



**Sigma Theta Tau**  
**international honor society of nursing**  
**THE DELTA REPORT**  
**DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER**



Fall 2007

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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 following address: The Delta Report, The College of Nursing, The University of Akron, Akron OH 44325-3701 or to the co-editor Marcia Cornell via e-mail [cornelm@summa-health.org](mailto:cornelm@summa-health.org).

Send all change of address notices to:  
International Secretary Sigma Theta Tau 550 West North Street Indianapolis, IN 46202 Or online at the STTI website: <http://www.nursingsociety.org>

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**



Members of Delta Omega,

Much like the changing of seasons from Summer to Fall, Delta Omega is experiencing change. We've experienced change within our board. I'm excited to be your President for the next two years. Peg DiMarco is the new Leadership Succession Committee Chair and is planning to develop a new mentorship/intern program for the chapter. Cheryl Buchanan remains the chair of the Governance Committee and is joined by the following new members Lori Kidd, Therese Dowd and Maryhelen Kreidler. Nurse Leader, Marcia Cornell has taken on an intern position as the newsletter editor. Thanks so much to Joe Foley for his leadership as president in 2005-2007. He continues to be an active participant as the Immediate Past President and his guidance is much appreciated.

As a member of the Delta Omega Chapter each of you should take great pride in knowing that you belong to a chapter that has been awarded its 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter Key Award. This award is given to chapters that exemplify excellence in membership recruitment/retention, chapter outreach and leadership/professional development. Both myself and Barb Brunt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President will receive the award on behalf of the chapter at the Biennial Convention in November. Thanks to Barb Brunt, Joe Foley, Linda Shanks and Peg DiMarco for their extra help compiling the 600 page document.

This is an exciting time for our chapter. I encourage you to participate in at least one activity we have whether it be a service project, educational offering or attending a Board Meeting. Put your membership to use! Both myself and the Board would love to hear the memberships' ideas. This is your chapter and we want to find ways to make your membership beneficial. Look forward to working with you and hearing your ideas.

Happy Fall, Dina



Event	Date	Time	Location
Fall Program	10/11/07	5:30 Registration 6-8 PM Dinner	Considine Building Akron Children's Hospital
Board Meeting	10/22/07	5 PM	MGH 101
Information Session	10/29/07	Noon	MGH 306
Board Meeting	11/19/07	5 PM	MGH 101
Board Meeting	1/28/08	5 PM	MGH 101
Save the date Winter Program	February, 2008	TBA	Delta Omega is Hosting!
Board Meeting	2/25/08	5 PM	MGH 101
Board Meeting	3/24/08	5 PM	MGH 101
Induction	4/12/08	TBA	Martin Center
Spring Program/ Business Meeting	May, 2008	TBA	
Board Meeting	5/19/08	5 PM	MGH 101
Transition Meeting	6/23/08	5 PM	MGH 209

Nursing Students \$10.00  
STTI and Non-STTI members \$20.00

A Silent Auction will be held during the program to benefit our regional initiative for healthcare in Rwanda, Africa

Program Approved for 1 Contact Hour  
Co-Provided by STTI – Delta Omega Chapter and Akron Children's Hospital

Akron Children's Hospital (OH-234 08/01/10) is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Ohio Nurses Association (OBN-001-91), an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Deadline for Registration is  
Friday, October 5, 2007**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

STTI Member Yes / No Chapter Affiliation

Nursing Student Yes / No College of Nursing Affiliation

Please make check payable to: **STTI – Delta Omega Chapter**

Mail registration and payment to: ATTN: Karen Mascolo  
School Health Services  
Akron Children's Hospital  
One Perkins Square  
Akron, OH 44308

Questions: email Karen Mascolo, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - [kmascolo@chmca.org](mailto:kmascolo@chmca.org) or call @ 330-543-3807.

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

**Delta Omega Chapter  
Fall Dinner Program**

**The Media, Your Patient and You:  
How Does Media Affect Your  
Practice?**

Melissa McClain, BA  
Dating Violence Prevention Coordinator  
Akron Children's Hospital

**Thursday, October 11, 2007**

William H. Considine  
Professional Building  
Akron Children's Hospital

5:30 pm Registration  
6:00-7:00 pm Networking Dinner  
7:00-8:00 pm Presentation



**Help Needed for:**

Registration Table at Fall Dinner Thursday, October 11, 2007 at 5 pm.

