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mideastregion.org

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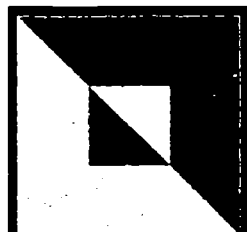
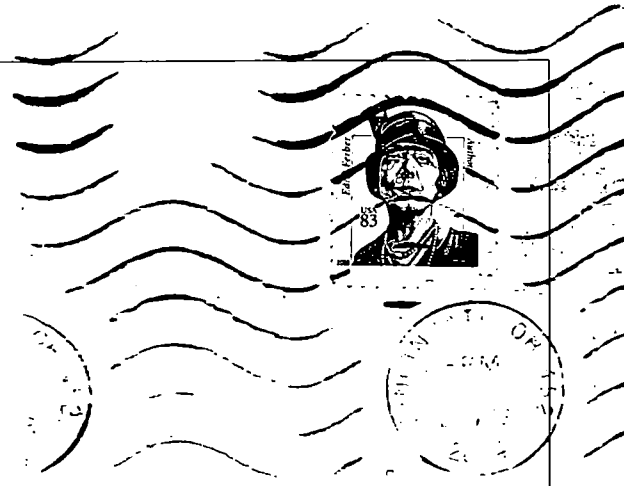
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MID-EAS DROPPER

A publication serving the Mid-East Enterostomal Therapy Nursing Profession in
Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia

A Message from Our President

Dear Mid-East Region Members,

The fall conference in West Virginia was a success. Many thanks to the West Virginia WOC Nurses for their efforts to show off their town. March is here already and June is very near so consider attending the WOCN national convention in Tampa, Florida. We will have a Mid-East Region membership meeting on Sunday evening. It is always well attended and your Board is looking forward to sharing our activities of the year with you.

Our region is very excited to announce the beginning of a new award. You asked for more money to be invested in the activities of our members. Well, a task force is working on criteria for an award to be given to a Mid-East member who presents a poster at the national WOCN conference. The purpose of the award is to assist individual members who independently present a poster. The hope is for more members to present posters independent of industry sponsors. Come to the membership meeting in Tampa to learn more about this great new opportunity.

We have another new award program that is forming to recognize the efforts of our members. Traditionally, the ET Nurse of the Year award presented at the fall conference has been a wonderful chance to recognize the outstanding nurses in our region. A task force is developing criteria for several exciting new titles like professional educator of the year, patient education award, mentorship award, industry representative/clinical representative, and lifetime achievement award. We will have more ways to highlight the many accomplishments of our region. There is a great deal of work yet to be done. If you have ideas to offer please contact Rita Pochard who is chairing this effort.

Last June at our membership meeting many in attendance voiced their wish to spend some of savings to better ET nursing in our region. I hope you are thinking of ideas and plans that will be helpful. Please contact any board member to share your ideas. We are here to serve you and assist in making your dreams take shape.

Now, make those plans for Tampa in June and begin planning for warm weather. It's almost here!

Terri Ross

Inside this issue:

Officers and Committee 2
Chairs Roster

Around the region 3

Meeting minutes 4-6

Conference Info 10

Getting to know you 12

• Also in this issue:

• Research and Scholarship Applications

• ET Nurse of the Year forms

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| | | | |
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Parliamentarian
 Glenna Altizer
 (See Government Affairs)

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APPLICATION FORM FOR RESEARCH FUNDS

Name: _____

Present Address: _____

Telephone: Number: _____

Educational Background:

| Institution & Location | Inclusive Dates of Attendance | Diploma, Degree | Major |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Experience Record (last two positions):

| Title of Position | Employer Name & Address | Inclusive Date |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Starting Date of Research Project: _____ Completion Date of Project: _____

Title of Research Project: _____

Date of Approval from Human Subjects Committee: _____

(If neither exempt nor yet approved, please add a separate page discussing potential risks and benefits associated with the research and proposed safeguards.)

Discuss how the funding will be spent.

In no more than two typed pages, describe the purpose, background and methodology of the study.

RESEARCH GRANT AGREEMENT

If my request is approved by the Mid-East Region Research Committee, I agree:

1. To use the money as described in the application and return any unused funds to the Treasurer.
2. When the study is completed, submit receipt(s) for the money spent and an abstract of the study to the chairperson of the Research Committee.
3. When the research is published or presented, appropriate recognition of funding source (Mid-East Region, WOCNS) will be given.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Title of Project: _____

Project Beginning Date: _____ Project Completion Date: _____

• **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

Congratulations to Cecelia Krusling for being chosen as our NIWI Scholarship recipient for 2004. She will attend the Washington conference with our President-Elect Carolyn Smith. Pam Baker from Kentucky was awarded a scholarship to attend by the National WOCN. Congratulations to all and we look forward to your reports at the membership meeting at conference in June.



