



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



Spring 2005

Editor – Barbara Brunt

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**  
**Crystal Thompson, MSN, RN**  
**Musings of a Departing President**



As many of you are aware, elections for the chapter are now completed and Joe Foley assumes the presidency with a very strong board! Please give him your support and encouragement by your attendance, participation and availability for service. The International Society has worked very hard to streamline how things are conducted throughout the membership. The new focus is on “short term” service to entice everyone to participate. Consider making this your personal goal: to offer your skills for at least one event throughout Joe’s presidency!

I had the pleasure and privilege to present the Nurse of Excellence Awards at the three major hospitals in the city of Akron. Akron honors its nurses during Nurses’ Week May 6-12! As I drove to Akron General Medical Center, I was delighted to see banners outside the facility stating “Our nurses make a difference!” AGMC recognizes its nurses with a “Nurses Making a Difference” award. As the reasons were enumerated why each nurse was selected because of conscientiousness, professionalism and integrity, I was so proud to be a nurse! There are so many who contribute significantly to the profession. The recipient of the chapter award at AGMC was Cherie Guster, RN, MSN. Cherie has been proactive in implementing significant changes in working conditions and improving care turnaround time. She has been on the “cutting edge” as nursing staff roles were in transition and acronyms such as HIPAA (Health Information Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) became part of the healthcare vocabulary.

Kristine Lynn McCully, RN, BSN was the recipient from Children’s Hospital Medical Center. She has worked on the Adolescent Unit for the past 20 years serving in various roles. Kristine is now a Clinical Coordinator and serves as a resource to patients, families, visitors, staff, students and the interdisciplinary team for the Adolescent and Chronic Disease of Childhood Unit. She is also part of the Diabetic Teaching Team. She has presented at the Sigma Theta Tau International Convention and is an advocate for patients, families and nurses.

The recipient for Summa Health Systems/City Campus was Linda DiPasquale, RN, MSN who practices as a Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist and Maternal Outreach Education Coordinator for Ohio Region VI. This encompasses a 17-county region to facilitate the most current practice of evidence-based obstetrical nursing care. Linda loves direct patient care and case manages the high risk antepartum patients transported to Summa. She coordinates and teaches at a weekly Diabetic Clinic for pregnant women, providing them support emotionally and materially if needed. She has engaged staff in research projects and has kindled that interest further. She has presented her research at the National Association of Women’s Health, Obstetrical and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN).

The characteristic I identified in each recipient of the many awards given was that of humility. Each nurse expressed how much she loved practicing the profession of nursing. Each event was a reflection of how much each nurse at each facility is valued and respected. I was so proud that the Delta Omega Chapter could be part of that recognition.



The chapter needs to increase visibility in the community and improve the public’s awareness of nurses’ involvement and contributions to improve community and worldwide health. Early in May, several board members and a new inductee participated in a benefit walk for the OPEN M Clinic (Opportunity Park Ecumenical Neighborhood Ministry) Kids. Collaborating with several chaplains from Children’s Hospital to form one team, we were able to donate a little over \$1,000.00. Community projects are important and Joe has several good ideas how to keep this ongoing. Please consider participating next year!

The chapter board has determined we should purchase a commemorative brick to support International efforts. The brick will read DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER. The goal at International Headquarters is that each chapter would contribute a brick. It will be placed in a special garden at the headquarters location.

Now our next step is to capture our 8<sup>th</sup> Key Award! I am so proud that the Delta Omega Chapter from the University of Akron is one of two chapters in the entire organization who have been awarded this acknowledgement of leadership in nursing each time since its inception. The other chapter is from the University of East Carolina. Our leadership is reflected in our activities and in our philanthropic efforts. In the past two years we have collaborated with the Northeast Ohio STTI chapters and participated in a silent auction to raise funds for our individual chapters. We have supported the local middle school and high school science fair projects through the University of Akron which reflected budding research in healthcare efforts. We have supported research funding and scholarships for nursing students and awarded recognition for excellence in mentoring, leadership, research, nursing practice and use of research in nursing practice. We have supported the Cameos of Caring recognition of exceptional staff nurses and as I outlined earlier, Nurses of Excellence at the local hospitals to commemorate Nurses’ Week.

This will be my final editorial for the newsletter as president. It has been a privilege to serve the chapter for the past two years. My hope is that you as an active member will continue to access the newsletter to determine events for the chapter and will increase your personal participation. This is about you and your profession. Help make it a viable and interesting organization of which you can be very proud. If you are an inactive member and are looking anew to see what the chapter has to offer, I hope you will seriously consider renewing your membership dues and becoming involved in this prestigious organization.

**DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

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

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 meetings will be held at 5:00 pm in Mary Gladwin Hall, The University of Akron, College of Nursing.

June 27            Transition Meeting,  
Mary Gladwin Hall – Room 209

Please notify Debi Burnsworth via email at [dkburnsworth@uakron.edu](mailto:dkburnsworth@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!



## DELTA OMEGA INDUCTION 2005

Welcome to the fifty-two new members of Delta Omega Chapter. Most of the new members were inducted at the Spring Induction Ceremony on Sunday, April 10, 2005. We encourage all the new members to become actively involved with Delta Omega Chapter.



President Crystal Thompson addresses new members.

The new members for 2005 are:

### Community Leaders

Patricia Crawford –  
Akron Children's Hospital  
Cara DeVault -  
Akron Children's Hospital

### Graduate Students

Mary Abercrombie  
Max Bishop  
Jon Cristino  
Lisa Foster  
Lynn Kelling  
Kathy Kilgore  
Terry Klecan  
Marta Martonhegyi  
Denise Mathews  
Kathi Minarcheck  
April Mulvain  
Pamela Napier  
Darlene O'Leary  
Julia Ostrout  
Tonia Parmer-Williams  
Deborah Pisciotta  
Jennifer Profitt  
Emily Reseigh  
Jeffrey Sims  
Travis Terrell  
Marisa Terrigno  
Diane Yelenosky  
Beverly Young  
Denise Zimmerman

### Undergraduate Students

Kyerewaa Asare-Bediako  
Andrea Bartlett  
Kimberly Berger  
April Carter  
Mary Casto  
Mary Eberly  
Natalie Ferris-Ferrato  
Samantha Formica  
Marie Franks  
Tammy Fries  
Bethany Goebel  
Stacey Green  
Tiffani Jackson  
Matthew Kovach  
Rebecca Lance  
Shannon LeMaster  
Molly Loy  
Alexandra Medley  
Lisa Naidoo  
Katelyn Pemberton  
Christy Rohm  
Regina Sares  
Carol Srdoch  
Gillian Stephens  
Sally Swartzlander  
Heather Welsh

## OUTSTANDING STUDENTS HONORED AT INDUCTION CEREMONY

The outstanding student awards are given to students who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the nursing program. To qualify, they must have a grade point average of 3.0 or above and present themselves as a student who seeks and enjoys the search for knowledge. They must demonstrate excellence in areas of nursing practice, academic achievement, and research or leadership activities.



The Outstanding Undergraduate Award goes to **Katelyn Pemberton**.

Katelyn was described by those who nominated her to be enthusiastic, organized and detailed in her approach to study and nursing care. She has excellent personal communication skills and is highly motivated for self-learning. She fulfills additional requirements in the program because she is also an honors student.

Congratulations, Katelyn!



The Outstanding Graduate Award goes to **Margaret Farrar**.

Margaret is studying to be a pediatric nurse practitioner. Preceptors and faculty have commented on Margaret's exceptional ability to assess patients and deliver organized, appropriate care. Margaret implemented an educational program geared toward violence cessation. She has also worked with homeless abused teenagers.

Congratulations, Margaret!

## AWARDS PRESENTED AT ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The purpose of the awards is to recognize outstanding nurses whose contributions to nursing fulfill the goals of Sigma Theta Tau International. Awardees were nominated by Delta Omega members and selected by members of the Awards and Recognition Committee.

**Jane Soposky was selected for the Excellence in Nursing Leadership Award.** Jane is currently the Administrative Director of Patient Care Services for the St. Thomas Hospital of Summa Health System. She has administrative responsibility for the mental health units and some medical-surgical in patient units. She is active in the community and the professional arena. She has received several recognitions for her leadership including the Abbie Porter Leadership Award for the Division of Nursing at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. She leads by example and provides support and assistance to help others develop leadership skills.

**Sandy Hrniak was the recipient of the Excellence in Nursing Practice Award.** Sandy is an employee of Akron General Medical Center working with patients who have cardiovascular problems. She worked at Fairview with patients who had had open heart surgery for several years before moving to Akron General. Sandy has been described as a very caring and skilled nurse. She blends these qualities to exemplify the “art of nursing”. Sandi often serves as a preceptor for senior nursing students and new employees. Thus she has been instrumental in preparing many nurses to recognize the importance of caring and being with the patient. As a preceptor, she allows students to mature in nursing under her careful watch. She generously shares her expertise, how she makes decisions, and some of her concerns. With the patient, she is very conscientious in implementing nursing care to promote health and quality of life. Sandi truly demonstrates excellence in practice.

