



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



Fall 2006

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
Joseph Foley, RN

Dear Colleagues and friends,

We are all familiar with the old adage that says “Nothing is certain, except death and taxes”. I would like to add “change” to that statement. Nothing makes me more certain of that than the changing seasons. I look around at the beauty of the autumnal leaves blazing in color and never cease to be amazed by the changes occurring all around us. Fall was the season I missed the most when I lived in south Texas for six years, and yet I never, ever missed the northeast Ohio winters! Yes, along with the beauty of change, there is some pain...the knowledge that the frost and snow is on its way, “ready or not”. I am positive that spring and summer will follow eventually and so, I can make it through the winter!



Change in nursing is happening all around us. When I was a new nurse, I remember talking with a senior nurse about IV therapy in “the old days”. Dermoclysis was the practice of infusing intravenous fluid into the babies subcutaneously because there weren’t IV catheters small enough for the babies. The practice which now seems barbaric was actually life saving at the time. I would chuckle when she talked about using glass syringes and sharpening the hypodermic needles! I’m sure it was a nurse who thought “there has to be a better way to do this”, and change was born. When I was a faculty member, I would typically begin my lectures with the statement or caveat that the information I was sharing with them was the current standard based on what we knew at that time. I would tell them that in the future, they would probably look back at what they learned in school and laugh in disbelief that we actually believed that it was fact. I have been in my new job for over a year now and I firmly believe in change, despite the pain. It was extremely difficult for me to go from expert to novice, but the benefits I have reaped are beyond measure. I continue to change and grow every day.

So by now you are probably thinking, “Joe, what’s your point”? I’m glad you asked. Be on the lookout for changes in your Honor Society especially in Delta Omega Chapter. Four current Board members just returned from the Chapter Leader Academy enthusiastic and armed with fresh new ideas for change in our chapter. These changes will be good changes but they require a lot of work and I encourage your personal involvement. Delta Omega is committed to changes that will be centered around you the members. We are not just a research society any more. We will be introducing new initiatives for change including more practice and clinical issues as well as continuing to offer state of the art research based educational programs. Service to our community is an area we have been working on with our involvement with OPEN M Ministry and will expand to include more global involvement. Stay tuned and look for the changes that are ongoing!

In closing, I would like to acknowledge ALL the Board members of Delta Omega and all their ongoing hard work to make this chapter outstanding. We are all volunteers with full time jobs and need your support and participation. You do not have to volunteer for a 2 year commitment, but your participation in program development or service projects will help fulfill our commitment to the Nursing Community. Please contact a board member through the website to let us



know what type of activity you would like to participate in. There is something for everybody on the way. "Ready or not....I hope you are ready!!"

Please notice also that this Newsletter is dedicated in memory of Mrs. Carol A. Brodbeck, MSN, RN. Carol died unexpectedly this past August. Carol, a wife and mother, was the epitome of Nursing and was involved in teaching at the University of Akron, a Board Member of Delta Omega, and a volunteer at the OPEN M Ministries in the diabetes education program there, just to name a few of her activities. Carol also participated in the relief program for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. I first met Carol in graduate school at the University of Akron in 1980. I remember her passion for diabetes education was clearly evident at that time. I also remember her passion for her family. She was someone I just knew I was going to like. Then, of course as happens, school was over and it was back to the real world. When I came back to the University of Akron as a faculty member, I became re-involved in Delta Omega as a Board Member when Carol was President. She became my role model and little did I know at the time I would become President. I was overjoyed when Carol became a Board Member; I could not believe she was involved in the chapter once again! Her knowledge of chapter matters was priceless to me. Carol was the person who put the ideas and work of the Board on the Strategic Plan into words. As President, I was responsible to make the July 31st deadline for the submission of the Chapter Bylaws, but when I submitted the report, I found that Carol had already submitted it! I never had the opportunity to thank her. A scholarship fund has been established at the University of Akron College of Nursing in Carol's name: **The Carol A. Brodbeck Nursing Scholarship.** I encourage every one of you to donate on behalf of all she has done for this chapter. Delta Omega is making a contribution to the fund in her memory as well. Please make your check payable to: The University of Akron Foundation and mail to: Department of Development, The University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325-2603. Thank you very much.