Glenna Altizer

• **PUBLICATION**

This is the first issue of our last year publishing three issues of the Dropper. It was decided at the membership meeting in west Virginia that publication would drop to two issues per year, due in part to our ability to communicate quickly with members by email, and also to the availability of lots of information on our website and also on the WOCN website.

This issue is overdue to you, due to two successive bouts of bronchitis suffered by your editor, as well as significant workload increases. You have my sincere apologies. The next issue should reach you in late May, in time for you to take with you to the National Conference in Tampa.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION TO THE NEXT ISSUE IS APRIL 30.

Rita Pochard, Publications Chair

GETTING TOGETHER IN CINCY!

The Greater Cincinnati ET Nurses continue to meet on a regular basis for education, networking, and enjoyment. Regular meeting features include UOA updates, introduction of new WOC/ET nurses in the area, sharing, problem-solving, and troubleshooting. Officers are Cecelia Krusling, Kathy Lauer, Dorothy Benz, and Terri Ross.

On January 14, the group met at Christ Hospital and Margie Dreffer, CWOCN, presented on probiotics. On March 10, they enjoyed dinner at a restaurant and a vendor presentation.

If you would like to join, please contact Cecelia Krusling at 513-875-3170.

Does your local WOC/ET group meet regularly?

Contact Rita Pochard to have information placed in the Dropper.

ATTENTION!

In the process of changing her address book to a new program, Glenna has lost her Group Address Lists. Please email her at

galtizer@chhi.org

If you would like to be on the MER email list.

**Mideast Region
Advanced Practice Scholarship
Application**

Your application **MUST** contain all requested information or it will not be processed.

DO NOT leave blanks.

A typed application is preferred.

Handwritten applications must be legible.

Submit four (4) identical stapled sets of your application in the following order:

1. Demographic information
2. Copy of acceptance **and** evidence of current class enrollment in graduate program.
3. Copy of completion of ETNEP program.
4. Copy of current certificate of certification from WOCNCB.
5. Proof of WOCN (Mideast Region) membership for one (1) year prior to application.
6. Essay (100 words or less) on How you plan to contribute to WOC(ET) Nursing with this knowledge/degree.

Submission deadlines:

January 30 for June distribution at National WOCN meeting.
June 1 for October distribution at Regional meeting.

Return to: Scholarship Chair Mideast Region

2. ET NURSE OF THE YEAR: CAROLYN SMITH: Announces that Nancy Waltz was runner up for ET Nurse of the Year award (nominated by Dea Kent). The winner of the ET Nurse of the Year 2003 award was Judy Werner (nominated by Lynne Bierbitz).
3. FUNDRAISING: CATHY BLACKWELL: Reported that the silent auction and the raffle raised \$575.01. At national conference, almost a thousand dollars was raised.
4. PR/SUNSHINE: BETH GUDDE: Requested information be forwarded to her concerning persons needing a note of encouragement, sympathy, or congratulations. A card for Sandy Duda was circulated

C. TRUSTEE #3: PATTI BURKE

1. CONFERENCE PLANNING: PATTI BURKE: Thanked the West Virginia committee for the excellent conference.
 - a. FALL 2004: COLUMBUS, OHIO—MARY MERRILL: Announced the dates for the 2004 Columbus conference to be September 30—October 2, 2004.
 - b. CONFERENCE BINDER: PATTI BURKE: Announced that the conference binder had been revised and placed on disc for use by the planning committees.
 - c. INDIANA 2005: Planned for October 6,7,8 at University Plaza.
 - d. KENTUCKY 2005.
2. SCHOLARSHIP: CAROLYN SMITH: Announced Dea Kent as winner of the advanced practice scholarship this year. Mary Arnold moved that two Advanced Practice Scholarships be awarded in the fall for the amount of \$1000 each, one time only per person per degree. Cathy Blackwell seconded the motion. Motion passed Barb Metzger will take over as scholarship chairperson.
3. EXCELLENCE IN WRITING: SARAH DAVIS: Announced that 2 articles were submitted. Paula Erwin-Toth received an award for her article, and first place winner was Joy Pittman. Dea Kent will take over as Excellence in Writing chairperson.

D. TRUSTEE #4 BETTY WINN

1. OPERATIONS MANUAL: CAROLYN SMITH: Operations manual was revised and given to board members on disc. Members can request a copy from Carolyn Smith.
2. BYLAWS: GLENNA ALTIZER—no report.
3. NOMINATIONS: BETTY WINN:
 - a. ELECTION RESULTS: There were 317 ballots mailed, 119 returned. For Treasurer, Cecelia Krusling received 112 votes. For Trustee #1, Lisa Kirk received 109 votes. For Trustee #3, Patti Burke received 72 votes. Lisa Kirk made the motion to destroy the ballots. Joan Sewickley seconded. Motion passed.
4. HISTORIAN: JOY PITTMAN—Has been taking pictures. Plans to send an article to national about the MidEast region

