



South Central Region

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Five Alive

March, 2007

The Newsletter of the South Central WOCN Region WOCN



President's Message—March, 2007



Jill Conwill

Alternative Level of Certification

Hot topic at our meeting will be the “Alternative Level” of certification. WOCNCB is going to be collecting names; email addresses and contact information for 3000 LPN/LVN and non-baccalaureate RNs who would like to take a feasibility/interest survey. They are looking for nurses who are practicing in the areas of wound, ostomy and continence in various care settings.

It would not be the same level as the current credentials. The role and certification name is still under consideration. The survey results will identify the role and type of tasks being performed. The scope of practice will be driven by their nursing licensure. The ad hoc committee and the Certification Board will weigh the information carefully.

There are many questions and mixed feelings about this topic. WOCNCB needs to hear from our members regarding this matter. I contacted Jeannine Thompson who is on the WOCNCB board to enlighten us about this undertaking. This was her response.

“As the popularity of the 4-day Wound Care Certified nurse programs is sweeping the nation, there has been an increase of requests from the CWOC nurses to investigate the interest in a WOC Tech or Assistant level of nursing care. There has also been an increase in 'Ask the Board' questions where a non-BSN RNs and LPN/LVNs ask how they can get a WOCN-like certification. This is because those who understand the value of the WOC nurse know that the CWOCN certification is the 'gold' standard.”

The thought is that this nurse would be a WOCN-trained helper and not competition. The education would be both didactic and clinical. The education and certification would be evidenced and research-based to reflect that education of the WOC nurse. This would be a different level of education than those nurses practicing with only on-the-job training, taught by CEU programs, or taught by wound care companies; thus raising the standard of nursing care.

We get back to the basis for WOCN Certification. In a nutshell, WOC nurses are certified and re-certify to insure that our practice is safe, effective and up-to-date. As I said before, WOCN are considered the 'Gold' standard for certification and are the only 'initials' recognized by the American Association of Nurses. (Not even CWS is recognized by the ANA).

It would seem logical, if there is an interest for nurses to improve their knowledge of wounds and ostomies, that the education be directed, and monitored by the WOCN (or gold standard). I hope that this helps explain why the Board is looking for qualified participants to take this survey.

There will be CWOCNCB members at the SCR meeting on Saturday in Salt Lake City. The Chairman of this Committee is from our Region....The committee members have gone through the interview process and will be in place by our WOCNCB meeting at the end of March. Since there are questions from the membership about the survey, I think that it would be prudent not to put the request on the SCR web site at this time".

Be sure to attend our regional meeting to express your comments. You can contact either

Kathy Meyer at or the committee chairperson, Marilyn Swindle, at or for further information.

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Staging Definitions for Home Health...NPUAP? WOCN?

Staging Definitions for Home Health... NPUAP? WOCN?

By Ken Clark

e-Issue #679

Feb. 22, 2007

National Association for Home Care & Hospice's Daily News
Source for the

Home Care Industry

Regulatory Update

NPUAP Releases New Pressure Ulcer Descriptions

<https://www.hppiexchange.com/public/>

The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory

Panel (NPUAP) has released its 2007 descriptions of pressure ulcers, including the four stages. Currently, home health agencies use the definitions issued by the Wound Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society (WOCN) as the basis for staging pressure ulcers and coding OASIS assessments. The NPUAP and the WOCN definitions and descriptions are similar. However, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) instructions to home health agencies reference the WOCN guidance.

CMS plans to review the new NPUAP information, and request a conference call with representatives of NPUAP to discuss their impact on home health agency practice related to staging pressure ulcer and coding OASIS. The 2007 NPUAP pressure ulcer definitions and descriptions can be found at here

[http://www.npuap.org/documents/
NPUAP2007_PU_Def_and_Descriptions.pdf](http://www.npuap.org/documents/NPUAP2007_PU_Def_and_Descriptions.pdf)

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How do We...

To receive important updates and news from WOCN and SCRWOCN you must keep your email and mailing address current. You can update this yourself in just 5 minutes by going to the WOCN website. Here is how to do it....

Go to

Edit Your (Member) Information

Go to **WOCN.org**, enter your **Log In** and **Password** in the upper right hand corner. Click **Go** or press **Enter** on your keyboard.

You will be brought to the **Members Only** page. Scroll down to the **Membership** heading, then click on **Edit Your Information**.

