



Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing **THE DELTA REPORT** **DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER**



Fall 2008

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The Delta Report is published three times yearly for Delta Omega Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau, Inc. The Delta Report welcomes information about members' accomplishments in research, promotion, publication, and/or presentation. Correspondence to the Delta Report should be sent to the editor Marcia Cornell via e-mail cornelm@summa-health.org.

Sigma Theta Tau, International www.nursingsociety.org
Delta Omega <http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/>

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Members of Delta Omega,

I'm looking out the window reflecting on what a beautiful time of year this is. So many colors sprayed against a beautiful blue sky. Cool nights made perfect for sleeping. The crisp smell of autumn in the air. Long weekends absorbed in football. It's surprising to me how quick the time goes by. My term as president is half over and soon Barb Brunt, President-Elect (Summa Health Systems – Akron City) will take the reins. Barb brings a great deal of knowledge and professionalism to the table. She will be a great leader for our organization. Other changes have occurred within our Board. Peg DiMarco (The University of Akron, College of Nursing) will be serving as the Treasurer, Paula Thrasher (AGMC) is the newly elected 2nd Vice President, Carolyn Sutter (The University of Akron, College of Nursing) is the Archivist, Wanda Franklin (The University of Akron, College of Nursing) is the Leadership Succession Committee Chair and Cheryl Sadler (The University of Akron, College of Nursing) joins us on the Leadership Succession Committee. Rose Beeson (The University of Akron, College of Nursing) has been appointed as the Research Grants and Recognition Chair. I look forward to working with each of them.



We continue to make great accomplishments as a chapter of STTI. We financially supported the University of Akron, Men in Nursing Society. This enabled them to bring James D'Astolfo, BScN(Hons), RN President and Founder of the

Canadian Men in Nursing Group to speak about Universal Healthcare: A Canadian Perspective at the University of Akron. We continue to work with the Collegiate Nursing Club and the student nurses to engage and expose them to the organization early on in their careers. We successfully inducted junior level nursing students for the first time in April this year and plan to continue inducting a percentage of the junior class in the future. Finally, we just had our Fall Program entitled, Laugh...Just for the Health of It. The program was a co-sponsored



event with the 15th Annual Pediatric Nursing Conference held at Akron Children's Hospital. At the Fall Program we

had a silent auction to support the nursing programs associated with the ACCESS shelter here in Akron. Two hundred dollars will be donated from the silent auction.

I encourage you to participate in at least one activity we have whether it be a service project, mentoring opportunity, educational offering or attending a Board Meeting. Make the most of your membership! The chapter plans to once again support a family for the Christmas holiday and serve hot lunch at OPEN-M after the first of the year. If you have ideas for service projects or programming please let the Board know. We are continuing to work on an International initiative and mentorship/intern opportunities. This is your chapter and we want to find ways to make your membership beneficial. I look forward to hearing your ideas and seeing you at an upcoming chapter event.

Happy Fall, Dina

Dina

Dina Dornack

President, Delta Omega Chapter, STTI

Do you know a nurse working outside of the United States?

Sigma Theta Tau Delta Omega Chapter is hoping to open our chapter to international nursing leaders. The board is asking if you know a nurse from any country outside the United States. Would you be willing to share this contact with the board or contact the nurse personally and discuss any interest in an international membership with our chapter?

Mentoring

Two recent graduates attended the Delta Omega board meeting for mentoring during the September 22 meeting. Another mentoring meeting is planned for Monday January 26, 2009. All recent inductees or members interested in mentoring are welcome to come.

Silent Auction to Support Access Care Clinic

The Delta Omega Fall Program Silent Auction was a great success and \$200.00 was raised for the Access Care Clinic for homeless women and children. This clinic is a not for profit and most services are provided without charge by the University of Akron, College of Nursing. Care is provided by Nurse Practitioners, faculty, and undergraduate and graduate students. I wish to personally express appreciation to the generous donors who made this a success. Donations were received by the following Delta Omega chapter members: Yvonne Smith, Dina Dornack, Therese Dowd, Mary Helen Kridler, Stephanie Estephan and Carolyn Sutter.