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. AWARDS FOR MER MEMBERS RECOGNITION: RITA POCHARD: Task force will meet (includes Sandy Duda and Marilyn Whitehead) and present proposal in the spring for multiple member awards. Some awards being considered were "professional educator of the year", "patient educator of the year", "mentoring award" "partners in industry", and "lifetime achievement award".
- B. BUDGET APPROVAL: CECELIA KRUSLING: Moved that the 2004 budget be approved as amended to allow for the advanced practice scholarships of \$1000 each. Seconded by Beth Gudde. Motion approved

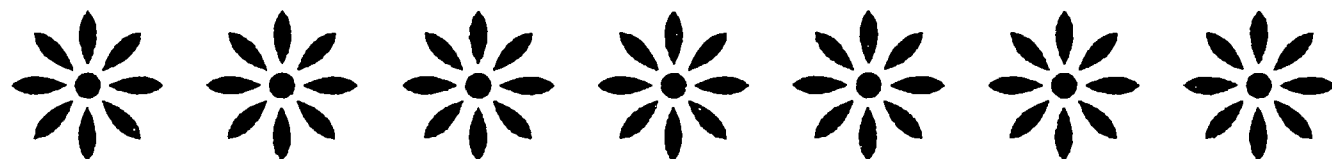
IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. NEW AWARD FOR NATIONAL WOCN POSTER PRESENTATION: MARY ARNOLD: Presented proposal that a fund be established to support poster presentations that are not supported by industry. Pat Gallagher, Lisa Kirk, Allyn Davies, Cecelia Krusling and Mary Arnold will establish criteria to present at next membership meeting. Comments about funding poster presentations can be sent to Mary Arnold at marnold@cinci.rr.com. This item will fall under Research committee
- B. NATIONAL WOCN RE-INCORPORATION-BYLAWS CHANGE: JO CATANZARO: Reported on the need for members to vote for the merger of the WOCN in the state of California with the WOCN in the state of Illinois. Two thirds of 25% of the membership must respond to the vote for it to pass. The ballot will be mailed

out on November 7 and needs to be returned by December 15, 2003.
Jo Catanzaro was presented with a thank-you gift.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: CAROLYN SMITH: barb Metzger moved that the meeting be adjourned, Betty Winn seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Roberts, Secretary



2003 Regional Conference

The beautiful fall colors of Charleston, West Virginia greeted us as we arrived for the 2003 MidEast Regional Conference: Innovative Approaches For Wound Healing. Over 100 attendees came to learn the latest in wound care and hear an ostomate's perspective on his surgery and living with an ostomy.

Thank you to the Conference Planning Committee for putting together an informative conference. As always, conference is a great learning experience and a wonderful time to network and visit with colleagues and friends.

The 2004 regional Conference will be here before we know it. Mary Merrill and the Columbus Conference Planning Committee are working hard to provide the MidEast Region with a learning experience that will include lectures on wound, ostomy, and continence care. Dates to remember:

September 30—October 2, 2004
Columbus Marriott Northwest
Columbus, Ohio

We look forward to seeing everyone in Ohio!

**A
CARD
OF
THANKS**

I would like to thank Carolyn Smith, Scholarship Chair, and Sarah Davis, Excellence in Writing Chair for all their hard work. Both Carolyn and Sarah have stepped down as chairs after many years of service. Their efforts have helped build a stronger foundation for these committees.

Our new chairs will be:

Excellence in Writing
Scholarship

Dea Kent
Barb Metzger

Patti Burke, Trustee #3

MidEast Region ET Nurse of the Year

The MidEast Region provides a mechanism for recognizing outstanding WOC (ET) Nurses within the region. Why not nominate an ET Nurse friend/colleague for the MER ET Nurse of the Year?

Nominations should be sent to: Carolyn Smith
3917 S. Houck
Marion, IN 46953

Nomination deadline is September 1, 2004. The award will be presented at the MidEast Regional Conference in Columbus in October.

Prerequisites:

Nominee must be a member of the MidEast Region of WOCN for a minimum of 2 years.

Nominee must attend at least one WOCN meeting per year (MER or National Conference).

Nominee must be board certified in ET(WOC) Nursing.

Briefly describe the nominee's qualifications for the award and provide examples based on the following criteria (nominee must meet 80% of criteria):

1. Demonstrates excellence in the full scope of ET(WOC) Nursing.
2. Devotes at least 50% of professional practice to providing direct care to patients with dermal ulcers, stomas, wounds, and incontinence.
3. Shares knowledge by providing professional and community education via one on one education, seminars and symposiums.
4. Promotes the specialty of ET Nursing by actively participating in professional, political, and/or community organizations.
5. Actively promotes the growth and development of ET Nursing by providing peer support, preceptoring, and recruitment.

Outstanding ET Nurse Award Application

Attach description of qualifications on separate page, please.

