

Five Alive

March, 2005

The E-news of the South Central
Region WOCN

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Spring Into SCR!

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Spring into action is the theme of this edition of e-news for the SCR! Let's recall our SCR president Kathy Murphy's challenge to us all—call upon our talents and natural resources and make our group rise to the occasion. What do we have to offer? Who is our target audience and what product can we offer them?

Inside this edition of e-news, you'll learn about the accomplishments of some of our membership and current projects. Highlights also include news from UOA. Please read the advocacy article and respond if you are able. March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and in April, we celebrate Nurses' Week and WOCN Nursing Day!

The SCR Council is working together to bring you a dynamic website. This SCR Spotlight introduces you to the Web Master—you will surely enjoy meeting her!

The next project sponsored by SCR is coming your way. It looks to be an exciting cousin to the foot and nail certification program. More details will be coming your way!

Perseverance

Aerodynamically speaking, the design of a bumblebee is a disaster.

Too much bodyweight.
Too little wingspan.
Just can't fly.
But it does.

SCR Members Stepping Out at the 37th Annual WOCN Conference

These SCR members are poster presenters at this year's WOCN conference in Las Vegas. Extend your support and congratulations at the poster sessions!

Jean M Stow, RN, MSN, CNS, CWOCN - Reduction of Pressure Ulcer Incidence and Specialty Bed Rental Dollars Across the Continuum of Care - Memorial Hermann Northwest Hospital, Houston, TX.

C.C. Monge, DABFN, CWOCN - The University of Texas MDACC WOC Nurses: Promoting a Positive Image of Nursing in the Institution and the Community - University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX.

M. Ray Justice, RN, BSN, CWOCN - A WOCN Team Approach to Reducing Wound Care Cost - Mississippi Medical Center Home Health, Tupelo, MS.

If you would like to present a poster at an upcoming conference and need assistance, remember the SCR Poster Award Scholarship! Look at the forms section of the website for an application today!

Debbie Fulmer, Scholarship Chair

A Penny for Your Thoughts.....

Lincoln's Road to the Whitehouse

Failed in business in 1831.
 Defeated for legislature in 1832.
 Second failure in business in 1833.
 Suffered nervous breakdown in 1836.
 Defeated for Speaker in 1838.
 Defeated for Elector in 1840.
 Defeated for Congress in 1843.
 Defeated for Congress in 1848.
 Defeated for Senate in 1845.
 Defeated for Vice-President in 1856.
 Defeated for Senate in 1858.
 Elected President in 1860.

***Have you been shopping
lately?***

**Go to the SCR store and
purchase items online!
Use PayPal today!**

SCR Spotlight

This month's SCR Spotlight shines on

Dawn Wooten, MCP, MS Office Master—SCR Web Master

Dawn lives in Corpus Christi, Texas, and works for CHRISTUS Health System. She has been with CHRISTUS since 1995 as the Application Trainer for Spohn Health System, a six hospital region of CHRISTUS. Dawn taught 4,000 plus Spohn Associates in 2 years basic computer skills, assisted in the automation of many departments and has now moved on to be a member of the Care Continuum team that works with physicians and nurses in implementing HIPAA regulatory standards as they relate to automated processes throughout the system.

I met Dawn when we were upgrading to the Meditech system. Our first introduction was when I was learning to use the internal email program. She was a great instructor because at that time, I was not very computer savvy. Shortly after that, I learned how to use Excel, which has changed my life for the better. Throughout the years, she has always been so accessible to answer questions and fix some of my greatest screw-ups-like when I lost a document that I had spent hours working on.

Dawn has been a widow since 1988 and moved to Corpus Christi in 1991 from California to be near her parents who have since passed on. She has now decided to move on to the next adventure and is in the process of relocating to Kauai, Hawaii. She is selling her home and has a new job developing e-Learning for the SANS Institute, a company that is contracted by Homeland Security. The company trains network administrators in securing their computer networks.

Dawn graduated from Texas A&M, Corpus Christi, with a Bachelors in Occupational Training & Development with an emphasis in Business Technology and a minor in Business Management. She has two children...uh adults who are 28 and 29. When she makes her move, she will be leaving her 3 cats with her children, in Corpus Christi. Bunny, her favorite, is pictured below in the snow that Corpus enjoyed Christmas day. The deal with the kids is that their payment for taking the cats is a ticket to visit her every Christmas. She'll miss her cats terribly but at least the kids get to visit (So will she adopt some Hawaiian kitties??? She will have to send us pictures if she does.).