Men in Nursing Program

- Charles Kelades MSN, RN, CCM

The University of Akron College of Nursing hosted Mr.. James D'Astolfo, BScN(Hons), RN, President of the Canadian Men in Nursing Group on September 26, 2008. The College's Men in Nursing, under the advisement of Mr.. Charles Kelades, MSN, RN, CCM, served as hosts for the event. Since males in nursing education remain a minority with a higher attrition rate than female nursing students, the University's Men in Nursing group was formed in 2007 to support the male students and educate the public on men in nursing and male health care issues. The University of Akron College of Nursing has a higher than average percentage rate of males in the college's prelicensure nursing program (16% vs. the national average of 6%.)

Two education sessions were the highlight of Mr.. D'Astolfo's visit. The morning session offered an informative historical perspective on the significant role men have played in nursing. An engaging dialogue with the college's male students followed. Universal Healthcare--A Canadian Perspective was the topic of the afternoon session which was attended by faculty, students, and a variety of professionals from the community.

Many thanks to Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Omega Chapter for their support and assistance in making this event possible.

Germany Nursing Internship

Report provided by Kelsey Buza



Delta Omega provided financial support via a scholarship to Kelsey Buza to attend a Nursing Internship in

Germany this past summer.

During my visit to Germany I had a job shadowing experience in a post-operative Intensive Care Unit at a Heart Center. During this visit I got to scrub in and shadow a respiratory therapist around for two days. I was allowed to participate in assessments of the patients, which included listening to lung and abdominal sounds, helping to place the chest leads on the patient for the electrocardiogram after surgery, and also to assist the respiratory therapist in setting up ventilators.

One of the most interesting things that I was able to observe was a dressing change for a patient who had his sternum removed due to an infection. Only the physicians did the changing of the dressing. Nurses were not permitted to change it. The dressing change was performed once every two days. The physician would place a Styrofoam looking material into the wound and then seal it with an adhesive and then used a vacuum suction to keep moisture out of the wound.

I have not had the experience of being in an ICU in the United States so I cannot make comparisons between my clinical experiences here and in Germany. However, I have observed dressing changes in the US. I know that physicians are expected to change the dressing of a patient the first time post-operatively so they can see what is going on for themselves; but after that it becomes the responsibility of the nurse.

The hospital I visited in Germany had wonderful equipment and technology. The entire hospital used computer charting. The main difference that I observed was the lack of privacy the patients had in Germany compared to the US. For example, when I toured a labor and delivery unit, it was not uncommon for mothers to share rooms after giving birth and moving to postpartum. Also, in all of the hospitals there were no curtains or drapes to provide privacy from the person you were sharing a room with.

I had an invaluable experience visiting Germany, as well as the many different health care institutions I toured.



Cameos of Caring

Delta Omega sponsored a table at the University of Akron Cameos of Caring event on Oct. 18. The board decided to present a Sigma Theta Tau mug and a Nurse Leader pamphlet to each of the 16 Cameo recipients. Congratulations to all recipients were extended. New membership or renewed active participation is the purpose for the chapter's participation in this prestigious event for local nurses.



Report of STTI Leadership Academy September 25-27, 2008



Four Delta Omega members (Cheryl Sadler, Paula Thrasher, Barb Brunt



and Marcia Cornell) attended the international leadership institute in Indianapolis in September. There were 469 members from 11 countries and 259 chapters that attended this event.

Carol Huston, current President of STTI, presented an opening plenary session on "The Leadership Journey," followed by a welcome reception and Region 10 dinner.

The next morning Cynthia D'Armour, author of *How to Turn to Generation Me into Active Members of your Association*, reviewed the ABCs of networking, confidence builders, and had everyone practice how to work the room with confidence. She also discussed easy ways to build your professional network.

Cynthia presented another session on How to Turn Generation Me into Active Members, focusing on strategies to identify and hit member hot buttons. Members typically are interested in personal/professional development, contribution to a greater good, or community, and we need to focus on experiences that are geared to how they would like to be involved. Members want to have

meaningful impact and be doers, not sitters. We also need to manage expectations, meetings, volunteering and community to keep them involved. Ms D'Armour had reviewed numerous chapter websites the evening before, and indicated that many chapters have a lot of work to do. Information on websites needs to be up-to-date and people-oriented.

The celebration and recognition luncheon and showcase of regional excellence honored 146 submissions from chapters throughout the world. Delta Omega was recognized for the work we have done with OPEN-M, the collaborative chapter event of having Carol Huston come to Akron to talk about her Leadership Journey and for our work with other chapters in our region with the Rebuilding Health in Rwanda project. After the luncheon, each region had time to meet to discuss more specifically what was done with some of the projects in the region.