Until next time,

Joe

Joseph Foley
President, Delta Omega

Don't Miss our Fall Program

Mark your calendars now for our fall program on "Preventing Tomorrow's Domestic Violence Today," presented by Karen Mascolo, MSN, RN. This program will be held at Cugini's Party Center at 740 Munroe Falls Avenue in Cuyahoga Falls. Registration starts at 5:30 pm, with a dinner catered by Moe's at 6:00 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$22.50 each; and checks should be payable to "Delta Omega" and sent to Allison Scott, c/o School Health Services, Akron Children's Hospital, One Perkins Square, Akron, OH 44308.

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: T. Epner or email to: bruntb@summa-health.org



DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS & CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All members are welcome to attend the Executive Board meetings for Delta Omega Chapter, and/or contact members and request that items be added to the agenda. The following is a list of scheduled Board meetings. All regular meetings will be held at 5:30 pm in Mary Gladwin Hall, 101-F, The University of Akron, College of Nursing unless otherwise noted.

Date	Event	Location
Sept. 25, 2006 5:30 PM	Board Meeting	College of Nursing, MGH 101F
October 23, 2006 5 PM	Board Meeting	College of Nursing, MGH 101F
October 23, 2006 6 PM	Fall Dinner Program	Cugini's Party Center 790 Munroe Falls Ave. Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
Nov. 27, 2006 5:30 PM	Board Meeting	College of Nursing, MGH 101F
Jan. 15, 2007 5:30 PM	Research Grants and Spring Submission Deadline	
Jan. 22, 2007 5:30 PM	Board Meeting	College of Nursing, MGH 101F
February, 2007	Winter Program	TBA
Feb. 26, 2007 5:30 PM	Board Meeting	College of Nursing, MGH 101F
March 26, 2007 5:30PM	Board Meeting	College of Nursing, MGH 101F
April 21, 2007 9 AM	Induction of New Members/ Awards	Martin Center 105 Fir Hill Akron, OH
April 23, 2007 5:30 PM	Board Meeting	College of Nursing, MGH 101F
May, 2007	Spring Program & Business Dinner Meeting Installation of New Officers	TBA
June, 2007	Transition Meeting	
July 15, 2007	Research Grants Deadline	

*For further information, please contact Allison Scott, Administrative Assistant.

Mail can be sent to Delta Omega Chapter Officers or Chairmen of Committees c/o Allison at: The University of Akron, 101 Mary Gladwin Hall, Akron, OH 44325-3701.

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;
email: stti@stti.iupui.edu

Delta Omega Chapter CONTACT INFORMATION:

Website and email:
Website: <http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/>

Volunteer Needed to Help with Newsletter

Do you want to get more involved in chapter activities, but you don't have a lot of time to devote to this? Do you enjoy writing and collating information? We are looking for someone to assist with the newsletter. This is a great way to get involved, and it doesn't require a lot of time. There are 3 newsletters a year, and we have reporters from the area institutions who submit information for the newsletter. I will continue as co-editor for a while longer, to help someone else get comfortable with this role. With co-editors the work is split up, and on one has to spend a lot of time on this. Allison Scott, our Administrative Assistant, does all the formatting and puts it on the web site.

Anyone who is interested in this role or would like more information can call be at (330) 375-3075 or email be at bruntb@summa-health.org.

Legislative Forum Was a Success! Submitted by Barb Brunt

On Saturday June 10th, the Delta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, in collaboration with the League of Women Voters and the Stark Carroll District Nurses Association, had a legislative forum in the Theater in the Fine Arts Building at the Stark State campus of Kent State University. This event, open to the public, provided information about the candidates and issues for over 130 registered voters. One in 50 female voters is a registered nurse.