Delta Omega Table at the Pediatric Nursing Conference Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> 7 am – 9:30 am.

Also help will be needed for the Information Session and the CNC Career Fair coming soon. If able to help contact Dina Dornack [ddornack@chmca.org](mailto:ddornack@chmca.org).

Silent Auction Items needed for Fall Program. Contact Karen Mascolo [kmascolo@chmca.org](mailto:kmascolo@chmca.org) for details.

**Congratulations!!!**

Peg DiMarco (Leadership Succession Chair) received her Ph.D. in Nursing from Case Western Reserve University, June 2007.

**Community Corner**

Dina Dornack, President

Christmas is right around the corner. We plan to participate in the OPEN-M Christmas Program again this year. Watch your email for more details soon...



**Biennial Convention Updates**

Dina Dornack

Both Dr. Phyllis Fitzgerald (retired member) and I will represent the Chapter as delegates at the Biennial Convention. I've provided you with information regarding the society's vision and some of the proposed bylaw amendments. I encourage you to visit the honor society's web site, [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org) to learn more about the proposed bylaw amendments. Let us know how you'd like us to represent the chapter. Your voice counts. Please submit your suggestions by October 26, 2207 to Dina @ [ddornack@chmca.org](mailto:ddornack@chmca.org) or Phyllis @ [pafelmst@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pafelmst@sbcglobal.net).

The honor society's leadership has outlined a 13-year strategic plan – Vision 2020 – that supports the organization's mission of creating a global community of nurses to improve world health.

**Vision 2020 positions the honor society to be:**

- √ intentionally global
- √ technology enabled
- √ relevant and meaningful to individual nurses worldwide
- √ a premium source for nursing knowledge and career-spanning leadership development opportunities

To achieve the Vision 2020 goals, changes must be made to the current bylaws.

**Proposed bylaw amendments include:**

- √ Defining academic achievement in accordance with standards of excellence, rather than grade point averages or other institution-specific approach to grading.
- √ Clarifying that schools of nursing only offering graduate nursing programs may form honor society chapters.
- √ Enabling chapters to have flexibility and creativity in planning meetings that engage membership and are relevant to their members' needs and interests.
- √ Enabling chapters to induct all nursing students who demonstrate academic excellence by eliminating the 35% rank criterion.

**Local News**

As the new editor of the Delta Report I am seeking reporters who are willing to provide updates about nursing and their organizations. The Delta report comes out three times a year and is published on the Delta Omega website.

Reporters are needed for the following:

Children's Medical Center of Akron  
University of Akron

I currently have listed the following reporters:

Akron General	Judy Joseph
Barberton Citizens Hospital	Marie Ghadiri
Robinson Memorial	Jan Balhe
Summa Health System	Barb Brunt

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](mailto:cornelm@summa-health.org)

### News from Summa Health System Reporter: Barb Brunt

Mary H "Lanie" Ward, BSN, MBA, RN, CNA-BC joined Summa Health System as the Chief Nursing Officer/Vice-President of Patient Care Services in July, 2007. For the past four years, Ms. Ward has been serving as Chief Nursing Officer for Broward General Medical Center in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She brings over 20 years of nursing leadership experience in a variety of roles throughout her career.

Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN and Lorraine Fields, MSN, RN, CNRN, CCNS, CCRN were recipients of the 2007 Akron University College of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award. This award recognizes the outstanding contributions that UA alumni have made to the nursing profession.

Jane Soposky, MSN, RN, CNA-BC was an honoree for the Women of Professional Excellence Achievement Award.

Summa Health System was recognized for the 4th year as one of the 99 best places to work in Northeast Ohio. The hospital also was a finalist for a special Training and Development award, which was presented in Cleveland on September 19, 2007.

Nancy McManus, BSN, Med, RN-BC, CGRS, was appointed for a two-year term to the Ohio Nurse's Association Continuing Education Council.