There were concurrent sessions that afternoon. Barb attended the session on How to Create an Irresistible Board Experience for Your Volunteer Leaders. Specific strategies that were especially helpful in team development were reviewed and members at individual tables assumed various roles in a mock board meeting. Paula, Cheryl and Marcia attended the session on Chapter Operations in a Virtual World. There was a lot of discussion and sharing regarding utilization of electronic technology to interface and interconnect with one another. International is in the process of expanding their resources which includes the development of a centralized virtual chapter.



Friday evening they had tours of the International headquarters, and we took a picture with one of everyone's feet around the Delta Omega brick paver in the garden area. **Can you pick whose foot is whose?** It was interesting to see the building and learn some of the history of the organization.



Saturday morning each regional coordinator presented a session on leadership for the region members, and then we had regional business meetings. A report of that meeting is provided in another article in this newsletter.

The concurrent sessions that morning focused on various aspects of STTI activities. Marcia attended a session on Vision 2020 and leading globally, Barb attended a session on succession planning, and Cheryl and Paula attended a session of challenges of a global society: the power the culturally responsive nurses. The succession planning session used the LEADER model, which is an acronym for Learn, Educate, Ask, Develop, Empower, and Reflect. They had a panel discussion where the speakers

talked about successful strategies for succession planning. Vision 2020 was presented by Carol Huston which gave an overview of STTI goals for 2020



which includes expanding globally, increasing use of technology and support, and leadership development programs.

There were additional concurrent sessions after lunch. Paula and Marcia attended a session on innovative ideas for chapter programming, Barb attended a session on involving nurse leaders, and Cheryl attended the Vision 2020 session. Innovative ideas regarding program planning gave an overview of what is required per bylaws for chapter programs. Then we were encouraged to think outside of the box to meet those requirements. There was open sharing of ideas from different chapters. Lastly we were told not to forget our website; to keep it updated and user friendly. In the nurse leader session, they clarified requirements and the process for inducting nurse leaders. They mentioned that 95% of the chapters do not respond when they send the information on potential candidates to the president. Everyone can be proud of our chapter – the information is always sent to the board for a vote, and that is communicated back to headquarters.

The closing session was presented by Patricia Thompson, the CEO of STTI. As part of her presentation she played a portion of a DVD titled “Celebrate What’s Right in the World,” created by DeWitt Jones, a photographer for National Geographic magazine. It was a great closing to the academy.

Region 10 Business Meeting Report

During Leadership Academy Region 10 members had opportunities to meet and network. On Saturday morning was the official business meeting where we went over the Region 10 Strategic Plan. The main item that we as a region are working on is a combined Region 10 Workshop.

Members who were present at the Leadership Academy discussed the joint research conference and came up with the following ideas:

-It’s too late to plan for 2009 – we should target the middle to end of April in 2010

-We have \$1,000 (\$ 500 from 2 chapters) as seed money. If there is a leadership training session involved with this program, Cathie will have some money from the Region 10 budget to help support it, if not, she will not have any region money to contribute.

-The group thought that either a Friday or Saturday all day program would be best. We talked about a hosted reception on Friday evening with the program on Saturday, which would allow travel time on Sunday if people wanted to do something in the area after the program.

-It was agreed that we should try to find an area where people did not have to drive more than 3 hours or so to get there, and that is easy to get on and off the interstate. Areas that were suggested were Ann Arbor and Frankenmuth. Volunteers from each area were going to check on costs and bring back information to the group to make a decision about the location.

-To recruit people to attend, it was suggested to ask each chapter to send or sponsor 10 people. With 26 chapters, that would be around 250 participants.

-Suggested format for the day:

Overall Theme for the program: Designing a Future for Nursing

AM – General session speaker

Late AM and early PM – Concurrent

sessions, targeted to leaders, students, educators, and clinicians

PM- Closing session speaker

-Ideas for topics:

Lateral/horizontal violence in the workplace
Transitioning into a nursing role

Session on pain or some other clinical topic that goes across specialties

-Ideas for speakers:

Beverly Malone, CEO of the NLN, was suggested as a possibility.

One of the members suggested using the same speaker that Iota Psi used for a presentation they did on horizontal violence

The group thought we could also solicit local speakers or have chapters sponsor a speaker for breakout sessions

-Jane Evans from Toledo is willing to chair the planning committee, but she needs a firm

commitment from chapters to stay involved and identify a point person who would consistently participate in teleconference calls

-One member suggested having members sponsor a student as part of mentoring; the student could stay in the member's hotel room to cut down on the student's costs. Another idea was to use some of the comp rooms from the hotel for students.