Six state legislators were present, as well as a representative for the gubernatorial candidate Ted Strickland, to present their platforms and answer questions. Those participating in the forum were Mark Okey of the 54th district, Scott Oeslager, current Representative for the 51st district, Kody Gonzalez of the 51st district, John Johnson of the 50th District, and William Healy, current Representative for the 52nd district. Johnnie Maier, head of the Democratic Local Party, spoke on behalf of Ted Strickland, who could not be present. Special thanks are extended to the League of Women Voters president Sue Meister and moderator Nell Davis, who is both a member of the League of Women Voters and a member of the Stark Carroll District.

An event such as this would not be possible without the dedication and work of many planning committee members. Individuals (listed in alphabetical order) who were on the committee that planned this event were: Barb Brunt, Chair, MariKay Colbert, Sharon Hoopingardner, Mary McNatt, Terri McNatt-Grace, Diana Mustacchio, Kevin Nanna, Kathy Nicholson, Yvonne Smith, Jean Swaney, and Michelle Valentino.



State legislative candidates who participated in the legislative forum were (Left to right) Mark Okey, Representative Scott Oeslager, Thomas West, Kody Gonzalez, John Johnson, and Representative William Healy.

DELTA OMEGA INTERN PROGRAM

Do you want to become more active in the Delta Omega Chapter leadership but don't know where to begin? Are you a new member ready to test your skills as a leader? Then you should consider applying for the intern program designed to prepare members of Delta Omega Chapter for leadership roles in nursing and health organizations as well as for leadership at local, regional, and national levels of Sigma Theta Tau International.

There are opportunities for an intern to serve as co-editor of the newsletter, or in other leadership positions in the chapter. The program provides opportunity for a Delta Omega member to further skills and networking. Interns will participate in the following activities:

1. Serve as co-editor of the newsletter or co-chair of one chapter committee
2. Attend chapter Board of Director meetings
3. Attend local, regional, and/or national meetings as feasible
4. Work on a specific project with chapter officers (project determined collaboratively by the Board of Directors and the intern)



To be eligible, a candidate must have active membership in Sigma Theta Tau International and possess the potential for and willingness to serve as a leader within the chapter. Anyone interested in being an intern for the newsletter should contact Joe Foley at (330)543-8953 or at jfoley@chmca.org.

Chapter Leaders Attend STTI Leadership Academy Submitted by Barb Brunt

Delta Omega supported four members to attend the STTI Chapter Leader Academy September 28-30, 2006 in Indianapolis. Dina Dornack, President-Elect, Karen Mascolo, First Vice-President, Barb Brunt, Second Vice-President, and Patrice McCarthy, Archivist attended this program. Over 400 members from around the country and the world gathered in Indianapolis for this event.

The theme for this program was “Building Chapters, Communities, and Connections”. Katherine Tyler Scott presented a plenary session on “The Gifts of Leadership”; a copy of the power point presentation for this session is on the STTI website. There were four interactive sessions that were repeated several times during the 3 day period to allow participants to attend more than one session; they were on personal leadership, team leadership, community building, and global leadership.

There were a number of breakout sessions dealing specifically with chapter issues, including retention strategies, strategic planning, chapter finance, induction ceremonies and the online induction system, chapter board effectiveness, membership recruitment and eligibility, leaders as philanthropists, leaders as mentors for action, effective communication with your chapter members, collaborations and connections, and chapter vitality. There were 4 breakout sessions in each time frame and with 4 members attending the academy, Delta Omega could glean information from all the breakout sessions. There were sessions on each of the areas identified in the STTI Strategic Directions document; these are knowledge, leadership, service, community, and sustainability. This document is available online at: www.nursingsociety.org/about/strategic_directions.pdf

The board members returned with many ideas and will be making a formal presentation to the Delta Omega board at our November meeting.