Cheryl Mains, BSN, RN, ONC, CNOR, RNFA, was elected for a three year term as a Director on the Board of the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses.

Barbara Brunt, MA, MN, RN-BC began a two-year term as President of the National Nursing Staff Development Organization in July, 2007.

Kathy Wright, MSN, RN, APN-BC, Sue Hazelett, MS, RN, Dave Jarjoura, PhD, and Kyle Allen, D.O. had an article on "The AD-LIFE trial: Working to integrate medical and psychosocial care management modes" published in the May 2007 issue of *Home Healthcare Nurse*.

Lorraine Fields, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNRN, CCNS presented a session on "Lowering ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) rates in neuro units" at the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses annual conference in Kissimmee, Florida in May.

### University of Akron News

The University of Akron, College of Nursing is hosting the Cameos of Caring Gala Awards for the sixth year. The purpose is to honor excellence in nursing. Cameos of Caring was started at The University of Pittsburgh by Dr. Ellen Rudy and was brought to The University of Akron by Dr. Cynthia Flynn Capers.

The event will take place October 20, 2007 at 6 pm at the Student Union. Eleven area hospitals/agencies are participating this year with fourteen awardees. Johnson & Johnson is our presenting corporate sponsor and GOJO Industries is sponsoring the wine and music. The awardees are:

Robinson Memorial Hospital	Paula Ackerson
Akron General Edwin Shaw Rehab	Sharon Brodie
Affinity Medical Center	Stacey Clark
Akron Children's Hospital	Jennifer Huth
Akron Children's Hospital	Kathy McCune
Barberton Citizens Hospital	Annette Ivan-Meidlinger
Akron General Medical Center	Linda Jacobs
Akron General Medical Center	Melissa O'Brien
Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital	Amy Kidd
Regency Hospital of Akron	Kathy Lee-Oles
Cambridge Home Health Care	Beth McVan
Summa Health Systems	Cindy Morgan
Summa Health System	Diane Pitts
Mercy Medical Center	Carol Prazer



Nurses week awards presentation at AGMC, Joe Foley, RN and recipient Nancy Panthofer, RN, MSN. Award is the Delta Omega Nurse Excellence Award presented annually.



**REGARDING MEMBERSHIP  
WE ARE UPDATING OUR RECORDS!**

Please notify Linda Shanks via email at [shanks@uakron.edu](mailto:shanks@uakron.edu) for the following:

- \*Any member that moves, or changes their address, or knows of someone who has moved or changed their address.
  - \*Any member who knows of another member who has been deceased.
  - \*Any member that has moved into our area and wishes to transfer their membership to Delta Omega.
  - \*Any member that knows of an inactive member who wishes to become active.
- If any active member has a friend or knows of someone who is inactive, please encourage them to rejoin. We would like to keep our membership growing!

**SIGMA THETA TAU, INTERNATIONAL  
CONTACT INFORMATION**

Phone numbers 1.888.634.7575 – United States:  
1.800.634.7575 – International FAX 1.317.634.8188  
Website: [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org);  
email: [stti@stti.iupui.edu](mailto:stti@stti.iupui.edu)

**DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER  
CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Website and email:  
Website: <http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/>  
email: [ftracie@uakron.edu](mailto:ftracie@uakron.edu)

**Sigma Theta Tau  
Member-get-a Member Campaign**

**Do you know an excellent nurse?**

Honor friends and colleagues who are not yet members with an invitation to apply!

Between October 2007 and September 2008 you have the opportunity to refer friends or colleagues for honor society nurse leader membership. By participating, you will be entered into US \$50 quarterly prize drawings for referrals and a US \$250 grand prize drawing for referrals that result in an induction.

Details are available on the honor society's web site at [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org) under Campaigns in the Membership section.