Dawn's life and love is computers and software. She loves to figure out how to automate and communicate with the world using web pages, voiceovers, and email.

Dawn came to SCR WOCN when I asked her to do our web page and has been having a great time getting to know everyone. She enjoys the creative suggestions and hopes the SCR web page will enhance our team. We hope we can afford to bring her back for the fall conference. Everyone would gain so much from one of her lectures. When we returned from our transitional meeting, Dawn was commenting that everyone at the meeting made her feel so welcomed...like she had been part of the group before she even met all of us. I hope everyone gets to meet her- she is a great asset to our region, and I will miss having her near by.

Submitted by: Jill Conwill, RN, MSN, COCN, CWCN

Dr. Sheri Smith Memorial Grant

The Dr. Sheri Smith Memorial Grant applications are now posted on the WOCN Society's Web site at www.wocn.org. The Dr. Sheri Smith Memorial Grant in the amount of \$2,500 will be awarded twice annually to deserving WOCN members for education, research, or programs/materials to advance the field of WOC care.

For more information and applications, please click on Dr. Sheri Smith Memorial Grant in the "What's New" column of the home page or click on Educational Resources and Programs/Scholarship and Dr. Sheri Smith Memorial Grant Information and Applications under Education.

NPUAP Conference 2005

Janet Davis, SCR 2005 Conference Chair, presented a poster at the 9th National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel Conference, February 25-26, 2005. She presented her work on Pressure Ulcer Staging Interrater Reliability.

According to our national office, many WOCN members attended the conference. Six of the WOCN Nursing Education Program Directors attended in an official capacity and represented the position of the WOCN Society in its response to NPUAP's white papers on Deep Tissue Injury (DTI) and Stage I and Stage II Pressure Ulcer nomenclature.

Click on the What's New section of the national website for the Society Response.

UOA Needs Our Support

Continuing Problems with Inclusion of Ostomy Supplies in the Home Health Prospective Payment System (PPS)

The United Ostomy Association recently conducted a survey among two groups: recipients of the UOA Website News, and the customers of a large Midwest ostomy dealer. In total, we received well over 500 responses from people with an ostomy who are Medicare beneficiaries. We found that almost half of them (45%) had experienced at least one episode of home health care service in the last 3 years, 21% of whom experienced significant problems with their ostomy supplies during the episode(s). The problems are related to the need for home health agencies to both provide and absorb the cost of ostomy supplies during an episode of care.

Several years ago, both the UOA and WOCN had hoped that ostomy supplies would be removed from home health PPS, and we believed that a report from the Government Accountability Office would recommend this. As it turned out, the report was much delayed and instead recommended that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) carry out some further research into the subject. CMS does not have the resources or sense of urgency required for this research, so we have to resume our campaign.

Our intention is to find a sponsor for a Bill or an amendment to a Bill that would achieve our goal. We have our survey results, but anecdotes of beneficiary, supplier, or home health agency experiences will also be useful. If any of you have experienced problems or witnessed problems for your patients or their suppliers as a result of the inclusion of ostomy supplies and PPS, we would be most grateful if you would email me details. If you would be willing to write a letter on the subject to a Member(s) of Congress, I would also like to hear from you.

We appreciate the concurrence of WOCN leaders in presenting this to you, and thank you very much for your help.

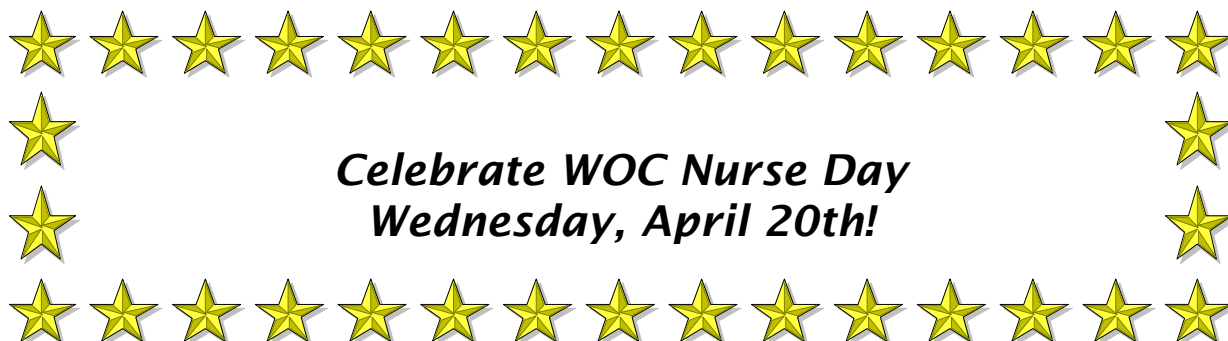
Linda Aukett
Chair, Government Affairs Committee
United Ostomy Association, Inc.
Fax: 856-854-5637
Advocacy@uoa.org