**Carolyn Schubert was the recipient of the Excellence in Nursing Education Award.** Carolyn is a faculty member at The University of Akron College of Nursing. She also works as a staff nurse at Akron General Medical Center. She has high expectations of herself and others and believes that one way to accomplish this is through education. Carolyn’s area of expertise is medical-surgical nursing. She is certified by the

American Nurses Credentialing Center. In addition to practice, she is an excellent researcher and teacher. She has been a three time recipient of awards from students acknowledging her connectiveness with them. She is a role model for students serving in a variety of roles: In Sigma Theta Tau, she is currently our treasurer; in the community, she serves on many committees, including the Cameos of Caring; professionally she currently practices at Akron General Medical center as a diabetes educator and as a medical-surgical staff nurse. She is truly a role model for teaching others.

**Stephanie Woods received the Excellence in Nursing Research Award.** Stephanie is an associate professor in the College of Nursing at The University of Akron. Her area of research is physical, emotional, social effects of battering in women. Specifically, her research focuses on immune functioning of women who have been in an abusive situation. She has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, and the National Institute of Mental Health She received the Faculty Research Summer Fellowship from The University of Akron. It is interesting to note, however that Stephanie has her beginning financial support from this chapter—Delta Omega. Research activity includes dissemination. Stephanie has presented internationally including a recent paper presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> International Nursing Conference of the Nursing Network on Violence Against Women International. Her work is disseminated through publications in journals which include Archives of Psychiatric Nursing, The Nursing Science Quarterly, and Issues in Mental Health Nursing. Her work is recognized by experts as demonstrated by requests to review materials at a national level. Stephanie is an active member of Delta Omega Chapter. Some of her work includes serving on the Research Grants and Recognition Committee (She was chair for several years) as well as other committees.

**Nancy McManus received the Excellence in Nurse Mentoring Award.** Nancy is employed at Summa Health Systems as a staff development instructor. She advances the science of nursing through her work with the American Heart Association. She routinely shares research knowledge with those who are in her classes and routinely shares information with other instructors to ensure consistency in working toward the goal of a “Heart Healthy” nation. Nancy actively shapes and promotes the development of the career of nurses with whom she works. She freely shares her own experiences to assist others and continues with this mentoring

relationship even as it becomes reciprocal. She has maintained mentoring relationships over time.



Judy Ohlinger receives the Utilization of Nursing Research Award from President Crystal Thompson.

**Judy Ohlinger was the recipient of the Utilization of Nursing Research Award.** Judy is employed at Akron Children's Medical Center. She uses best practices as she plans the care of the patient, looking at the many issues confronting most of the patients and their families. She reads current journals and listens to the information presented to her by other nurses, physicians, sales representatives and uses this information to offer information and choices to the patients. She is farsighted in that she seeks the current research, evaluates the benefit for the patient and implements the care. She has truly been a role model for students, and other members of the health care team.

The **Lillian Young Research Award** was presented to Sue Hazelett. Sue is an employee of Summa Health System. She has been actively involved in research roles for the last 19 years. Sue collaborates with biostatisticians from NEOUCOM to design and implement research programs related to hemoglobin acetaldehyde, including the evaluation of that marker for excessive, chronic, alcohol consumption. She has published extensively the findings of her research in the Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine, Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, Journal of Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease, and others. Sue willingly shares her expertise with other nurses. She provides feedback to individuals to improve their research studies and serves as a mentor and resource to many.

The **Marilyn Jinx Grelson Award Community Research Grant** was presented to Karen Mascolo. Karen is currently the Director of School Health Services at Akron Children's Hospital.

## MAY DINNER PROGRAM PRESENTATION: "HIV/AIDS IN KENYA, CLOSE UP AND PERSONAL"



Speaker Jean Skoblar presenting to Delta Omega members and Recognition Awards Recipients.

Delta Omega had its annual business dinner meeting on May 23rd at the Martin University Center. In addition to having the awards presentations and announcement of the new officers (see related articles on those), Jean Skoblar, RN, MSN, CPNP gave a very informative presentation on "HIV/AIDS in Kenya, Close Up and Personal". She described the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Kenya and sub Saharan Africa, and showed a moving video called "Left Behind". Through the eyes and voices of Kenya's children, as well as prostitutes, gang leaders, slum dwellers and those infected with HIV, this 34-minute documentary penetrates a code of silence to explore the impact of AIDS on the pandemic's most innocent victims: the children. She outlined opportunities for nurses/APNs to impact the situation, including 16 websites with information on possible volunteer opportunities.