**Member News**

We are proud of our distinguished membership, delighted to hear about our members' achievements, appointments and awards, and pleased to announce your endeavors in the *Delta Report*. Please use this form to notify us of your accomplishments. Thank you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Credentials: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

News: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Return completed form to:  
The Delta Report, The University of Akron, College of Nursing, Akron, Ohio 44325-3701, fax to 330.972.5737,  
Attn: L. Shanks or email to: [cornelm@summa-health.org](mailto:cornelm@summa-health.org)*

## SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL CRITERIA FOR AND BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



Sigma Theta Tau International is the honor society of nursing committed to fostering excellence, scholarship and leadership in nursing to improve health care worldwide. The Society promotes the use of nursing research in health care delivery and makes its resources available to all people and

institutions interested in the latest knowledge in nursing care. Sigma Theta Tau International was founded in 1922 and has a membership of more than 120,000 members active in more than 90 countries. It has chapters located at 523 college and university schools of nursing worldwide. 45% of the Society's members are clinicians, 20% are administrators or supervisors, and 19% are educators. 65% of its members hold master's and/or doctoral degrees.

Nurses may become members of Sigma Theta Tau International by establishing eligibility through the following criteria. Once eligibility is established, potential members are invited to place an application.

### Membership Criteria:

#### Undergraduate students must:

- have completed ½ of the nursing curriculum;
- have at least a GPA of 3.0 (based on a 4.0 grading scale);
- rank in the upper 35 percentile of the graduating class;
- meet the expectation of academic integrity.

#### RN students must:

- have completed 12 credit hours at current school;
- have completed ½ of the nursing curriculum;
- have at least a GPA of 3.0 (based on a 4.0 grading scale);
- rank in the upper 35 percentile of graduating class;
- meet the expectation of academic integrity.

#### Graduate students (Master's and Doctorate) must:

- have completed ¼ of the nursing curriculum;
- have at least a GPA of 3.5 (based on a 4.0 grading scale);
- meet the expectation of academic integrity.

#### Nurse Leaders must:

- be a registered nurse, legally recognized to practice in his/her country;
- hold at least a baccalaureate degree in nursing or other field;
- have demonstrated achievement in nursing.

### MEMBER BENEFITS:

From scholarship to research, bedside to teaching, business and beyond, nurses of today and tomorrow have more opportunities than ever to touch the lives of people across the globe. The Honor Society of Nursing is here to support your career through a wide variety of member benefits and services.

#### Publications

- Reflections on Nursing Leadership, a four-color nursing news magazine
- Excellence - a customized issue-oriented online newsletter
- Journal of Nursing Scholarship, a peer-reviewed health-care journal

#### Career Resources

- [CareerMap](#) - online, print and person-to-person opportunities to help advance your career
- [Continuing Education](#) - through chapter programming and Online Case Studies for Nursing
- Networking opportunities
- Chapter activities - opportunities to share ideas with nurse scholars and clinicians from around the world
- Directory of Nurse Leaders - a complete listing of active Sigma Theta



Tau members and their contact information

- [Online Member Community](#) - connecting members worldwide through chats and e-forums

#### Research

- [Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library](#) - immediate access to nursing research and information
- [Online Literature Review and Book Review](#) - weekly e-bulletins providing the latest customized information on newly published nursing books and articles
- [Small Research Grants](#) - Grant opportunities from the society and our joint partners

[Chapter Activities](#) - experience first hand the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International through your local chapter. You will receive publications, have the chance to interact with other nurses in your area, participate in research conferences, receive research grants, serve on committees and assemblies, and much more.

There are 406 chapters on 503 college and university campuses worldwide.

International activities - you may reach beyond your local community to interact with colleagues and benefit from research conferences, biennial conventions, regional assemblies, "think tanks" and other nursing and health care-related activities.

[CareerMap](#) - Managing your career with purpose! Let Sigma Theta Tau assist you every step of your nursing career...whether you're thinking of nursing as a career, are an RN looking for new directions, or working towards a fulfilling retirement. Services include, but aren't limited to:

- [NTN NurseNet!](#) - a customized employment search database
- Career advice service - nurse experts answer your career questions
- Career profiles - online [profiles of members](#) in several specialty areas and work settings

[Member Community](#) - this online resource connects members world wide. Benefits now available include:

- e-Forum - debate important industry issues with other society members. Topics may include the nursing shortage and career advice

- Directory of Nurse Leaders - a searchable directory of society members
- Journal of Nursing Scholarship - the society's renowned research journal is now available electronically. Members may choose online vs. print delivery.