Nominee:

Name _____
Address _____

Agency _____
Position _____

Submitted By:

Name _____
Address _____

Agency _____
Position _____
Day Phone _____
Evening Phone _____

(continued from previous page)

Currently Patti is Trustee #3 for MER. She is responsible for the Conference Planning, Scholarship, and Excellence in Writing Committees. She feels that the MER is a great region, and she really enjoys working with the other members of the region on MER business. Patti is also the Co-Chair of the PGP Committee for the WOCNCB. Needless to say, Patti has recertified by PGP, and highly recommends it to everyone.

Patti and her husband, Tom have been married for five years. They have two children, Sean, 4 years old, and Cara, 3 years old. Patti says that Sean and Cara keep she and Tom busy, and that there never is a dull moment. When she has spare time, Patti likes to lay on the couch and read a good, and preferably non-medical, book.

Mikel Gray is one of Patti's nursing heroes. She says that his knowledge of incontinence care and research is truly inspiring. Patti adds, "I don't think we have to look far to find those who inspire us to do better or enhance our practice. I've had the opportunity to meet and work with some incredible ETNs who have encouraged, inspired, and taught me a lot of things.

Carolyn Smith, Indiana

Carolyn Smith is the current President-Elect for MER. Read on to get to know her in her own words!

I started my nursing career as an LPN in 1979. I graduated from the Marion Community School of Practical Nursing in 1979, Indiana University at Kokomo in 1988 with my AD, and 1993 with my BSN. I have been employed at Marion General Hospital since 1979, and my primary background is med/surg and ICU, before I took the ET job over in 1994, when Fran Demo left. I attended ET school in Cleveland at the R.B. Turnbull School of Enterostomal Therapy, graduating in December, 1994. I received my certification in June 1995 and am working on recertification by PGP for 2005.

I have been active in the MER almost since the beginning. I am currently President-Elect, which is a four-year commitment, and have held the offices of Trustee and Scholarship Chair. I also have been Conference Chair for Indiana Regional Conference, and have that role again for 2005. I also was the secretary for the Indiana Regional Conference for 1995.

I was motivated to seek office by Fran Demo throwing my name in for Secretary for the Regional conference. She and Kelly Jaszowski taught me that if you have strong opinions (and you know we all do), you need to be a constructive voice and support your organization. In addition to my MER involvement, I am a member of Sigma Theta Tau, and on the Magnet Steering Committee for Marion General Hospital.

Lastly, nursing is not what I do, it's who I am. WOC/ET nursing has given me the opportunity to feel I help make a difference, and in the end, that's what it's all about...standing up and being counted.

EXCELLENCE IN WRITING

The Excellence in Writing Award is designed to stimulate scholarly writing by the members of the Mid-East Region of the WOCN. An honorarium of two (2) \$200 awards will be awarded to the author(s) of a manuscript that makes a significant contribution to the sphere of WOC Nursing. The award(s) will be made at the 2004 Fall Conference for the region. The following guidelines apply to the award:

1. The author(s) must be a member of the Mid-East Region of the WOCN.
2. Manuscripts must be 500 words or more.
3. Manuscripts must be related to the specialty of WOC Nursing practice, and the focus can be from an educational, clinical, administrative, economic, research, or legislative point of view.
4. Manuscripts must have been submitted for publication between September 16, 2003 and September 15, 2004, in order to be considered for the 2004 award(s).
5. The committee chairperson must receive manuscript submissions by September 15, 2004, to be considered for the 2004 award(s). Manuscripts received after this date will be considered for the 2005 award(s).
6. The manuscripts will be subject to blind review by the Excellence in Writing Committee. The Committee will make final decisions on award(s).

Manuscripts should be sent directly to:

Dea Kent
PO Box 386
Sharpville, IN 46068

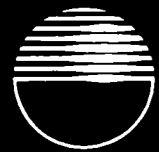
All manuscripts received by the chairperson will be acknowledged.

So why should YOU submit your article?

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2. We want to learn from YOU!!

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Happy Writing!!





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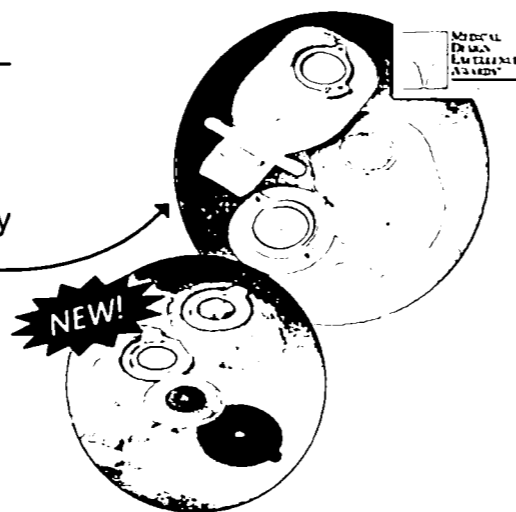
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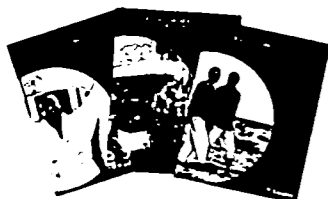
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dates. The job has been easy because we have such a strong board and membership. Terri recertified by PGP in 1999, and thought it was a great experience—she even got audited! She feels that testing is unpredictable and is considered entry level. She advocates PGP, and says several of the Cincinnati ERT Nurses have a slogan, "I'll never take that &*&! Test again!"