Information on the orphanage can be found at [www.nyunbani.org](http://www.nyunbani.org) and anyone who wishes to donate supplies or money towards their work can contact Jean at [jdskoblar@yahoo.com](mailto:jdskoblar@yahoo.com).

A 50-50 raffle was held to raise funds for the Chapter to purchase a Brick in honor of the Delta Omega Chapter as The International Brick Paver Campaign. \$140. was made on the raffle. The holder of the winning ticket, Judy Ohlinger, donated her portion back to the chapter.



## DELTA OMEGA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM Annette Mitzel

The Delta Omega research symposium was held again this year at Crown Plaza in downtown Akron. The Delta Omega Chapter joined with the Pi Chi chapter of Malone College and the Neuman Systems Model Trustee Group to host the 10<sup>th</sup> International Biennial Neuman Systems Model Symposium. The research day was held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Crown Plaza Hotel at Quaker Square in Akron. There were 135 nurses from around the world in attendance.



Betty Neuman and Sheau-Huey Chiu

Invited guests included Betty M. Neuman, RN, PhD, FAAN, Sr. Callista Roy, RN, PhD, FAAN, Professor and theorist, Boston College, Jaqueline Fawcett, PhD, FAAN, Professor Boston College and Eileen Gigliotti, RN, PhD Associate professor College of Staten Island, University of New York.

Participants were welcomed by Delta Omega president Crystal Thompson. The success of this research day was largely due to the participation of members, especially those of the planning committee for the event. These members were Carolyn Schubert, Megan Brooks, Regina Sares, Marlene Huff, Joe Foley, Sheau-Huey Chiu, Sue Lehman-Trzynka, Martha Conrad, Joan Stapf, Marie Bright-Cobb, members of the Board and many students from the college of nursing at The University of Akron. Apologies if I have missed anyone.

## OPEN-M WALK FOR KIDS



Joe Foley, Dina Dornack, Barb Brunt, Crystal Thompson, Cara DeVault, front row, President's Granddaughter, Sydney Thompson

On Saturday, May 7, 2005 members from the Delta Omega Chapter participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual OPEN-M Walk for Kids. The 1.5 mile walk helped raise monies to support programs for children at the Opportunity Parish Ecumenical Neighborhood Ministry (OPEN-M). This is sure to become an annual community activity for our chapter. We raised approximately \$1,000 in pledges that will support programs such as immunizations, school supplies, books for the reading clinic and hot lunches. Please plan to join us next year.



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## WELCOME DELTA OMEGA'S NEW OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**Joe Foley**, President – Joe has served as 2nd Vice President for four years and then served as President elect this past year.

As chapter President, Joe will preside at all meetings of the chapter and of the Board of Directors, he calls the meetings, provides leadership to assure chapter functioning in accord with policies and bylaws, and is the local representative of STTI and Delta Omega Chapter in local, civic, and professional activities.

**Karen Mascolo**, First Vice President – Karen is currently the Director of School Health Services at Akron Children's Hospital. She received her diploma from Akron City Hospital's Idabelle Firestone School of Nursing, her BSN from the University of Akron, her MSN from the University of Akron, and is currently enrolled in the Joint PhD in Nursing program at the University of Akron. Karen's responsibilities include performing the duties of president in Joe's absence, completing the unexpired term of president in the event of a vacancy, and guiding the program committee in its efforts to meet the educational needs of chapter members. She is responsible for the chapter's collaboration with the University College of Nursing for the biannual research event.

**Carol Brodbeck**, Corresponding Secretary - Carol currently works with Visiting Nurse Service & Affiliates. She received her diploma from St. Thomas Hospital School of Nursing, her BSN from St. Louis University, and her MSN from The University of Akron. She has been a member of STTI since 1990, and served the Delta Omega chapter as a member of the Nominating Committee in the mid-1990's and was a past President from 1999-2001.

As corresponding secretary, Carol furnishes new officers and members copies of the chapter Bylaws, is responsible for the calendar of chapter activities for The Delta Report, she takes care of all chapter correspondence, maintains a current roster of chapter members; she is responsible for the transfer of members, and is chairman of the Bylaws Committee.

