \$1000 check to our local Birmingham Ostomy Association Support Group. The president of the Birmingham Ostomy Association Support Group, Lyn Hayes, was delighted to receive the donation for the group. This group provides education, social, and emotional support for those with temporary and/or permanent ostomies. The group currently meets at the St. Vincent's Living Well Center off of Hwy 280 and 119. However, there are plans underway to include a larger population of ostomates by offering a support group on alternate months in the Baptist Medical Center Princeton facility. The \$1000.00 donation was made by the WOCN's as a result of funds received from local conferences and workshops. This donation will help toward supporting the group, mailing out literature and updating the website. Contact information can be obtained from: **Pat Blakely** at 205-838-1950.

Hattie Stokes-Reasor, Pat Blakely and **Cheryl Lane** represented the Birmingham Area Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses on November 13, 2010 with a donation of over \$700.00 worth of goods and supplies to the Joe Lee Griffin Hope Lodge. The Hope Lodge is an American Cancer Society's home-away-from-home for cancer patients in the Birmingham area. The goods and supplies were



Cheryl Lane, Pat Blakely and Hattie Stokes-Reasor

obtained as a result of funds gained through conferences and workshops sponsored by the Birmingham Area WOCN's. Typically, the guests at the lodge must bring their own food, clothing and toiletry items. Therefore, this donation was made to help offset the financial burden for these patients.



Hattie Stokes-Reasor and Pat Blakely

Sharon McKinney, along with the local WOCN's in Tuscaloosa, has started their own group. They are referred to as the: West Alabama Alliance of WOCN Nurses. The group has elected the following officers: President: **Sharon McKinney**, Vice President: **Linda Howard**, Secretary: **Roz Jordan**, CE Coordinator: **Wendy Skurka**. Sharon reports that their goal is to promote community interests in activities and provide education related to wound, ostomy and continence. Their objectives are 1) To provide education related to the practice of WOCN 2) Improve outcomes related to WOCN issues in their community. 3) Increase awareness within the community of the role of the WOCN and serve as a resource in this area of practice. Tuscaloosa is very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of WOC Nurses on board. Best wishes ladies in your endeavors. **Sharon** is a busy lady; she is also serving on the WOCN National Marketing Committee.

Congratulations

Hattie Stokes-Reasor recently retired from the University of Alabama Hospital System after 25 years. She is now employed at the Birmingham VA Medical Center Hospice Unit. **Julie Bray** and her husband Brian are the proud parents of a beautiful baby boy named: Benjamin Paul Bray. He arrived a little early but is doing fine. The Birmingham WOCN's hosted a Baby shower for the couple the first week in November. There was smiles and laughter all over the place. Babies have that affect on you! **Sharon White** was elected to serve on WOCN Nomination Committee. **Sharon** is a most deserving participant. **Jessie Dickerson** would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers, calls and well wishes during her recent 10 day hospitalization. **Jessie** is home now and doing quite well thanks to your support.

Allow me, on behalf of the Birmingham WOC Nurses, to wish the entire SERWOCN region a most blessed and happy holiday season.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jessie Dickerson, RN, MSN, AP-CWON ~ Retiree

South Carolina News Update

Cindy Norris, RN, BSN, CWOCN



Our SER Conference in Concord N.C. was a huge success! Great job North Carolina!

Barb Righter from Charleston has volunteered to be our new newsletter

editor for South Carolina. We appreciate her willingness to serve. I was elected to the SER Board as the Director of Awards so this is my last newsletter. I have enjoyed working with all of our SC nurses and consider it a privilege and honor to be a part of our great group.

We had a great state meeting. **Lynnette Franklin** from Charleston presented a program on depositions, litigation and preparing for court. Med Source DME presented on products, equipment and allowables covered by Medicare, Medicaid and private insurances and the required documentation for supplies. ConvaTec presented the Signal FMS System and the systems and pouches that will be available soon. Our next state meeting will be April 5th from 10am to 2pm at Lexington Medical Center. **Rene Epting** from Palmetto Health Baptist wants to update the statewide DME provider list and mail order companies. Please e-mail the list of DMEs and mail order companies in your area with the address and phone numbers to alma.epting@palmettohealth.org. If you would like to have a copy, contact Rene.

June Bullock from Lexington Medical Center re-certified via PGP. **Leigh Warf** from Lexington completed the WOC Nursing Program through Emory. She is waiting to take the certification exam. **Marlene Pippin** from Trident Regional Medical Center in Charleston re-certified as a WCC and in Foot & Nail. **Sally Lumpkin** and **Lynn Friebe** from Georgetown, **Kathy Decho** from Baptist Hospital re-certified. **Jenni Sanders** from MUSC certified in ostomy, **Elizabeth Jones** from Providence is CFCN. **Ashley Taylor** from Palmetto Health passed

the Ostomy re-certification. Congratulations to all of you!

Catherine Mislewic is working at Orangeburg Wound Center, **Tommy Jean Floyd** is working at Clarendon Health System, **Carolynn Cuttino** from MUSC is working with CCME (Carolina's Centers for Medical Excellence) to provide education for wound care for LTC facilities. **Judy Burbage** formally of Roper Saint Francis Healthcare will join the ranks at Trident Hospital as Clinical Manager of the Outpatient Trident Advanced Wound Care Center. It will open December 2010. You can contact her at burbage@comcast.net. **Kimberly Stokes** is the Wound & Ostomy Nurse for Amedisys Home Health Care in Charleston.

Cary Dowdy won the Dorothy Doughty Research Grant at Conference and Cindy Norris won the Celebrate WOC Nurse Week award. And lastly congratulations to our future: **Alison Baggette** and **Kelli Potter** who won the Fall Scholarship award. Way to go!!

If you have any professional or personal news for our next newsletter, e-mail it to **Barb Righter** at barbara.righter@hcahealthcare.com. You can send this anytime.

Thoughts for the Day: "Don't be so involved with the "when" that you miss the "now." Learn to thrive on challenge and change. Generosity does not include giving away something you will never miss. (quotes from LIFE'S LITTLE HANDBOOK OF WISDOM)

Cindy Norris
cnorriscwocn@bellsouth.net