On a more personal level, Terri has been married for nine years, and lives in Cincinnati. She works at The Christ Hospital. Terri and her husband have a 4-year-old son, Kyle, whom they adopted from Russia. She likes to golf, read, garden, and cook.

Shar Kennedy, Michigan

Shar Kennedy has been a nurse for 33 years. She worked on a surgical step-down unit, and a surgical oncology unit before becoming an ET in 1982. Shar currently works in a trauma center in Flint, and also runs an outpatient ostomy and wound clinic. She also holds an MSN with a Family Nurse Practitioner certification.

She has been active in MER for many years, holding a variety of offices. She has been a Director, and has served as treasurer three different times. She has also been chair of the membership committee. She served as Conference Chair of the 1997 and 2002 MER conferences that were held in Frankenmuth, MI. Both of these conferences were the most attended to that point of any MER conference, and 2002 was also the largest attendance of any region. MER was able to make more money than ever before in our history, and she is very proud of that. Shar is also active in the Michigan NP group.

She has been married for 33 years to a wonderful man, Alec. They have two grown children, Jacob, 27, who is married and has a beautiful 20-month-old son. Jacob's family lives 1.2 miles from grandma, easy distance for spoiling. Jodi is 24 and works for the city of Battle Creek. In her spare time, Shar enjoys gardening, working in her home (they are remodeling), and especially loves going to the family cabin in northern Michigan. The family enjoys snowmobiling, and Shar loves to travel and read a good book whenever she gets the chance.

Says Shar, "I believe that the WOCN profession is one of the best groups of nurses I have ever met in my life. The dedication and caring above and beyond the norm is outstanding. I also believe the best of the best and the cream of the crop is found in our own MidEast region. I am honored to be part of such a prestigious and dedicated group of professionals".

Patti Burke, Kentucky

Patti Burke graduated in 1983 with her BSN from the University of Cincinnati, and attended the Cleveland Clinic ET School. She has been an ET for eight years. She spent five years on a cardiac step-down unit, where she dealt with many elderly people, and saw her fair share of wounds. Then she entered industry and was in sales and product management for companies that sold wound, ostomy, and/or continence products. It was then that she found she enjoyed WOC care and wanted to be an ET. When she was provided the opportunity to go to ET school, she jumped at the chance. She keeps busy doing consulting in industry as a clinical educator, works for an LTAC, and works one day a week at the Christ Hospital in Cincinnati.



Getting to know you...

In this issue, we have the pleasure of getting to know five nurses, one from each state in the Mid East Region. I hope you enjoy getting to know them as much as I have. *Dea Kent*

Glenna Altizer, West Virginia

In her own words...

I began my nursing career when I graduated from St. Mary's School of Nursing Diploma Program in Huntington, WV in 1976. I later went to Marshall University in Huntington where I obtained a BA degree in Communications in 1980, and a BSN in 1986. I got my MSN from Bellarmine College in Louisville in 1996. I became a WOCN in 1982, and attended the now closed Harrisburg Hospital ET Nursing Program in Harrisburg PA. I currently work in a split job at Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington, WV. Half of my job is as a WOC nurse and the other half is working in the Education Department, coordinating continuing education and satellite education. I chose WOC nursing because I started out as a Med/Surg nurse, and wanted to move beyond staff nursing. I also love teaching, and my current job fits both!

I am the Parliamentarian and Chair of the Government Affairs and Bylaws Committees for the Mid East Region. I became interested in government Affairs because I have always been a political hound. Ever since I was a little kid, I was a newspaper and news watcher. I have always been interested in the affairs of state. I did attend NIWI (Nurses in Washington Internship—see WOCN website for more information) several years ago, and found the experience exhilarating. It really showed me how to work the system, and how our voices could be heard.

I am married to a legislative attorney, and we have no children. I live on a 16-acre farm with lots of domestic, and not so domestic animals. I like gardening and messing around on the internet. I am a rock music fan and enjoy traveling to concerts. My current favorite bands are Coldplay and Radiohead. My husband and I enjoy traveling whenever we get the opportunity,

Terri Ross, Ohio

Terri Ross is the current president of the MidEast Region. She has been a nurse for 22 years, graduating from the University of Cincinnati with her BSN and also obtained her MSN from there in 1992. She attended the Cleveland Clinic ET school in 1995. She became a Certified Nurse Specialist in Medical-Surgical Nursing in 1997. Terri has worked in pediatrics, home health and in management besides her current job as a CNS. She chose to be a WOC nurse because early in her career she was unhappy as a manager but didn't want to return to staff nursing. On finishing her MSN coursework, she was able to create the position of CNS for Enterostomal Therapy. She says, "It is very satisfying to be able to practice in the full scope of the CNS role. I love patient/family contact and the advanced practice profession. What is most gratifying and makes my day is hearing a new ostomate say, 'It's not so hard, I think I can do this', and then they smile.

