



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



Winter 2009

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Members of Delta Omega,

It's exciting to finally see some of the snow melt and have temperatures above 30 degrees. Spring really is around the corner and as always Delta Omega has big plans for 2009. I opened mail last week from International to find a letter regarding an exciting time in the history of our chapter. In 2010, Delta Omega will celebrate its 30th anniversary as a chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. I look forward to working with the Board to commemorate this milestone. This year, the Chapter will submit for their 9th Chapter Key Award. Information has been provided in this newsletter regarding ways you can contribute to this award. We need information from you to make this happen. We also have two programs planned. One will be held on March 5, 2009 and the other will be held on May 18, 2009. The annual business meeting will be conducted at the May 18th event. I encourage everyone to attend the April 18, 2009 Induction Ceremony at the Martin Center on the University of Akron Campus. Induction is a wonderful celebration of newly inducted members and an opportunity to honor current members with awards at the Chapter and International levels.



Many thanks to everyone who participated in the OPEN-M Adopt a Family Christmas Program and serving hot lunch at OPEN-M in January. We are blessed to have such caring and active participants in our organization. The Board continues to work hard and proves it with all of the great things we've accomplished. We continue to work on ideas for

Global Health and actually had three promising ideas at our last board meeting. I encourage you to consider a mentorship opportunity or seek election for an open position on the Board. Wanda Franklin, Leadership Succession Chair is currently developing a mentorship program that should be ready for implementation in a couple of months. In May, we will have elections for open positions on the Board please let Wanda know if you are interested in serving. You may contact her at wjf5@uakron.edu

I encourage you to participate in at least one activity we have whether it be a service project, mentoring opportunity, educational offering or attending a Board Meeting. Make the most of your membership! If you have ideas for service projects or programming please let the Board know. This is your chapter and we want to find ways to make your membership beneficial. I look forward to hearing your ideas and seeing you at an upcoming chapter event.

Many Blessings,

Dina

Dina Dornack
President, Delta Omega Chapter, STTI



Help Chapter Win 9th Chapter Key Award from International

Members of the Board have started work on our submission for the Chapter Key Award. This award recognizes chapter excellence in the categories of leadership, knowledge, service, community, and sustainability. The Chapter Key Award is given at each biennial convention to those chapters that have a minimum of 54 points on the nomination form. Seventy-three points is the total amount possible. We are one of two chapters that have been awarded eight previous Chapter Key Awards. The criteria have changed some this biennium and we need your help. Information requested is for the

time period of **July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2009**. Please let us know if you have done any of the following:

- ❖ Member presents at **national or international professional nursing** meeting, conference or forum.
(Need name of meeting, title of presentation And date presented)
- ❖ Member presents at **interdisciplinary professional** meetings, conferences or forum.
(Need name of meeting, title of presentation and date presented)
- ❖ Provide at least one program/activity/project focused on increasing community awareness of health promotion and prevention of illness. Examples include: participate in local health fair, share information with elementary/high school students.
(Need name and nature of activity with date presented)
- ❖ Provide expertise or consultation to the community. Example: Educate seniors on how to complete the Medicare drug card application.
(Need name and nature of activity with date Presented)
- ❖ Collaborate at the local level for health promotion and/or prevention of illness projects with community partners. Examples include: volunteer at special Olympics event, cough etiquette kits for local shelter, collaborate with other health care organizations on specific issue.
(Need who collaboration was with and what was done with date of activity if applicable)

Information can be submitted to President-Elect, Barb Brunt bruntb@summa-health.org or President, Dina Dornack ddornack@sbcglobal.net by **April 1, 2009**. Winning this award is a great honor for the chapter membership and we appreciate your assistance in attaining this award.