Call for New JWOCN Editor

The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society will appoint a new editor for the ***Journal of Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing*** when the current Editor, Katherine Moore, RN, PhD, steps down after five years. The Society and its publisher Lippincott, Williams, and Wilkins, along with the journal Section Editors, express thanks to Dr. Moore for her service and dedication.

The Society is seeking a dynamic and creative individual with excellent communication skills and a background in research principles to become its next Journal Editor. The person holding this esteemed position would be an integral part of Society leadership. If you are interested in being considered for this position, please go to the WOCN webpage for the information to obtain application materials.

The application deadline is March 25, 2005.



Preventable, Treatable, Beatable: Get Screened!

March is **National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month**, sponsored by UOA and member groups of the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable to increase public awareness. If you are 50 or older, have family history of cancer or other high-risk factors, we urge you to join in this crucial effort to save lives by talking with your family, friends, and healthcare provider about the need to be screened.

South Central Region WOCN

Wound, Ostomy, Contenance Education Programs

**The University of Texas M.D.
Anderson Cancer Center Wound,
Ostomy, Contenance Nurse Education Program
(WOCNEP)**

UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
Attn.: Shirley Woolems (Unit 163)
1515 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77030-4009
Phone: (713) 745-0219/745-0216

Fax: (713) 745-0025

E-mail:

swoolems@mdanderson.org or cbellis@mdanderson.org

Program Director: Connie Ellis, MS, RN, OCN, CWOCN

Program Coordinator: Janet M. Davis, MSN, RN, APRN-BC,
CWOCN

Also see MD Anderson's website-

www.mdanderson.org/departments/woundostomy

**Emory University Wound, Ostomy,
Contenance Nursing Education
Center (WOCNEC)**

The Emory Clinic, Room AT 732
1365 Clifton Rd., NE
Atlanta, GA 30322
Phone: (404) 778-4067

E-mail: cindy_strickland@emory.org

Center Faculty:

Dorothy Doughty, MN, RN, FNP, CWOCN and
Janet M. Ramundo, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFNP

*(Also, see the wocn.org website for and click on
"Education" for more options.)*

WOCNs in Action (local group meetings)

Austin, TX—Meets 2nd Wed. at 6:00 PM. Contact Karen Hollis @ (512)-324-1053.

Arkla-Tex—Meets 2nd Fri. of each quarter at 6:30 PM in Bossier City, LA. Contact Margaret Davis @ (318)-675-6924.

Biloxi, MS—Contact Paula Green @ (601) 288-4244.

Dallas, TX—Meets 2nd Thurs. of each month at 11:30 A.M.—Presbyterian Hospital Dallas Tenth Floor Board Room, 8200 Walnut Hill. Contact Presbyterian WOCN Dept. @ (214)-345-5053.

Northeast Texas WOCN—Meets Longview-Tyler area. Contact Tammi Short @ (903)-297-2560,

Fort Worth, TX—Meets 1st Thurs. at 11:30 AM at the Klabzuba Tower. Contact Valerie Pemberton @ (817) 820-4970

Houston, TX—Meets 4th Wed. at the Rotary House at 11:30 AM. Contact Janet Davis @ 713-895-9541

Houston Northwest—Meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 6PM. Contact: Pat Thompson, (W) 281-397-2799; (H) 832-484-8656; pat.thompson@tenethealth.com

Lafayette, LA—Meets 3rd Thurs. of each quarter at 6:30 PM. Contact Rita Hernandez @ (337) 981-4935.

Oklahoma City, OK—Meets 3rd Wed. of every other month on "on-call" basis

in the American Cancer Society office. Members will receive mailing notice of when meeting will be held. Contact Sharon Williams @ (405) 949-3770.

San Antonio, TX—Meets 3rd Wed. at the American Cancer Society at 4:30 PM. Contact Diane Rudolph @ (830) 336-3565 (H).

Please send any updates about your local WOCN group to Tammi Short. Send by US mail or by email to ettammi@aol.com.