**Lori Kidd**, Counselor – Lori is currently working as an instructor in Mental Health Nursing at the University of Akron. She received her BSN from the University of Akron, her MSN from Case Western Reserve University and is currently enrolled in Doctoral courses at Case Western Reserve University. Lori has been a member of STTI since 1984.

The chapter counselor must be a member of the faculty of the University of Akron, College of Nursing. Lori will serve as a faculty advisor to the chapter. She also serves as chairman of the Eligibility Committee. Other responsibilities include supplying necessary data regarding candidates for membership, distributing membership cards, and assisting the Second Vice President, Dina Dornack, with the Induction Ceremony in the spring.

**Peg DiMarco**, Nominating Committee Chairman – Peg is currently working as a faculty member in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Track at The University of Akron. She received her BSN from Ohio State University, her MSN from the University of Akron, her Post Master Certificate in Child and Adolescent Health Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at the University of Akron, and is currently a PhD candidate at Case Western Reserve University.

Peg will ensure that the Nominating Committee secures consents to serve from nominated individuals, prepares the ballot, and sends it to the Board of Directors at least four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled election. She is responsible for tallying the ballots and notifying the newly elected candidates prior to installation of officers at the Annual Spring Business Meeting.

### 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: [dkburnsworth@uakron.edu](mailto:dkburnsworth@uakron.edu)



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VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are now 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 three 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 no one has to spend a lot of time on this. Debi Burnsworth, 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 me at (330) 375-3075 or email me at [bruntb@summa-health.org](mailto:bruntb@summa-health.org).

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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



**News from  
Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron**  
Reporter: Carol Korman

There were numerous activities to celebrate this year's theme for National Nurses Week: "Nurses: Many Roles, One Profession" at Akron Children's Hospital. Activities for the week included hand massage, a special celebration entitled Looking for the Hidden Treasures in our Nurses was a hit - complete with frozen drinks and snacks while posters were displayed on how Akron Children's Hospital is meeting each of the 14 Forces of Magnetism. Wraps and desserts from Posh Bistro were delivered to each unit during the night shift. We raffled off 37 prizes, including a complimentary conference registration to the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Pediatric Nursing Conference being conducted at ACH on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005. A Children's dedicated transport nurse was highlighted in an article in the Canton Repository.

Numerous educational offerings were given throughout the week. Nursing research/scholarly presentations were also given by Children's nurses. Topics included peer review, pre-term infant's with BPD response to oral feeding, motivational interviewing - to name a few. Hypnosis for Healthcare providers was offered by a pediatric psych nurse with experience in this field.. Nursing case consultations were presented by nurses from the Trauma, Surgery and transport departments. A dieting information session entitled "Eating on the Run" was popular, and a presentation on Mandatory Staffing Ratios and Overtime given by Grace Wakulchik, Vice President Patient Services was also offered.

The Annual Nursing Excellence Ceremony had an audience of 107 ACH employees, family and friends. Awards given at the ceremony included: C.A.R.E. Ladder awards to 84 new/advancing registered nurses, the LPN Award, Pediatric Nursing Research Grant, Lois M. Hodgson Nurse Excellence Award and the Delta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau Nurse Excellence Award received by Kris McCully. Akron Children's also awarded nine nursing career scholarships to nurses currently employed who are pursuing a BSN or MSN.

**News from Summa**  
Reporter: Barb Brunt

Eight (8) Summa employees received full tuition nursing scholarships to become an LPN or RN. Winners were announced during the Nurses' Week receptions sponsored by Cathy Koppelman, MSN, RN, Vice-President of Patient Care Services. Melissa Mihailovic received a LPN scholarship. RN Scholarship recipients were: Christine Allen, Gorgine Gibson, Joe Kallai, Heather Rockich, Joy Smith, and Sandy Winstead.

The RN Preceptor Excellence Award winners for both Akron City and Saint Thomas campuses were also recognized during the Nurse's Week celebrations. Sandy Samson, RN, a staff nurse on 6 West, received the ACH Women's Board award, and Lynn Testa, RN, CAPA, a staff nurse in Same Day Surgery, received the STH Women's Board Award.

Linda DiPasquale, MSN, RNC, was recognized by the Delta Omega chapter of Sigma Theta Tau for her nursing excellence. Linda was presented this award during Nurses Week by a representative of the Delta Omega Chapter.

Jennifer Doyle, MSN, RN WHNP was one of five finalists in the Nursing Excellence awards in the category of Advancing the Profession for the Midwest region of Nursing Spectrum. The Midwest region covers 14 states, and Jennifer was the only one in the Akron area to receive this honor.