I also encourage you to check out the Global Communities and Volunteer Interest Profile (VIPprofile) options that can be found on the STTI website. Global communities give you the

opportunity to network with members that have similar practice interests/backgrounds. Some of the communities include: Chronic Illness Consortium, Clinical Practice Community and the International Writing Collaboration. New communities are being developed in Hospice/Palliative Care and Community/Public Health Nursing. Please check it out at

<http://www.nursingsociety.org/communities/communities/Pages/index.aspx> To complete a Volunteer Interest Profile visit <http://www.nursingsociety.org/VolunteerConnect/Pages/Default.aspx>

Community Corner

OPEN-M Adopt a Family Christmas Program



Many thanks to our membership for helping a family of nine this year have a better holiday season. The chapter received \$400

in donations from the membership and another \$150 was donated by the chapter to purchase a grocery card and gifts for the family members. We also had a great time wrapping and sorting gifts at OPEN-M on December 9, 2008. Again many thanks to the following members: Barb Brunt, Jackie Guhde, Kim Young, Joyce Burton, Lori Kidd, Aileen Niehaus, Joe Foley, Peg DiMarco, Margie Ford (Administrative Assistant) and her girls; Meghan and Ashley, Phyllis Fitzgerald, Mary Yeager, Dina Dornack, Linda Breedlove, Mary Franklin, Marlene Huff, and Kathy Horning.



Lunch Is Served!!! Hot Lunch at OPEN-M

On January 23, 2009 both students and members of the chapter served 138 plates at Opportunity Parish Ecumenical Neighborhood Ministry (OPEN-M) in Akron. This is our fourth year serving lunch to the OPEN-M community and our taco salad has become a big hit. We've also become quit efficient – must be the nurses in us! Much fun was had by all. Please plan to join us next year. Thanks to the following members and students for volunteering: Joan Baumgardner, Linda Breedlove, Barb Brunt, Char Channon (student), Dina Dornack, Joe Foley, Jackie Guhde, Greer Kabb-Langkamp, Lori Kidd, Carolyn Schooley (student/member), Linda Shanks, Doris Singer (student/member), Tony Suncire, Carolyn Sutter

Local News

As the 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:
University of Akron

I currently have listed the following reporters:

Akron General	Judy Joseph
Barberton Citizens Hospital	Marie Ghadiri
Children's Medical Center of Akron	Anne Marie Brown
Robinson Memorial	Jan Balhe
Summa Health System	Barb Brunt
University of Akron	Mary Helen Kriedler

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

News from University of Akron College of Nursing

Dr. Sheau Chiu and Dr. Marguerite DiMarco-Sheau received funding from Sigma for their research project. "A Pilot Study Comparing Two Developmental Screening Tools for Use with Homeless Children" has been accepted for publication in *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*. It was presented at MNRS.

News from Summa Health System

Reporter: Barb Brunt

News from Summa Health System
Submitted by Barb Brunt
January, 2009

Lorraine Fields, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNRN, CCNS has an article on "Oral Care Intervention to Reduce Incidence of Ventilator-associated Pneumonia in the Neurologic Intensive Care Unit" published in the *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*. She also had an article on "Laurie's Story: The Tale of a Nurse with a TBI" in the AANN Synapse e-news in January of 2009. The article she wrote on "DNR Does not Mean No Care" earlier this year was one of the top ten articles read by nurses in *Medscape* in 2008.

Jan Weinhardt, MSN, RN, Sue Hazelett, MSN, RN, Dawn Barrett, CCC/SLP, Robert Lada, MD, Trish Enos, BSN, RN, and Rick Keleman, RN had an article on "Accuracy of a Bedside Dysphagia Screening: A Comparison of Registered Nurses and Speech Therapists" published in the November/December issues of *Rehabilitation Nursing*.

Marie Cobb, MSN, RNC, BCLC did a presentation on "Skills Needed for Students in the OB Rotation" at the American Academy of Colleges of Nursing annual convention in San Antonio on December 5, 2008. She also was recently appointed by Ted Strickland for a three-year term on Ohio's "Maternal Newborn Advisory Council," where she will be representing the lactation consultants for the state.