[Financial Services](#) - a no annual fee *Platinum Plus*<sup>sm</sup> or Preferred MasterCard® credit card program from MBNA America Bank, N.A. [Click here!](#)

[Publications](#) - print and electronic publications are distributed through Center Nursing Press, the society's internal publishing unit, and through the Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library.

[Journal of Nursing Scholarship](#) - Free to active members, \$39 value - One of the most widely read and respected health care journals today.

[Reflections on Nursing Leadership](#) - Free to active members, \$23 value - an award-winning four-color news magazine featuring contemporary articles on nurses at the forefront of change.

[Excellence](#) - Free to active members - Three issues-oriented newspapers providing members with customized information pertinent to their individual needs. Members select from Clinical Practice, Nursing Administration or Nursing Education.

[You Belong Here](#) - an online newsletter for newly inducted members featuring industry news and targeted for early career nurses.

[Books](#) - peer-reviewed works covering many topics including health care, communication, education models, health policy and more.

[My Info Search](#) - enables you, through the Book Review for Nursing and the Literature Review for Nursing, to customize your searches to specific areas of interest.

[Online Book Review for Nursing](#) - Free to Active Members - This service features more than 72,000 books and electronic media titles and expert reviews in 140 health science specialties. Members subscribing to this free service receive weekly e-mail bulletins about newly published books in their specialty areas. It



also includes a specialty filter of the National Library of Medicines MEDLINE® database, using research strategies prepared by an expert in MEDLINE® searching. Members receive a 10% discount on books when ordering online.

*Online Literature Review for Nursing* - Subscribe to this new service and save time and money by letting someone else sift through more than 8,000 new articles listed each week in MEDLINE®. A subscription includes weekly, customized e-mail bulletins about new articles, reviews, abstracts, ratings and expert commentary in your specific areas of interest.

Continuing Education Credits - may be earned through scholarly programs on the society's [Web site](#) or at the chapter, regional and international events. These programs are designed to provide members with opportunities for personal and professional growth.

[Directory of Nurse Experts](#) - consider using society members as resources. More than 300 nurse experts in a variety of specialty areas - from Alternative Care to Women's Health - are available for you to contact!

[Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library](#) - Access to current nursing research data and study findings available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Literature Indexes - Free to Active Members - These indexes will give you access to nursing (and some biomedical) literature indexes in MEDLINE, the International Nursing Index and the Registry of Nursing Research. Available indexes include:

- The Nursing Research indexes cover all nursing journals since 1996 in which 50% or more articles are research related.
- The Health-Specific Indexes include research on a specific health problem or process.
- The Registry of Nursing Research Index of Findings by Variables (studied together) is more precise than other knowledge indexes

because only variables studied together are used as index terms.

The Registry of Nursing Research - Free to Active Members - The Registry is a unique electronic database that holds scientific nursing research relevant to clinical practice.

The Online Journal of Knowledge Synthesis for Nursing (OJKSN)- The OJKSN provides access to full-text, integrative reviews of research that guide nursing practice. All articles are peer-reviewed and authored by research/clinician teams.

Opportunities to be published - there are four opportunities to submit your work for publication - the Online Journal of Knowledge Synthesis for Nursing; Journal of Nursing Scholarship, the scholarly books and the Online Case Studies for Nursing. There is also a program to assist you in publishing your work - the [Distinguished Writers Program](#).

Research Grants - members receive priority when applying for research funds through the Small Grants Program and co-sponsored Grants Program.

Awards and Recognition for excellence in the areas of nursing research, education, practice, leadership, informatics, multimedia and writing.

Governance, leadership and volunteer opportunities abound at the international, regional and chapter levels including elective and appointive positions.

Support the Mission through well-managed endowment funds that will secure the future of nursing. Contributions may be made via: cash gifts, pledges, honoraria, royalties, securities, life insurance or planned gifts.



[Chiron: The Mentor-Fellow Forum](#), an individualized program with three channels to develop leadership skills - as a fellow, one-on-one mentoring within a group for nurses early in their careers; as a senior fellow, for experienced professionals to strengthen current skills or develop new ones; and as a mentor.