Jane Tapp, MSN, RN, BC and Denise Kropp, BS, BS Ed had an article "Evaluating Pain Management Delivered by Direct Care Nurses" published in the April-June 2005 issue of Journal of Nursing Care Quality.

Barbara Brunt, MA, MN, RN, BC had an article "Critical Thinking in Nursing: An Integrated Review" published in the March/April 2005 issue of The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing. She also received her masters in nursing from the University of Dundee in Scotland and will be going to Scotland in July for her graduation.

Jane Tapp, MSN, RN, BC received a Caring award in the Professional category. Vicki Holland, RN received the Caring award for nursing. Debbie Holland, BSN, RN, received the Manager Caring Award.

#### *PRESENTATIONS – PAPERS*

Jane Tapp, MSN, RN, MSN (Staff Development), and Denise Kropp, BS, BSEd, (Nursing Research). “Evaluating Pain Management Delivered by Direct Care Nurses” 10<sup>th</sup> International Neuman Systems Model Symposium, Akron, Ohio, April 22, 2005.

Jane Tapp, MSN, RN, BC (Staff Development) “Effect of Variables on Pain Management in the Hospitalized Geriatric Patient” Robinson Memorial Hospital Research Day, May, 2005.

Barbara Brunt, MA, MN, RN, BC (Staff Development); “Impact of Preceptor and Orienteer Learning Style on Satisfaction: A Pilot Study” Robinson Memorial Research Day, May, 2005.

Barbara Brunt, MA, MN, RN, BC (Staff Development), “Evidence Based Performance Criteria for Staff Development Competencies” National Nursing Staff Development Convention, New Orleans, July, 2005.

Linda DiPasquale, MSN, RNC (Maternal Outreach Education), and Joyce Thompson, BSN, RN (Labor & Delivery/Perinatal). “Nulliparous Inductions, Hyperstimulation, and Spontaneous Labor: A Pilot Study” University Hospitals of Cleveland, First Annual Women’s and Children’s Health Care Conference, Shaping the Future of Maternal and Child Health, Cleveland, Ohio, April 21, 2005.

Ann Jacobson, PhD, RN, and Natalie Volkov, RN, BSN, Kent State University, Rodney Myerscough, PhD, Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, Amy Huddleston, PhD, Kirsten DeLambo, PhD, Joseph Varley, MD, Summa Health System Hospitals. “A Qualitative Descriptive Study of the Experience of Total Knee Replacement Surgery” Midwest Nursing Research Society 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 1-4, 2005.

#### *PRESENTATIONS – POSTERS*

Ann Jacobson, PhD, RN, and Natalie Volkov, RN, BSN, Kent State University, Rodney Myerscough, PhD, Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, Amy Huddleston, PhD, Kirsten DeLambo, PhD, Joseph Varley, MD, Summa Health System Hospitals. “A Qualitative Descriptive Study of the Experience of Total Knee Replacement Surgery” KSU Celebration of Scholarship Day, Kent, Ohio, April 4, 2005.

James Rosneck, BSN, RN, MS, Donna Waechter, PhD, Isadore Newman, PhD, Richard Josephson, MD. Cardiovascular Health and Rehabilitation Institute Summa Health System Hospitals Health System and University of Akron. “Adult Interactive Instructional Methods in the Achievement of Risk Factor Learning Outcomes” 11<sup>th</sup> Annual National Symposium of the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association, April, 2005. Jim was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place for research at the National Symposium.

Dwayne Tepus, RN, BSN and Sandy Cox, RN, BSN (Emergency Department). “The Effectiveness of Chloraprep in the Reduction of Blood Culture Contamination Rates in the Emergency Department” Emergency Nurses Association Leadership Challenge 2005 Conference Fort Lauderdale, Florida, March 10-13, 2005.

#### *INVITED TALKS/CLASSES*

Cathy Koppelman, MSN, RN was invited to speak at the Graduate Convocation at Kent State University College of Nursing for the Masters, Post-Masters and PhD graduates, May 12, 2005.

Carol Kridler, MSN, RN, CCRN, SANE-A (DOVE Program/Staff Development). “On the Wings of DOVE” Stark-Carroll Chapter, ONA. Alliance Community Hospital, April 9, 2005.

Nancy McManus, BSN, M.Ed, RN, BC, CGRS (Staff Development). “Grief Recovery Outreach Program” Pontifex Wellnes Center, Fremont, Ohio, January 10-March 28, 2005.

## 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.



# Sigma Theta Tau International



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