

# Five Alive

October, 2004

The Newsletter of the South Central Region WOCN

South Central Region WOCN

## Hot Springs or Bust 2004!

SCR Conference Time is Here!

**Celebrating**  
**SCR**  
**30th**  
**Anniversary!**

**Inside this issue:**

UOA Youth Rally News	2
SCR Spotlight	3
Poster Presentation Scholarship Award	4
Job opps	5
WOCNCB	6
NIWI	7
WOCNs in your area	8

Did you say your feet are tired from making daily rounds? Is it time to **rejuvenate** some WOCN wisdom? Is your brain calling for some **relaxation**, too? Then this conference is FOR YOU!

This celebrates the 30th annual WOCN SCR fall conference. The planning team has been preparing for this conference in earnest and is eager for us all to join them in lovely Hot Springs!

So, look forward to **immersing** yourself in the knowledge of WOCN pediatric care, stomal complications, and legal aspects of WOCN management (just to name a few).

We welcome everyone to conference and look forward to the "star-studded" panel joining us

in the celebration. WOCN President Laurie McNichol will be present to address the SCR. Mikel Gray and Diane Smith will be among the fantastic panel of conference speakers. We all are looking forward to being a part of the **immersion** experience!

We will have a conference corner in the next newsletter and on the website. If you have conference pictures or stories to share, please feel free to submit them to the newsletter editor. The contact information is on page 2.

Here's to you and conference 2004!

## WOCN SCR Board of Directors—2004

### President

Kathy Murphy  
15902 Galveston Rd. Apt. 818  
Webster, TX 77598  
(H) 281-280-0578  
Email: kmurphy@  
TexasChildrensHospital.org

### President Elect

Jim McLean  
117 Kenshire Drive  
Benbrook, TX 76126  
(H) 817-249-4934  
(cell) 817-480-6051  
Email: jetta@flash.net

### President Ex-Officio

Janet M. Davis  
2631 W. Southwick  
Houston, TX 77080  
(W) 713-745-0216  
Email: jmdavis@mdanderson.org

### Public Relations

Kim Stallo  
1005 S. Hallow Dr.  
Southlake, TX 76092  
(W) 214-345-6402  
Email: kimberlystallo@  
texashealth.org

### Nominations

Catherine Short  
4103 Harbour Circle  
Missouri City, TX 77459  
(H) 281-403-0580  
catherinemshort@aol.com

### Treasurer

Jill Conwill  
Christus Spohn Hospital  
600 Elizabeth St.  
Corpus Christi, TX 78404  
(W) 361-881-3644  
Email: jillconwill@  
christushealth.org

### Secretary

Peggy Coe  
4302 Santa Fe  
Lawton, OK 73505  
(W) 580-531-4721  
Email: coe4302@aol.com

### ByLaws/Operations Manual

Bette Kussmann  
3844 Napoleon Ave.  
New Orleans, LA 70125  
(W) 504-842-2189  
Email: bkussmann@ochsner.org

### Newsletter

Tammi Short  
706 Northwest Drive  
Longview, TX 75605  
903-236-3266  
Email: ettammi@aol.com

### Website

Mary Surman  
1274 Kenilworth Pkwy.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
(W) 225-765-8729  
Email: msurman@ololrmc.  
com

### 2004 Conference Chairman

Molly Brethour  
CAVHS  
4100W. 7th St. 118LR  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
(W) 501-257-5900  
Email: Margaret.  
brethour@med.va.gov

## A Penny for Your Thoughts.....

*As we are all aware, WOCN nursing provides us with many unique experiences. Please contact the newsletter editor with any stories you would like to share with the membership.*

I was preparing a poster for an inservice on pressure ulcer assessment and management. My 3 year-old was walking through the kitchen and stopped to look at the pictures I had displayed. He pointed to the photo of a large sacral unstageable, covered with eschar, and said, "Oh, Mommy that is a BAD boo-boo!" I chuckled to myself and said, "Yes, you're right." My next thought was, "...and unfortunately, we have to remind others that these are bad boo-boos." - **Tammi Short, newsletter editor**

## UOA YOUTH Rally News

This year's UOA Youth Rally was held in San Diego, California!