Local News

Reporters are:

University of Akron

Akron General

Barberton Citizens Hospital

Children's Medical Center of Akron

Robinson Memorial

Summa Health System

University of Akron

Judy Joseph

Marie Ghadiri

Anne Marie
Brown

Jan Balhe

Barb Brunt

MaryHelen
Kriedler

If any of the information is incorrect or if you would like to volunteer as a reporter, please contact Marcia Cornell at cornelm@summa-health.org

Local Nurses Address Geriatric Nursing Challenges

- Rose Beeson

Two Akron nurses were chosen to be a mentor/mentee team for Sigma Theta Tau International's first 18-month Geriatric Nursing

Leadership Academy. As mentor, Rose Beeson, PhD, Director of the Center for Gerontological Health Nursing and Advocacy and Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, The University of Akron and mentee, Kathy Wright, MSN, GCNS-BC, PMHCNS-BC, advanced practice nurse at Summa Health System are part of this academy funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation and in partnership with the Hartford Foundation's Centers of Geriatric Nursing Excellence. The academy was developed to prepare position and recognize the ability of nurses to influence practice and patient outcomes in geriatric health care. The training will enable nurses to lead interprofessional teams to improve the quality of health care for older adults and their families. Dr. Beeson is a member of the honor society's Delta Omega Chapter at The University of Akron and Kathy Wright is a member of the Alpha Mu Chapter at Case Western Reserve University's France Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

In the mentor role, Dr. Beeson will encourage, motivate and help facilitate Kathy's project entitled "Transitional Care Across the Continuum: Empowering the Older Adult to Change through Medication Reconciliation Self Management." The project to be implemented at Summa Health System empowers older adults to maintain an accurate medication record as well as to communicate this information to their healthcare providers.

The Geriatric Nursing Leadership Academy began in June, 2008. Fifteen mentor-mentee dyads were chosen from across the nation, representing 11 states and a diverse range of practice settings and credentials, ranging from bachelor of nursing to doctoral degrees. The first workshop – The Leader Within: Defining Your Passion – was held in Portland, Oregon, June 25-29, 2008. The second workshop is scheduled for Feb. 23-26 in Phoenix, Arizona. The Academy will end for the dyad team at the Sigma Theta Tau International's Biennial Convention October 31-November 4, 2009, where

Kathy will present a poster of her completed project.

News from Summa Health System

Reporter: Barb Brunt

Jane Soposky, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, Administrative Director for Patient Care Services for STH, received the 2008 Nursing Spectrum Nursing Excellence Award for Management for the Midwest Region, which consists of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. Her nomination will be submitted for consideration of national recognition as one of Nursing Spectrum's National Nurses of the Year.

Jennifer Doyle, MSN, RN, WHNP, and Tracy Carter were winners for the 30 for the Future Awards through the Akron Chamber of Commerce. Recipients of these awards were all talented professionals, ages 25-39 who live and/or work in the Greater Akron Region, are creative, goal-oriented leaders who impact their organization and community, are effective role models, mentors and magnets for people attracted to excellence, and are energetic team builders and leaders who take risks and overcome obstacles.

Bonnie Jabrocki, RN, CDE had an article Diabetes IQ published in *The Diabetes Coalition of Northeast Ohio*.

Ann Jacobson, PhD, RN, Rodney Myerscough, PhD, Kirsten Delambo, PhD, Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, CNS, and Bruce Schmidt, PHD, RN had an article "Factors Influencing Nurses' Participation in Clinical Research" published in the May/June 2008 issue of *Gastroenterology Nursing*.

Dwayne Tepus, BSN, RN, Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, CNS, Sandy Cox, BSN, RN, Sue Hazelett, BSN, MS, RN and Denise Kropp, BS, BSED had an article "The Effectiveness of Chloraprep™ in the Reduction of Blood Culture Contamination Rates in the Emergency Department" published in the May-

June 2008 issue of *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*.

Nancy McManus, BSN, Med, RN-BC, CGRS published a chapter "Domains of Learning" in the 3rd edition of *Core Curriculum for Staff Development*. Megan Shaw, BSN, Med, RN-BC also published a chapter on the "History of Staff Development" in that same book. Barbara Brunt, MA, MN, RN-BC, NE-BC was a section editor for section 3 – Management of Offerings and Programs, as well as a reviewer for Section 4 – Roles.