Dina Dornack, Patrice McCarthy, Karen Mascolo and Barb Brunt in Indianapolis at the Chapter Leader Academy

Delta Omega Member Presents at International Nursing Research Conference

Aris Beoglis, PhD, RN, presented an oral session on “Venipuncture in Children: Using Eutectic Mixture of Local Anesthetic Cream and Application of Heat to Facilitate Peripheral Venous Cannulation” at Sigma Theta Tau’s 17th International Nursing Research Congress Focusing on Evidence-Based Practice in Montreal, Quebec, Canada in July of this year. Aris represented Delta Omega as a presenter, and she also mentored two novice researchers who presented to an international audience for the first time. Aris is a long time member of the Delta Omega Chapter, having served as 2nd Vice President, Chair and member of the Research Grants and Recognition Aware Committee, and member of the Program Committee.

Research Corner ZAP VAP CAMPAIGN

Submitted by Lorraine Fields, MSN, CNRN, CCNS

Summa Health System Hospitals joined a national initiative from the Institute for Healthcare Improvement called “IHI Saving 100,000 Lives” campaign, which includes prevention of Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP) and several other initiatives. The goal of the IHI VAP initiative is to have a 0% VAP rate, and Summa knew they could reach this with their “ZAP VAP” campaign. The ZAP VAP campaign was initiated in the fall of 2004 and culminated in a research study on 4 West of all artificial airways and intubated patients. The multidisciplinary campaign included inservicing and training all nursing, physicians, respiratory and rehab personnel to follow the IHI bundle which includes: raising the head of the bed over 30°, earlier and more aggressive mobility techniques including physical therapy consults on all intubated patients in ICU; universal gloving and handwashing; instituting endotracheal and tracheal tubes that have a dorsal lumen above the endotracheal cuff to allow an extra suction port for subglottic secretions; daily sedation vacations; peptic ulcer disease prophylaxis; deep venous thrombosis prophylaxis; and most importantly, a specific oral care regimen every four hours.

Studies have shown that patients become colonized with pathogenic bacteria within 24 hours of admission to a critical care unit. The oral cavity and its components are the perfect medium for bacteria to colonize, especially in the plaque on the teeth.¹ Nurses use green swabs for oral care, but current literature identifies the toothbrush as the only effective device available to remove plaque from the teeth. CDC Guidelines identify the oropharynx as the primary route of bacterial entry into the lungs. It is hypothesized the bacteria reside in the plaque, and then enter the lungs by microaspiration. The way to prevent microaspiration of bacteria is by removing the plaque that harbors the bacteria, by brushing the teeth of intubated patients.

It is clear from the literature that adequate mouth care and the IHI bundle can mediate and

prevent the occurrence of VAP². The oral care regimen on 4 West is part of a research study that is trying to determine the ideal amount of toothbrushing needed to prevent VAP. In order to further reduce VAP rates, and to define the mouth care policy for the ventilated patient, strict oral care procedures were implemented by the staff caring for the mechanically ventilated patient. Oral care includes brushing the patient’s teeth, tongue, and hard palate every eight hours for at least 1 minute. Every other four hours a toothette swab is used to swab the patient’s teeth, tongue, and hard palate, and a moisturizing ointment is applied to the patient’s lips. The mouth and pharynx of the patient are suctioned PRN with an enclosed yankauer suction that is changed every 24 hours. Oral assessment of the patient is done every 12 hours, with laminated cards given to each nurse describing the components of the assessment.

The National Nosocomial Infection Surveillance (NNIS) system of the CDC recommends expressing VAP as the number of infectious episodes per 1,000 ventilator-days. Summa Health System’s VAP rate is lower than the national rate of 5.7 to 21.1 infections per 1000 ventilator days³, and with proper technique, utilization of toothbrushing every 8 hours, and standardization of oral care, we have brought the rate down to 0% per 1500 ventilator days on 4 West! Thanks to the diligence of the 4 West staff and management, as well as the Infection Control Department, there have been no VAP’s from October 2005 to April 2006.