You now will see all of your member information. At the top of this page are several buttons to enable you to select what you want to view/update. Review all listed information for accuracy and content.

Changing Web ID & Password

At the top of the page, select the button - "**Edit Username & Password**" and enter your changes there. Be sure to "**submit**" (**save**) your information once you are finished.

Finding Your Member Number

If you need your member number, but cannot locate your ID card, you can log into the WOCN.org website, entering your Login and Password in the upper right hand corner. It will take you to the Members Only page. On the left side of the screen, in the blue area is your name, credentials and your WOCN Membership ID number.

If you have any questions, please contact **Member Services** at **888-224-9626**, voicemail option #2 or at wocn_info@wocn.org

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Sharing nETwork

Ostomy Supplies on EBay...

By Jill Conwill

How often do you have patients that don't qualify for Medicaid or indigent care? How often do you see patients that have a job but no insurance? Here in South Texas I see it often. I try to help out these patients with donated supplies or put them in contact with one of the companies that offer indigent care programs. This may help for a while but it can't keep them supplied forever.

I recently had a patient return after a horrendous, lengthy stay due to ruptured diverticular disease. He has been recuperating at home and spending a lot of time on the computer. He told me that he has been buying his supplies locally but more recently, he finds most of his supplies on EBay. He has insurance but if he can bid on the item and get it for less than his 20% co-pay, he buys it. In some cases the shipping is even free. I looked myself and found a large variety of ostomy supplies and a variety of prices.

My patient stated that he just types in the company's name and then the order number. He monitors the site daily because the stock constantly varies. I was just amazed to discover that ostomy supplies are on EBay. Hope this is news to others as it was to me.

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Wanted

WOCN Poster Presenters

Are you planning
to present a
poster at the 2007
WOCN
convention?

Do you need
some financial
help to make this
a reality?

The SCR can
help!!!!

Contact:

Debbie Fulmer
SCR Scholarship
Chair

dfulmer@uaforts
mith.edu

Scholarship News

Exciting News from the Scholarship Committee!

By Debbie Fulmer, Scholarship Chair

The SCR membership has spoken and as a result there is a lot occurring with the scholarship designations from our region. See some of the exciting news below:

Beverly Hampton Scholarship – Congratulations go to Amber Gale Lea from San Antonio, TX on winning the Beverly G. Hampton Scholarship from Fall 2006. She currently attends the M.D.Anderson WOCNEP. We look forward to welcoming Amber into the SCR as soon as she completes her current program of study.

Remember that the Beverly Hampton Scholarship is now administered solely by the South Central Region. Applications for this scholarship must be received by the SCR Scholarship Committee by May 1st or November 1st of each year. The application form is on the website in the forms section. Eligibility criteria for this scholarship are:

1. A registered nurse residing in one of the SCR WOCN states (AR, LA, MS, OK, TX).
2. Seeking education in wound, ostomy, and continence nursing at M.D.Anderson WOC Nurse Education Program (WOCNEP).
3. Proof of one of the following:
 - Acceptance in the M. D. Anderson WOCNEP.
 - Current enrollment in the M.D Anderson WOCNEP.
 - Certificate of completion from the M.D.Anderson WOCNEP.

SCR WOCNEP Scholarship – This is a new scholarship from the SCR which will be administered by the WOCN Scholarship Committee. Applications are available on the WOCN website and must be received by the WOCN Scholarship Committee by May 1st or November 1st of each year. One \$1500 scholarship is available each year from the SCR. Eligibility criteria for this scholarship is:

1. The applicant selected to receive the SCR WOCNEP Scholarship must be a resident in one of the states within the South Central Region (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas).
2. The applicant must show proof of acceptance and enrollment in a full-scope WOCNEP.
3. The recipient must become a participating member of the SCR-WOCN upon completion of the program.

Hurricane Relief Scholarship – This scholarship fund has now ended. We are pleased to announce that eight WOC nurses from the SCR qualified for round two of the scholarship fund. Bette Kussmann, Karen DuVieill, Bonney Bryan, Susan Scotton, Linda Davis, Susan Wilhelm, Beverly

Bonney Bryan, Susan Scotton, Linda Davis, Susan Wilhelm, Beverly Buchanan, and Amy Gregory will be receiving a scholarship check for the cost of their WOCN membership dues. Thanks to all who made this wonderful scholarship fund available to our members who were affected by the 2005 Hurricanes.