Terri has been active with MER for several years, serving as a Trustee, and of course, president-Elect, and now President. She is active with several other nursing organizations including the Cincinnati Area ET Nurses Association, of which she is a past president, Ohio Association of Advance Practice Nurses, the Tristate Assembly of Advanced practice Nurses, the Council of Greater Cincinnati Nurses Organizations, and Sigma Theta Tau. Terri has had many unique opportunities over the years, appearing on TV and in a product video—our own celebrity! I asked Terri what motivated her to be President of MER and she replied. "As a new ET nurse, I remember attending my first MER membership meeting. Many of the officers encouraged members to 'get involved'. I was impressed by the accomplishments of our region and thought I should contribute. When serving as a Trustee, President Judy Werner asked for candi-

Mid-East Region Nurse Researcher Award

The Mid-East Region WOCNS Nurse Researcher Award will honor an individual or group who has completed a nursing research study that has focused on wound, ostomy, or continence care and disseminated the results through presentation or publication. \$300 will be awarded to the recipient.

Criteria:

- The individual or group has completed a nursing research study which has followed appropriate research methods and protection of human rights.
- The research adds to the body of nursing knowledge in regards to ostomy, wound or continence care.
- The findings of the research have been published, submitted for publication, or presented at professional meetings.
- The study may be a funded or unfunded project.
- Investigators doing manufacturer directed and subsidized R&D studies are excluded.

Eligibility Requirements

- Active member of the WOCNS
- Primary investigator on the study.
- Investigators doing manufacturer directed and subsidized R&D studies are excluded

Submit five (5) copies of the entire application to;
The Research Committee Chair

Deadline: August 1

MID-EAST REGION WOCNS NURSE RESEACH AWARD APPLICATION

Nominee Name _____
 Professional Title _____
 Employment Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Home Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone (work/home) _____
 Active Member Mid-East? Yes No
 Title of Research: _____
 Provide Brief Description of Study (No longer than 2 double-spaced pages)
 State purpose, protocols, results, and discussion) _____
 Submission for Publication (list journal & date) _____
 Presentation at professional meeting (please list) _____
 Provide one letter of support.

**COMING SOON
FALL CONFERENCE 2004**

The 2004 annual MidEast Regional WOCN conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio the fall. The conference is entitled "Weaving Your Practice Together". The speakers will cover a variety of topics including bariatrics, incontinence, practice issues, photo documentation, and more. The committed speakers include Courtney Lyder, Michael Dionne, Laurie Rappl, Ben Pierce, Jan O'Dea, and more. There will be a session on Nightmare on ET Street so begin preparing your photos and stories. Our evening entertainment will include a Mystery dinner theater sponsored by Hollister with dinner sponsored by KCI. Plan to attend since Columbus is a great place to visit, a great place to shop, and you will learn a lot at this event. More details will be forthcoming, but the date now: **September 30, October 1, October 2, 2004.** The conference will open at 5 p.m. on Thursday and conclude with lunch and a regional meeting on Saturday. The location is the Columbus Marriott Northwest. Contact person is Mary Merrill @ mdmerrill52@hotmail.com.



SEE YOU THERE!

GREAT QUOTES BY GREAT LADIES

- My second favorite household chore is ironing. My first being, hitting my head on the top bunk until I faint. *-Erma Bombeck-*
- *****
- I'm not going to vacuum 'til Sears makes one you can ride on. *-Roseanne-*
- *****
- Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission. *-Eleanor Roosevelt-*

ALMOST HEAVEN, WEST VIRGINIA—CONFERENCE, 2003



Conference attendees enjoy the chance to network—and to eat!

On the road to Tamarack!



Attendees gain new information at the sessions.

Editor
Rita Pochard
30 Dusk Ct.
Fairfield, OH 45014

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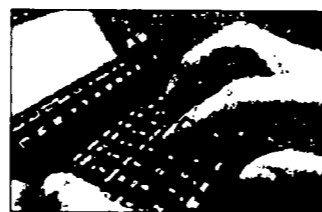
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Your Signature _____



A Message from Our President

Dear MER members,

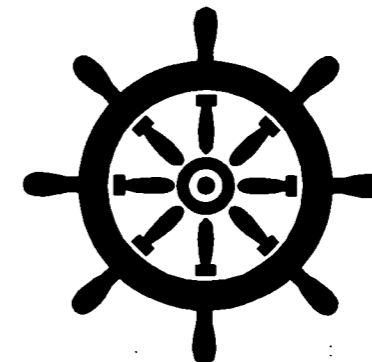
The lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are winding down, and I hope you all had a chance for some R&R. Those of us who went to Tampa for the WOCN Society National Convention had a terrific time. The convention center at the bay front was beautiful and many enjoyed the pretty walks from our hotels. The conference was excellent with great speakers, innovative poster presentations, and lots of networking. I overheard many attendees saying they would like to return to Tampa for future conventions.