1. Garcia, R., Jendresky, L., & Colbert, L. (2004). Reduction of microbial colonization in the oropharynx and dental plaque reduces ventilator-associated pneumonia. Presentation at APIC Conference, Phoenix, AZ. June 20th, 2004.
2. Grap, M. & Munro, C., Ashtiani, B. & Bryant, S. (2003). Oral care interventions in critical care: frequency and documentation. *American Journal of Critical Care*, 12 (2). p. 113-118.
3. Guideline for prevention healthcare-associated pneumonia. (2004). Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee. *MMWR*, 53(RR03), p 1-36, March 26, 2004, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA.

News from Robinson Reporter: Jan Bahle

Besides providing “excellent healthcare,” Robinson Memorial Hospital in Ravenna is also an excellent place to work. For the fourth consecutive year, the hospital was named one of the 99 best places to work in Northeast Ohio by the Employers Resource Council, the region’s largest employers association.

With 1,500 employees, the hospital is the second-largest employer in Portage County. The hospital competed against thousands of other eligible employers located within the Northeast Ohio region covered by the Employers Resource Council. Winning organizations must excel in benefits, diversity, compensation, health and safety, recruitment and retention, training and education, human resources strategies and employee communication.

The NorthCoast 99 program helps serve as a model for regional economic development by helping organizations attract and retain excellent employees. This is the eighth year of The NorthCoast 99 program, which is the only regional award of its kind in the nation.

In addition to being one of the best places to work in Northeast Ohio, Robinson Memorial Hospital was also named the Division I Fittest Organization in Portage County for 2006. The hospital earned this honor following the Portage County Fitness Challenge sponsored by Medical Mutual of Ohio and Ravenna Parks and Recreation. The Division I category consists of employers with more than 201 employees.

Nearly 200 Robinson Memorial Hospital employees, volunteers and their families participated in at least one fitness challenge event between June 5 and Aug. 19. The events included community walks and runs, the weight loss contest Biggest Loser and the fitness competition Get Up, Get Going.

OPEN- M Activities

Help Us Give Families A Better Holiday Winter Community Activity at OPEN-M

Be apart of something great this holiday season. The *Opportunity Parish Ecumenical Neighborhood Ministry (OPEN-M)* is a church-sponsored, non-profit, neighborhood-based, comprehensive ministry in Akron. The Delta Omega Chapter will sponsor two families for the holiday season from the OPEN-M Christmas Program. More information will be provided soon. Please watch your email for updates pertaining to this activity. Any questions contact Dina Dornack – ddornack@chmca.org.



Earlier this year Delta Omega members participated in the annual Walk for Kids and provided a hot meal for community members at OPEN-M.



Delta Omega members (Left to right) participation in Open M Walk for Kids – Patti Crawford, Diana Dornack, Barb Brunt, and Peg DiMarco

Calls for Abstracts

The 39th Sigma Theta Tau Biennial Convention will be held November 3 – November 7, 2007 in Baltimore, Maryland. Abstracts in the categories of clinical, scientific and leadership are being accepted for the convention. Deadline for submission of abstracts is January 17, 2007. This is your opportunity to share your research with approximately 2,000 nurses. For details, submission guidelines and convention information, go to the STTI website at www.nursingsociety.com/convention.

Begin planning your involvement now. Join other STTI members to hear colleagues present their work during hundreds of quality educational sessions. Baltimore is a vibrant city, where historical buildings and modern architecture stand side by side. The Inner Harbor area of Baltimore is one of the city's main tourist districts and contains many popular attractions. Downtown Baltimore features a thriving business district and nearby, Canton, Federal Hill, Fells Point, Little Italy and Mount Vernon are some of Baltimore's oldest neighborhoods, full of charm. The city of Baltimore is famous for its superb ballpark, Camden Yards, which regularly attracts tourists from all over Maryland and beyond. Baltimore has become a popular tourism and business city and is perhaps best known for being the birthplace of America's National Anthem.