Barbara Brunt, MA, MN, RN-BC, NE-BC presented a session on "Becoming an Influential Leader in Nursing Professional Development" at the National Nursing Staff Development Organization (NNSDO) convention in Minneapolis in July. She also presented a session on "Creating Agency/Academic Connections" at the 2008 Quest for Excellence Conference in Columbus.

Marcia Cornell, BSN, RN, EMT-P and Kathy Rose, RN presented a poster on Implementing Medical/Surgical RN Orientation Pathway at the NNSDO Convention in Minneapolis in July. Marcia Cornell, BSN, RN, EMT-P also presented a sessions on "Coaching for Excellence: Supporting the New Nurse Beyond Orientation" and "Role of the Staff Development Instructor on Nightshift" at the 2008 Quest for Excellence Conference in Columbus.

Debra Clair, PhD, RN, CNS, WOCN presented a poster of "Controlled Release Antimicrobial Silver Foam in the Treatment of Malodorous Chronic Wounds at the United Union of Wound Healing Societies in Toronto, Canada in June.

Jennifer Doyle, MSN, RN, WHNP, Mary Zenar, RN, and Denise Kropp, BS, BSED presented a poster of "The Effect of Massage on Level of Anxiety in the Hospitalized Antenatal Patient" in June at the Association of Women's Health,

Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses Convention in Los Angeles, California.

Summa had five posters at the American Geriatrics Society Annual Scientific meeting in Washington DE in April and May. Nurses involved in these posters were:

1. Olga Pizov, MSN, RN, CCRP for “Is Transfusion of Red Blood Cells an Independent Predictor of Outcome in Elderly (.65) Trauma Patients?”
2. Susan Hazelett, MSN, MS, RN and Kathy Wright, MSN, RN, CS for “Geriatric Training for Internal Medicine Residents”
3. Kathy Wright, MSN, RN, CS, Susan Hazelett, BSN, MS, RN, and Jane Weinhardt, MSN, RN, CNS for “Correlation Between Stroke Knowledge and Adherence in a Predominately Elderly Stroke Population”
4. Kathy Wright, MSN, RN, CS, and Susan Hazelett, BSN, MS, RN for “Can African American Healthcare Providers Reduce Disparities in Hospice Use in the African American Community: A Case Study”
5. Carolyn Holder, MSN, RN and Susan Hazelett, BSN, MS, RN for “The Care Management Team Interagency Collaborative, Issues and Outcomes”

Megan Shaw, BSN, MEd, RN had a poster on “From Papers to Computers: Unlocking the Treasure of Computerized Physician Order Entry” at the 26th annual International Nursing Computer and Technology Conference in Las Vegas in June.

Nancy McManus, BSN, Med, RN-BC, CGRS was reappointed to the Recognition Committee of the National Nursing Staff Development Organization (NNSDO). Carol Kridler, MSN, RN, CCRN, SANE-A was appointed to the NNSDO Affiliate Advisory Committee.

Upcoming Delta Omega Meetings

- M – Nov 17 5p – 6:30p Board Mtg
- M – Jan 16 5p – 6:30 p Board Mtg
- Winter Program – TBA
- M – Feb 23 5p – 6:30p Board Mtg
- M – Mar 23 5p – 6:30p Board Mtg
- Sa – Apr 18 9a Induction Martin Center
- M – Apr 27 5p – 6:30p Board Mtg
- M – May 18 5:30p – 8p Spring Program/Business Meeting
- M – Jun 22 5p – 6:30p Transition Board Mtg

Upcoming Events and Notices

Deadlines set for Delta Omega Research Grant Applications

Research as one component of scholarship is part of the mission of the Delta Omega Chapter. Historically research proposals have been funded for novice researchers as well as more advanced researchers. This year \$6500 has been allocated to support research projects. The deadline is February 15, 2008. Applications and procedures are on the Delta Omega Chapter website which can be found at <http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/Grants.htm>. Any additional questions please contact Marlene Huff, Research Grants and Recognition Chair @ mhuff@uakron.edu.

Visit the Calendar of Events on our website for important deadlines and upcoming events:
<http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/Calendar.htm>

**SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL
CRITERIA FOR AND BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP
can be found in the Fall 2007 issue of the Delta Report**