The MidEast Region membership meeting on Sunday evening in Tampa had the second highest attendance of all regions! Thanks to all who could be there. We had a great meeting. We collected over \$600.00 for NNGF. First time attendees were welcomed with a long stem rose. The Poster Presentation Award was accepted by vote of membership and is now in place. We are eager to offer some financial support to MidEast nurses who present a poster without industry sponsorship at national conference.

Fall Conference is just around the corner, September 30th in Columbus, Ohio. The planning committee has been working very hard to assure a memorable experience. The content looks impressive. I'm looking forward to hearing the speakers they have arranged.

The membership meeting is planned for Saturday October 2nd. Lunch will be provided. Please plan to stay if possible before heading home. Annual awards will be presented. Recognizing each other's accomplishments is paramount and the warm feeling you get seeing them acknowledged at the meeting is priceless.

See you in Columbus,
Terri Ross
MER President



Inside this issue:

Officers and Committee 2
Chairs Roster

Around the region 3

Meeting minutes 4-6

Conference Info 10

Getting to know you 12

• Also in this issue:

• Research and Scholarship Applications

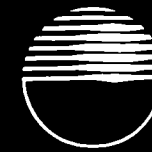
• Conference Photos

PRESIDENT
Terri Ross
12153 Village Woods Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45241
W: (513) 585-0871
H: (513) 769-4090
Email: rossta@healthall.com

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
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Parliamentarian
Glenna Altizer
(See Government Affairs)

Past President
Allyn Davies
(See Trustee #4)



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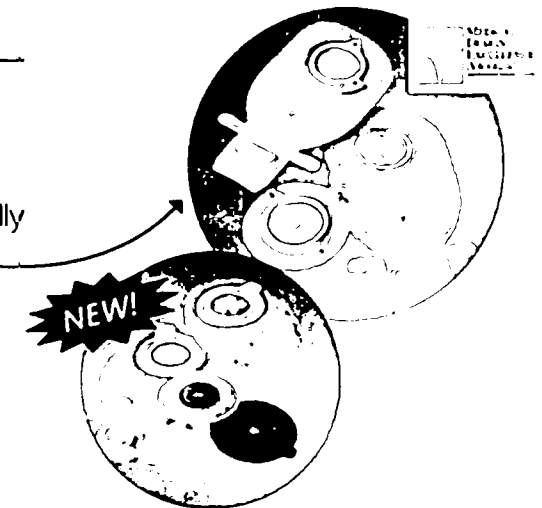
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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

• News From Trustee I

It was wonderful to see many of you at the national conference in Tampa. As always our MidEast Region meeting was well-attended. If any of you know of members who are not getting the Dropper or of anyone who wants to join our region, please let me know.

I want to thank Pat Gallagher for her years of service on the Research committee. She has stepped down and Mary Arnold Long will be taking her place. There is an application in the Dropper for the Research Award so please apply if you are working on a research project.

Sonya Perry has taken over the website and it looks awesome. Be sure to check out the pictures of our Tampa meeting.

As always, Glenna Altizer is keeping us current on our Government Affairs. She is so well versed in this area. We are grateful to Glenna for her hard work.

We have a new award. Allyn Davies is chairing the UOA Youth Rally Counselor Scholarship. If you would like to volunteer as a counselor for the Youth Rally, contact Allyn for details.

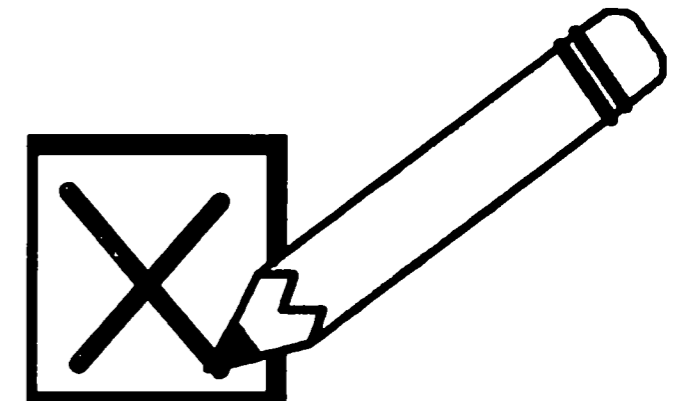
Lisa Kirk Trustee 1

Scholarship

There were no applications submitted for the advanced practice scholarship by the June 1st deadline, so competition is low and opportunity is high! If you are planning to return to school or are already enrolled, remember the MidEast Region has monies available for our WOC nurses as they pursue an advanced degree in nursing. Please see the form in the Dropper or on the website.

