

January 2007

Greetings and Happy New Year to all,
The SCR council met in early January. The new officers and Council members are in place. Welcome to Jill Conwill as President, Kim Stallo as Treasurer, Meliss Carlson, Nominations Chair, and Donna McClure Public Relations Chair.

Kathy Murphy becomes Past President for 2007.

In Texas, House Bill #416 needs our support. This bill will provide unrestricted restroom access for persons with certain medical conditions such as IBD. There are similar bills in 3 other states. This bill is being support by the Crohns Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA). We would like Texas residents contact their local state representative asking that they support this bill. You can find your representative by going to the website for the Texas State House of Representatives, or by contacting the League of Women Voters. Email or better yet, write a letter to your representative on behalf of your patients with IBD, IBS, ostomies, continence issues and the elderly all of whom often need immediate access to a restroom. We are hoping to soon have a sample letter from CCFA to place on our website that can be downloaded. In other states, you could be the spark that gets a similar bill started in your state legislature.

Beginning this year, the SCR takes over "management" of the Beverly G. Hampton Scholarship from the national Scholarship committee. Debbie Fulmer and her committee have been hard at work creating the paperwork we need for the selection process. This scholarship is awarded twice a year to people living in the SCR who attend MDACC WOCNEP. In addition, we will be giving one \$1500 scholarship to the National Scholarship Fund for anyone from the SCR who attends any WOCNEP.

We are re-committing our support of the Youth Rally Camp and the Young Ostomates and Diversion Association of America (YODAA). We are gathering contacts around the SCR who can help us identify attendees to either function. Youth Rally Camp is for people with ostomies, continent diversion or continence issues between the ages of 11 and 17. YODAA is for people ages 18+ that have an ostomy or a continent diversion. If you know of anyone 18+ who is eligible to attend Youth Rally Camp or the YODAA conference, or who would like to be a counselor at Youth Rally Camp, please contact Debbie Fulmer, Scholarship Chair, so that an application can be sent to interested parties.

The dates for the Youth Rally Camp are listed at www.scrwocn.org <<http://www.scrwocn.org>>.

We would like to start a preceptor list for people in WOCNEPs who are doing distance learning. The preceptors have to meet the criteria of the WOCNEP the person is registered in. This information can be obtained from the schools. If you would like to be on a potential preceptor list, please add your name to the SCR website list, or contact Jill Conwill (jill.conwill@christushealth.org).

Baton Rouge will be hosting the fall Regional Conference October 11-13, 2007. Plans are rapidly falling into place. Cindy Schneider is Conference Planning Chair. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Cindy. Her information is listed on the officers page on our website, www.scrwocn.org <<http://www.scrwocn.org>>. Oklahoma City has volunteered to host the 2008 regional conference. Stay tuned later in the year for more details on OKC.

Kathleen Murphy
Past President