News from Summa Health System Reporter: Barb Brunt

Lorraine Fields, MSN, CCRN, CNRN, CCNS was one of six finalists for the Midwest area Nursing Spectrum's award for Excellence in Nursing Education and John Mastrojohn III, MSN, MBA, RN was also a finalist in the category of Advancing and Leading the Profession. Winners were selected from nominations from 14 states.

Lorraine Fields will be accepting a national medal of honor for Summa Health System from the Organ Donation Breakthrough Collaborative sponsored by HRSA (US Department of Human and Health Services) in New Orleans at the National conference on October 19th. This was a national effort put forth in increase transplants. The national goal is 75%

conversion rate (when you ask someone to donate and they agree), with 3.75 organs per donor and a 10% DCD (non heart beating donation) rate. At the time of qualification, Summa had a 100% conversion rate, and had the first set of transplanted DCD lungs in the state. Summa had 38 kidney transplants in the first six months of 2006.

Dr. Kyle Allen, Dr. William Smucker, Kathy Wright, MSN, APRN, BC, and Jan Weinhardt, MSN, RN, CS had a chapter on "Cerebral Vascular Disease" published in a book edited by Jam et al called *Primary Care Genetics – A Case-Based Approach*.

Lynn Benedict, MSN, RN, Karen Robinson, MSN, RN and Carolyn Holder, MSN, RN, CNS was an article on "Clinical Nurse Specialist Practice within the Acute Care the Elders (ACE) Interdisciplinary Team Model" published in the September-October issue of *Clinical Nurse Specialist: The Journal for Advanced Practice*.

James Rosneck, BSN, MS, RN was selected as the outstanding alumni from the University of Akron College of Nursing.

Jan Weinhardt, MSN, RN, CS presented a session on "Accuracy of a Bedside Dysphagia Screen: Registered Nurses vs Speech Therapists" at the Northeast Ohio Clinical Nurse Specialists fall meeting in October, 2006 in Independence, OH.

Dr. Kyle Allen, Judy Akins, MSN, RN, and Carolyn Holder, MSN, RN, CNS launched a Summa on-line informational communication resource called the ACE Unit Forum, located at <http://aceunitforum.summa-health.org>

Jill Bunnell, RN, SANE presented a session on "Sexual Mistreatment Markers, DOVE as a Tool in our Area" at the Summit County Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition conference in September in Akron, OH

**In Memory of
Carol Brodbeck, MSN, RN, CDE
November 8, 1950 – August 9, 2006
By Barb Brunt**

Delta Omega lost a wonderful supporter and friend when Carol Brodbeck died suddenly. Carol was serving as president of the Delta Omega Chapter when I joined Sigma Theta Tau in 2000, and I was impressed with her passion for nursing, her leadership skills, her enthusiasm, and her strategic planning skills. Carol served as President from 1999 to 2001, but stayed actively involved in the organization after her presidency. She was serving in the role of corresponding secretary when she passed away. Carol received recognition from the chapter for her excellence in nursing practice in 1994 and for her excellence in nurse mentoring in 2002.

Carol began her nursing career in 1970 when she graduated with honors from the Saint Thomas Hospital School of Nursing. She received her BSN from St. Louis University in 1976 and completed her MSN at the University of Akron in 1991. She received the Mary Gladwin Award for the Outstanding Graduate Student in Nursing from the University of Akron in 1991 and the Distinguished Nursing Alumni Award from Akron University in 2003. She was the RN to BSN Coordinator at the University of Akron, and served as the Director of Education and a diabetes clinical nurse specialist at the Visiting Nurses Service for 10 years prior to going to Akron U.

Carol was certified in diabetes education, and had been a volunteer at the Open-M (Opportunity Parish Ecumenical Neighborhood Ministry) for 11 years, teaching hundreds of patients how to manage their diabetes. She helped with several of our community projects at Open M over the last year. She and a number of other Delta Omega members helped wrap Christmas presents last year, and also helped serve a hot lunch for over 100 individuals at Open M this past spring.