Lynn Benedict, MSN, RN did a presentation on Preventing Constipation, Urinary Retention and Skin Breakdown in Elderly Patients" at the Northeast Ohio College of Pharmacy in Rootstown on November 14, 2008.

Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, CNS, Susan Hazelett, MS, RN, Lyn Benedict, MSN, RN, CNS and others presented a poster session on "Nurses' Satisfaction with Delirium Prevention Protocols" at the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nursing convention in Nashville in October, 2008.

Brenda Spear, MSN, RN, CNS, Peggy Kuhar, MSN, RN, CCRN, Jane Tapp, MSN, RN-BC Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, CNS, and Denise Kropp, BS, BSEd had a poster on "Exploring Nurses' Practice regarding Pain and Pain Management at the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nursing convention in Nashville in October, 2008. Jane Tapp, MSN, RN-BC also had a poster on "Measuring the Anti-fat Attitudes of Hospital Staff" at the Med/Surg Convention.

Jody Padrutt, MSN, RN, CDE, & Jane Tapp, MSN, RN-BC presented a poster on Assessing the Nurses' Actual and Perceived Knowledge of Diabetes

Management Before and After Implementation of an Educational Intervention: Preliminary Results at the Academy of Medical Surgical Nursing Convention in Nashville.

Aileen Jencius, MLIS, Susan Hazelett, MS, RN, Carolyn Holder, MSN, RN, CNS, Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, CNS, and others presented a session on “Perceived Needs of Healthcare Workers Who Serve as Informal Caregivers to Older Adults” at the Gerontological Society of American Annual Scientific Meeting in Maryland in November of 2008.

Lorraine Fields, MSN, CCRN, CNRN, CCNS presented a session on “Neuroassessment and Stroke Syndromes” at the Stroke Care Conference in Cleveland on September 24, 2008 and also presented a session on “BioEthics in Neuroscience” at the Cleveland Clinic Annual Innovations in Neuroscience Nursing Conference in Cleveland on November 6, 2008.

Carolyn Holder, MSN, RN presented a “Case Study: Management of Delirious Patient on an ACE Unit, Confusion about Confusion: What is Delirium and What Should You Do about It at an Interdisciplinary Conference at the University of Akron on September 12, 2008. She also presented the “Inter-professional Management of Geriatric Patients” at the Northeast Ohio Universities College of Pharmacy on November 7, 2008.

Brenda Kovacik, BSN, RN CCRN presented “Acute Coronary Syndrome” at the Preventative Cardiovascular Nurses Association program in Cleveland on November 1, 2008.

Lorraine Fields, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNRN, CCNS received the AACN Recruiter of the Year award. She was also elected to Director at Large of the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses National board.

Call for Award Nominations Deadline: March 18, 2009

Each year, Delta Omega Chapter honors outstanding nurses by granting awards in several categories. This process depends upon members nominating their peers. You know the nurses who are performing well in your area. The Chapter would like for you to step forward and nominate them. **The awards and the criteria are listed below.** You may submit the nomination on line through <http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/RecognitionAwards.htm>. or you may **mail them to: Rose Beeson, The University of Akron College of Nursing, Akron, OH 44321.**

Purpose of the awards is to recognize outstanding nurses whose contributions to nursing fulfill the goals of Sigma Theta Tau International.

General Criteria

1. Sigma Theta Tau members submit nominations for the awards.
2. Academic excellence defined as a G.P.A. of 3.0 or above when students are involved.
3. Support for the Sigma Theta Tau member’s nomination may come from peer, faculty, nursing or community leaders.
4. Awards will be issued at the discretion of the committee.