The SCR is proud to announce a donation of \$1,0000 was made this year.

The donation provides opportunities for campers to go to camp who otherwise would not be able to attend.

Jean Smith of the Rally extended her warm thanks to the SCR for the generous donation.

The 2005 rally will be held in Boulder, Colorado!



## SCR Spotlight: Susan Wilhelm, APRN, FNP, BC, CWOCN

This month's SCR Spotlight shines on **Susan Wilhelm, APRN, FNP, BC, CWOCN**. Susan lives in Abbeville, Louisiana, and commutes to work 45 minutes one-way. Susan is a true Cajun—she lives life as fast as her mouth will travel. I met Susan when she joined the SCR board as Secretary in 2000. Susan received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Special Education in 1985 from Southeastern Louisiana University and her BSN for the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1993. She received her WOCN nursing education from the University of Texas at Houston M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in 1998. But no—Susan did not stop there! She then graduated from McNeese State in Lake Charles, Louisiana, with her masters as a family nurse practitioner. I can remember many-a-meeting that Susan arrived just in the nick of time because of a class or a test she had to take. She never traveled without a book at hand.

Susan lives in Abbeville with her husband, Ed, their 15 year-old daughter, Flitzy, two cats, one dog, and six dairy cows. Ed is a traveling dialysis nurse. Flitzy is active in 4-H and Girl Scouts. Susan served as the Director of the Vermillion Parrish Girl Scout Camp for three years. Ed and Susan are active parents in the 4-H Livestock program in St. Landry Parish. In 2000 and 2001, the SCR sponsored Susan at UOA camp as an ET nurse. UOA camp was something Susan was very passionate about and this was evident as she presented the UOA film and spoke about camp at the 2001 SCR fall conference in San Antonio. Susan served on the SCR Board as secretary in 2000-2002.

Susan currently works as a FNP in the office of Perry Stokes, MD, FACC, in New Iberia, Louisiana. They are currently in the process of developing an ostomy/wound program through his office to expand this service to the population of Iberia Parish. Iberia Parish houses two hospitals, Dauterive Hospital and Iberia Medical Center, neither with WOC services. Once the office program is established, Susan is hoping to see patients in the hospital with ostomy and wound related need. We wish Susan the best of luck in her latest adventure. Susan is one WOC nurse in advanced practice that has stayed in WOC nursing!

*Submitted by: Peggy Coe, RN, CWOCN*

***Have you been shopping lately?  
Go to the SCR store and purchase items  
online!  
Use PayPal today!***

## **SCR Council Checking In**

You may have recently received either an e-mail or letter or both from one of the SCR Council members. We want to hear from you! Whether it is sharing a clinical story, a valuable teaching experience, a recommendation for the website, or a comic strip, PLEASE let us know! We want to know what you value and how we can better this organization for you! Please contact any one of the Council by e-mail or the contact information on page 2.

### **South Central Region WOCN Poster Presentation Scholarship Award**

**In 2005, the SCR will support individual poster presentation work that is not subsidized by industry or commercial sources. An annual award of \$250 each will be presented to two SCR members in good standing who present posters at the National WOCN conference.**

**Applications will be available soon on the SCR website and in hardcopy form.**

**Watch the newsletter and website for additional details!**

## Job Opportunities for WOCNs!!!

**Austin, TX: Seton Healthcare Network** is a not-for-profit organization of Central Texas including 8 hospitals, several community clinics, and a home care/hospice. MAGNET-designated 2002—4 hospitals. Currently have an opening for a WOCN Certified Nurse. The role of the WOCN is to primarily serve patients with ostomies, fistulas, and wound care needs. Practice is collaborative with the physical therapy depts. at each hospital. Contact info.: Mary Viney, RN, MSN, Director: Mviney@seton.org, (office) 512-324-4046, (pager) 512-624-1456; Karen Hollis, RN, BSN, COCN, CWCN, Lead WOCN: Khollis@seton.org, (office) 512-324-1053, (pager) 512-604-3010.