She was a member of the American Association of Diabetes Educators, and the Northeastern Ohio chapter of that group. In addition she served as a member of the educational planning committee for the American Diabetes Association Akron area affiliate for 24 years. She received the volunteer of the year award from the Akron area affiliate of the American Diabetes Association in 1993.

Carol was an active member of the Akron-Canton Regional Nursing Research Network. She enjoyed research; her thesis was a comparison of plantar callus

formation with sensibility and body weight in adult diabetic individuals. She shared her findings at the American Association of Diabetic Educators conference in Atlanta, the Midwest Nursing Research Society meeting in Chicago, and at one of the Delta Omega Chapter's research workshops.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family. I wanted to close with the Nightingale Tribute. This was modified from a poem written by Duane Jaeger, RN, MSN in 2004 and reprinted with permission.



Nightingale Tribute

Nursing is a calling, a lifestyle, a way of living. Delta Omega honors Carol Brodbeck and her life as a nurse and nurse educator. Carol is not remembered by her years as a nurse but by the difference she made during those years by stepping into people's lives, by special moments:

- When a calming presence was all that was needed . . . she was there
- In the excitement and miracle of birth or in the mystery and loss of life . . . she was there
- When a silent glance could lift a patient, family member or friend . . . she was there
- At those times when the unexplainable needed to be explained . . . she was there
- When the situation demanded a swift foot and a sharp mind . . . she was there
- When a gentle touch, a firm push, or an encouraging word was needed . . . she was there
- To witness humanity . . . it's beauty, in good time and in bad . . . she was there
- To embrace the woes of the world, willingly and offer hope . . . she was there
- And now that it is time to be a God's side . . . she is there!

Carol, we honor you and appreciate your being our colleague.



**NURSE LEADERS WANTED
Honor Society of Nursing
Sigma Theta Tau International**

Please Read Carefully:

Thank you for your interest in the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International membership. If you are currently **not** enrolled in a nursing degree program and have **not** been previously inducted into the honor society, please complete this form.

If you **are** currently enrolled in a nursing degree program, an invitation from the chapter at your institute of higher learning will be extended to you if you have met the necessary membership requirements and you **should not submit this form.**

Instructions: Complete this required information for consideration for membership in Sigma Theta Tau International and submit a current curriculum vitae.

Personal Information

Name _____
(Name and Credentials)

Home Address _____
(Number and Street)

(City/Province, State, Postal Code, Country)

Business Address _____
(Employer Name/Department)

(Number and Street)

(City/Province, State, Postal Code, Country)

Telephone Numbers:
Office _____

Home _____

Fax Number _____

Business Email Address _____

Home Email Address _____

Should STTI use your “business” or “home” email address for communication? _____

Name of Candidate: _____

Present Position (Title and Description)

Education (include basic preparation through highest degree held). *This application can only be submitted if you are currently NOT enrolled in a nursing degree program at an institution of higher learning where a chapter is located, you hold a baccalaureate degree or equivalent, and are legally recognized to practice nursing in your country.*

Degree	Institution (Name, City, Country)	Major Area of Study	Year Completed
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____

Use a separate piece of paper to briefly describe your professional experience of areas of expertise which illustrate you achievements in nursing.

Please return to:
Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing
Delta Omega Chapter
The University of Akron College of Nursing
Mary Gladwin Hall
Akron, OH 44325-3701
cbuchanan@uakron.edu
bruntb@summa-health.org



Perspectives in Nursing
Freiburg, Germany

Report from [Germany Delta Omega helped support Darlene Wredberg's trip to Germany.](#)



Sigma Theta Tau

international honor society of nursing

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DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER



Fall 2006

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 $\frac{1}{4}$ 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

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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

- [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*sm 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.

[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:

[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.



Sigma Theta Tau International



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 you may call the Editor, Barbara Brunt (330) 375-3075. Please include your phone number, email or mail return address.

Sigma Theta Tau International
international honor society of nursing

THE DELTA REPORT

Delta Omega Chapter

This newsletter is published three times a year by the Delta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau at The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio. Send all change-of-address notices to:

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