Types of Awards and Criteria

1. **Excellence in Nursing Leadership**
 - a. Receives local, national and/or international recognition as a nursing leader in education, practice, administration and/or research.
 - b. Influences leadership in nursing through visionary and innovative approaches to leadership.
 - c. Creates an environment that enhances the image of nursing and nurses.
 - d. Participates in the development of nursing leaders.
2. **Excellence in Nursing Practice**

- a. Demonstrates knowledge in area of clinical nursing practice.
- b. Develops creative approaches to nursing practice that contribute to quality client care.
- c. Possesses the clinical expertise and the attributes of a clinical scholar.
- d. Advances the scope and practice of nursing.
- e. Serves as mentor/preceptor that inspires peers' practice of nursing.
- f. Influences the practice of nursing through communication.
- g. Enhances the image of nursing through one's nursing practice.
- h. Participates in community affairs, legislation, or organizations that affect nursing practice.

3. Excellence in Nursing Education

- a. Demonstrates excellence in teaching as evidenced by student and peer evaluations.
- b. Advances the science of nursing through clarifying, refining and/or expanding nursing's knowledge base.
- c. Promotes a theory/research base for nursing curricula and nursing practice.
- d. Influences scholarly development in nursing education, practice, and/or research through teaching.
- e. Influences the professional practice of nursing and the public's image of nursing through excellence in teaching.

4. Excellence in Nursing Research

- a. Conducts scholarly research in nursing, according to research guidelines for Sigma Theta Tau.
- b. Communicates nursing research findings to the nursing community, including journal citations and/or presentations.
- c. Contributes significantly to the body of nursing knowledge through research.

5. Excellence in the Utilization of Nursing Research

- a. Applies nursing research findings in administration, education, or clinical practice.
- b. Documents utilization of nursing research.
- c. Evaluates utilization of nursing research.

6. Excellence in Nurse Mentoring

- a. Actively shapes and promotes the development of the career of a nurse, Sigma Theta Tau member, a chapter leader and/or an individual chapter leader, as evidenced through letters of support from persons being mentored.
- b. Freely shares own resources for the growth and development of a nurse.
- c. Maintains the mentoring relationship over time.

7. Outstanding Nursing Undergraduate or Graduate Student Performance

- a. Demonstrates excellence in areas of nursing practice, academic achievement, and research or leadership activities.
- b. Presents self as a student who seeks and enjoys the search for knowledge.

Research Corner

Deadlines set for Delta Omega Research Grant Applications

Research as one component of scholarship is part of the mission of the Delta Omega Chapter. Historically research proposals have been funded for novice researchers as well as more advanced researchers. This year \$6500 has been allocated to support research projects. The deadline is February

15, 2009. Applications and procedures are on the Delta Omega Chapter website which can be found at <http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/Grants.htm>. Any additional questions please contact Rose Beeson, Research Grants and Recognition Chair @ beeson@uakron.edu.

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

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

Upcoming Delta Omega Meetings

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

Upcoming Events and Notices

Call for Abstracts

Call for poster abstracts for the 5th Annual Cleveland Clinic Nurses Research Conference “Growing in Research & Evidence-Based Practice” on May 7, 2009 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio. Abstracts will be accepted for completed research studies conducted by nurses or in collaboration with nurse investigators. Deadline for abstracts is February 15, 2009. Presenters will be notified by March 15 and must register for conference.

Save the Dates

March 5, 2009	“Community Outreach & Service Information Session” Akron Children’s Hospital Considine Auditorium 6pm-8pm with dinner 5:30pm Registration
March 20, 2009	Great Lakes SUNA 6 th annual conference (STTI – Rho chapter and Society of Urology Nurses & Assoc) www.glsuna.com
March 27-28, 2009	Leadership Summit University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA Registration Deadline March 12, 2009
April 18, 2009	Induction Ceremony Martin Center
May 18, 2009	Spring Program – Business Meeting 5:30pm-8:00pm
July 13-17, 2009	International Nursing Research Congress Focusing on Evidence-Based Practice Cancun, Mexico Early Registration Deadline: May 6, 2009
Oct 31 - Nov 4, 2009	40 th Biennial Convention Indianapolis, IN
April 16-17, 2010	Region 10 Combined Conference “Nursing Leadership for the Future” Four Point Sheraton Ann Arbor, MI

Mentoring

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

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 under Campaigns in the Membership section.

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