**Houston, TX: The Methodist Hospital** corporation is a nonprofit, MAGNET-designated health care organization in the heart of the world-renowned Texas Medical Center. The Center for Professional Excellence ET Team is currently seeking a WOCN Certified Nurse to be Clinical Resource, Teacher, and Consultant to the nursing staff for patients with fistulas, ostomies, drainage tubes, and pressure ulcers (Stage III and IV). Contact info.: Miriam Munguia, Recruiter, mmunguia@tmh.tmc.edu, Office 713-441-1806 or toll free 1-800-575-6877 ext. 11806.

**Longview, TX: Good Shepherd Medical Center**, a 425-bed not-for-profit and private regional referral center, is seeking an experienced WOCN to lead their 4-WOCN team.

GSMC offers a busy and competitive inpatient and outpatient service to patients from a 10-county area. The successful candidate will possess certification as a WOCN and at least 2 years experience in a hospital setting. Previous supervisory experience required. Employment package: highly competitive salary, benefits, including 401K-type retirement, sign-on and relocation allowance. Submit resume to: Nurse Recruiter GSMC 700 East Marshall Ave. Longview, TX 75601. Fax: 903-315-1944; tel: 903-315-5140; or apply online at: [www.goodshepherdhealth.org](http://www.goodshepherdhealth.org).

**Norman, OK: Norman Regional Hospital** is seeking to hire a "Wound & Ostomy Registered Nurse" - qualifications to include BSN, graduation from a WOCN Society accredited program, 2 yrs. previous RN nursing experience required, experience as a WOCN required, certification as a WOCN preferred, current Oklahoma RN license required. Schedule: Mon.-Fri./8-5/some off shifts with support groups. Contact info.: Sue Nicholson, RN, Nurse Recruiter, Norman Regional Hospital, 405-307-1591, [snicholson@nrh-ok.com](mailto:snicholson@nrh-ok.com); [www.normanregional.com](http://www.normanregional.com).

**Clear Lake, TX: Cornerstone Hospital of Houston** is seeking a full-time WOCN with at least 2 years wound care experience. Contact info: 709 E. Medical Center Blvd. Webster, Tx. 77598, 281-332-3322, or fax resume to 713-551-5673.

**Portland, Oregon WOCN** : I am a recruiter specializing in healthcare placement. This is an excellent opportunity for a WOCN with one of the premier healthcare providers in the Pacific Northwest. This is a hospital-based position for an individual with a hospital background. Interviews have begun, so please respond within a day or two of reading this and feel free to attach your resume. I will not present your resume without your verbal permission after we talk on the phone. If you know someone who might be interested in hearing about this opportunity or someone whom I can contact, I'd appreciate an e-mail or phone call. If anyone is interested in positions elsewhere in the USA, please let me know.—Lynn Dotson, Horizon Associates, Toll free: 877-806-7019.

***"Sail away, sail away, sail away!"  
Keep watching for what SCR Conference 2005 holds in  
store!***

## **WOCNCB**

### ***Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Certification Board***

*This is a commonly addressed question by the WOCNCB. This was a recent posting on the WOCNCB website.*

**Does the WOCNCB have an official policy or statement on the documentation of your certification if you are not certified in all 3 areas? For example, I work with someone who signs as CWON—she is certified in wound and ostomy care only. I thought you had to write COCN, CWCN, or CCCN for whichever 2 of the 3 that you have. Is there a legal reason NOT to write CWON? I would like to post your answer in our newsletter if you have no objections. Thank you for your time and assistance.**

Thank you for your insightful question. I feel it is important to answer this question with background information too. As you are aware, the Wound, Ostomy, Continence Nursing Certification Board is a professional organization dedicated to providing consumer safety and protection by offering credentialing in the areas of wound, ostomy, and continence care nursing. The WOCNCB has many purposes including providing identification of nurses who have achieved certification in WOC nursing to employing agencies, the public, and other healthcare professionals. The National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) accredits the WOCNCB certification programs. Accreditation by the prestigious NCCA assures that the WOCNCB has met the most stringent and rigorous standards for issuing its credentials. The WOCNCB works with a testing company to ensure that the examination meets professional standards of psychometric soundness and legal defensibility. Upon successful completion (through passing scores of the exam(s)), the nurse receives the documented evidence that he/she has passed through credentials offered by this organization. These credentials include CWOCN- Certified Wound, Ostomy, Continence Nurse, CWCN- Certified Wound Care Nurse, COCN- Certified Ostomy Care Nurse, and CCCN- Certified Continence Care Nurse. These are the only legal defensible credentials that have been registered with the government as proof for certification and the only credentials that appear on the certificate. No other credentials exist at this time. Therefore, if a nurse has successfully completed wound and ostomy portions of the exam, he/she would be awarded the following credentials: CWCN, COCN.