Youth Rally: Summer will be upon us before we realize. It is therefore important to remember that the SCR WOCN has scholarship funds available to help a child attend the Youth Rally, or to help a WOC nurse from our region attend as a counselor. This is a wonderful opportunity. The 2007 Youth Rally application is available on the UOAA website at [. Also,](#) a copy has been added to the SCR WOCN website. In order for youth or nurses to qualify, the application must be submitted to the Youth Rally and a copy forwarded to the SCR WOCN Scholarship Committee Chair.

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Youth Rally

Wanted

Youth Rally Campers

Are you between the ages of 11-17?
Do you have an Ostomy?
Do you want to have loads of fun at camp this summer?

The SCR can help!!!!

Contact:
Debbie Fulmer
SCR Scholarship Chair
dfulmer@uafortsmith.edu

YOUTH RALLY INFO....

Hi all,

The message below went to all the email addresses I had for campers that did NOT graduate last year, and parents too - on Jan 24th. It tells of the premier issue of a special newsletter for campers (not attached, but available at the noted link) and promises that the camper application will be available as of February 1. True to our word, the camper application was made available via the Rally website on 2/1, so you can feel comfortable telling any teen, parent or nurse that it's there ready for them to download and complete. www.rally4youth.org

Our thanks for Bonnie McElroy for designing the newsletter- it looks great! And our thanks to Amy McElroy for designing the great new webpage for the UOAA-affiliated Teen Network!! A talented family indeed.

Liz is working on the counselor application and we'll have it available via the website real soon. We're taking a little extra time to be sure it meshes with the application process for the new Counselor-in-Training program that will be initiated at this year's Rally.

Approved the Yearbook draft today, so it's finally going to press.

Two of our campers - and probably others I don't know about - have carepages set up at the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. They'd love a visit and a message from you. It is necessary to register and log-in ... you can do that starting at <http://www.carepages.com/home.jsp>

- Daneisha Veal is at "Daneisha" - she has been in and out of the hospital, but has been looking forward to finally getting back to real school (she has been homeschooled for quite a while due to her illness).

Lindsay D'Ercolo is at "lindsaydercolo02" - she says she is

her illness).

- Lindsey D'Ercole is at "lindseydercole93" - she says she is really excited about coming back this summer. Was in the hospital in October due to some twisting in her gut (that's what she called it in a message to me - I just don't know the medical name for it.).

You've all been pretty quiet - hope everything is great and that you're keeping warm!

Linda

----- Original Message -----

Hello all,

Happy New Year!! Hope your winter and your school year have been great so far, and that 2007 will be a wonderful year for you.

The volunteers of the Youth Rally are starting to work on programs, campus arrangements, and all the other details that go into making a successful Youth Rally. Soon it will be YOUR turn - to get your applications filled out and sent in to us.

In the meantime, please follow this link to the very first issue of our newsletter, designed just for you. You can find it by clicking here: http://users.snip.net/~lkaukett/01-07_Youth_Rally_News.pdf It has lots of news about campers and counselors, about additions to the website and about other sources of support for you and your family.

Hope you are keeping well!

Linda Aukett

Secretary/Treasurer for the whole Youth Rally Committee Board and volunteer staff

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WOCNs in Action (where your local group meets)

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.

Baton Rouge—Meet at 7pm on the
third Thursday in Jan, Apr, July, and
Oct.

Location varies. Please call Laurie Hood
at 225-381-6355 for further
information.

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

Dallas, TX—Meets 2nd Thurs. of each
month at 11:30 AM at Presbyterian
Hospital Dallas in the Tenth Floor board
room, 8200 Walnut Hill. Contact

Northeast Texas WOCN—Meets
quarterly at various locations in the
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 (W).

Houston, TX—Meets 4th Wed. at the
Rotary House at 11:30 AM. Contact
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.

Please send any updates about your local
WOCN group to [Bette Kusmann](mailto:Bette.Kusmann).

Are you Up to Date?

Have you checked out your member information lately? Go to
www.wocn.org and log on under the member section and check or
update your member contact information, demographics,
communication and directory information.

The only way the South Central Region can contact you is if we have
up to date records from the national office. The national office needs
YOU to update the information.

For regional membership questions or information, contact:

Janet M. Davis

jmdavis@pdq.net

713-895-9541 after 7pm CST

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