Should someone be concerned about the misuse of the WOCNCB credentials, please feel free to access our website at [www.wocncb.org/cred/](http://www.wocncb.org/cred/).

## **2005 NIWI (Nurse in Washington) Scholarship Information**

**We are pleased to announce the availability of WOCN tuition scholarships to help members attend the Nurse in Washington internship program March 6-9, 2005.**

**The Nurse in Washington Internship program offers an intense learning experience for individuals interested in becoming more involved in the legislative and regulatory aspects of healthcare.**

**For an application and more information,  
please go to the WOCN website  
[www.wocn.org](http://www.wocn.org)  
or contact one of the council members.**

### ***Review Course For CWOCN Certification***

***The University of Texas MD Ander-  
son Cancer Center***

***1-day program provides didactic  
content based on Wound, Ostomy,  
and***

***Continance criteria used for the  
WOCN National  
Certification Examination.***

***Registration Fee \$150.00***

***Please contact  
Shirley Woolems at  
713-745-0219 or 713-745-0216  
[swoolems@mdanderson.org](mailto:swoolems@mdanderson.org)  
for future offerings.***

**SCR  
Regional Conference 2005  
Sail the Sea of Knowledge!**

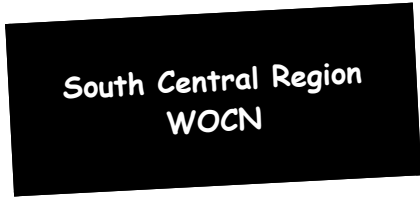
**Join us for a  
cruise—WOCN Style!**

***CEU's at Sea***

**Depart from Galveston bay  
where 4 days of conference fun  
await you.**

**October 22-27, 2005**

**Look for more details to come!**



SCR WOCN  
 Tammi Short  
 706 Northwest Drive  
 Longview, Texas 75604

Phone: (H) 903-297-2560  
 Fax: (W) 903-236-3902  
 Email: ettammi@aol.com



## Wound, Ostomy, Continance Education Programs

**The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Wound, Ostomy, Continance 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](mailto:swoolems@mdanderson.org) or [cbellis@mdanderson.org](mailto:cbellis@mdanderson.org)

Program Director: Coni Ellis, MS, RN, OCN, CWOCN; Program Co-Director: Janet M. Davis, MSN, RN, APRN-BC, CWOCN  
**8-Week Traditional Programs: 2004:** 1/12/04; 3/22/04; 9/13/04. **2005:** 1/10/05; 3/21/05; 9/12/05.  
**4-Week On-Site Houston Didactic/4-Week Off-Site Clinical Program:** Start dates same as 8-week programs.  
**Emory University Wound, Ostomy, Continance Nursing Education Center (WOCNEC)**  
 The Emory Clinic, Room AT 732

Atlanta, GA 30322  
 Phone: (404) 778-4067  
 Email: [cindy\\_strickland@emory.org](mailto:cindy_strickland@emory.org)  
 Center Faculty: Dorothy Doughty, MN, RN, FNP, CWOCN and Janet M. Ramundo, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFNP  
**9-Week Traditional Program on-site:** 3/1—4/30/05; **5-Week Split-option program—**1/12—2/13/04; Distance Learning Program—Ongoing.  
*(Also, check the [wocn.org](http://wocn.org) website and click on "Education" for more options.)*

## 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.  
**Biloxi, MS**—Contact Paula Green @ (601) 288-4244.  
**Dallas, TX**—Meets 2nd Thurs. at 11:30 AM at the American Cancer Society, 8900 John Carpenter Fwy. Contact Jacqueline Vaughn @ (972) 235-1771 or [jmavaughn@aol.com](mailto:jmavaughn@aol.com).  
**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 Sheridan Myers @ (281) 564-2563.  
**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](mailto: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](mailto:ettammi@aol.com).