Send your application to:

**Barbara Metzger, RN, CWOCN
3155 Ashgrove Pike
Nicholasville, KY 40356-9229**



**Election
Results
At the
MER Business
Meeting
Saturday, October 2
Following the
Fall Conference**

See you there!

find us on the road. My hobbies include gardening (perennials), reading and golf. I try to walk but my intentions are better than my actions. I have started crocheting but the only thing I know how to make is a winter scarf! After a hard day's work, I love to work in my garden. One day a week I play on a golf league.

The accomplishment I am most proud of I think, are my children. They have become a never-ending pleasure for me. They are beautiful, motivated, hard working, and generous. They have become wonderful young women in spite of me.

As far as career and life goals go, I would like to continue my education. After completing the WOC program, I remembered how much I enjoyed school, so now I just keep going bit by bit. I will probably continue toward a DNS or PhD. By the time I am ready to retire, I should be done! Another goal is to publish again. After completing Emory, my goal was to publish within 5 years, I have done that. I think now I would like to delve more into research that is relevant to me as a WOCN and as an NP. I think by continuing my education, I will have the opportunity to do this.

I want to make a difference within the WOCN and the advanced nursing practice field. Nursing has provided me with wonderful opportunities and is a great profession for anyone to enter into. We need to proud of who we are and what we do. No one else does it better! Stand up and make a difference!

PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO THE MIDEAST REGION WOCN RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Background: The MidEast Region currently recognizes an ET Nurse of the Year, as well as selecting a recipient for the Excellence in Writing Award. In addition, an Advanced Practice Scholarship and Research Funds are available. This proposal seeks to extend our recognition to other members and our partners in industry, who are essential to our provision of excellent up-to-date care for our patients.

Proposed: That the MidEast Region WOCN adopt additions to the current recognition program as follows:

Manufacturer's Rep of the Year
Professional Educator of the Year
Patient Educator of the Year
Rising Star of the Year
Lifetime Achievement Award

Specific Requirements

A. Manufacturer's Rep of the Year

1. Works in the territory encompassed by the MER
2. Attends one local or regional ET/WOC meeting per year
3. Is dependable and on time for appointments
4. Responds to email and/or phone inquiries in a timely manner
5. Is respectful of the ET/WOC nurse's position in the facility
6. Able to promote his/her own products in a positive manner, i.e. without negative comments toward competitor products

B. Professional Educator of the Year

1. Certified ET/WOC Nurse and member of the MER
2. Attends one regional meeting per year
3. Provides for education of professional health care providers by at least three of the following:
 - a. Develops and presents formal educational programs for staff at his/her own agency
 - b. Develops a creative or unique method of delivering wound, ostomy, or continence material to staff
 - c. Precepts students from nursing schools, medical residents or interns, ETNEP students
 - d. Lectures to nursing students at an accredited school of nursing on wounds, ostomies, or continence
 - e. Develops and presents formal educational programs to other facilities in the community to advance the knowledge base of other caregivers

C. Patient Educator of the Year

1. Certified CWOCN and member of the MER
2. Attends at least one regional meeting per year
3. Enhances patient education by at least two of the following:
 - a. Develops brochures, pamphlets, videos, etc. for use in patient education

- b. Designs an innovative method to deliver education for patients related to wound, ostomy, or continence issues
- c. Presents at a patient support group for wound, ostomy, or continence
- d. Designs a method to deliver education to a patient with sensory, physical, or cognitive impairment that enhances the patient's quality of life or increases independence of the patient
- e. Provides two exemplars of challenging patient teaching situations with a positive outcome

D. Shining Star of the Year

- 1. Certified CWOCN
- 2. Graduated from an approved WOC program within the last 24 months.
- 3. Demonstrates "shining star" status by at least two of the following:
 - a. Develops and presents a formal educational offering to professional staff
 - b. Designs a poster which is accepted for presentation at a National conference
 - c. Has a manuscript accepted for publication (not related to ETNEP)
 - d. Develops a communication to the community (website, newsletter) to promote awareness of ET/WOC nursing
 - e. Develops and oversees an interdisciplinary team for wound, ostomy, or continence care at Her/his facility
 - f. Establishes or plays a significant role in a patient support group
 - g. Reviews/revises significant procedures/protocols within the agency

E. Lifetime Achievement Award

- 1. Certified CWOCN who is an active member of the MER
- 2. Employed as an ET/WOC nurse at least 20 years
- 3. Holds or has held local, regional, or national WOC office
- 4. At least 50% of work time is spent in direct patient care
- 5. Provides excellent patient care as demonstrated by two letters of support from colleagues, staff, supervisors, and/or patients.
- 6. Demonstrates support of professional colleagues through mentoring or precepting
- 7. Is dedicated to the advance of the ET/WOC profession
- 8. Has participated in and promoted ET/WOC nursing to the extent that no other recognition is sufficient

Questions to consider:

- 1. Can someone who is not certified full scope receive these awards?
- 2. Can someone self-nominate (If we can't blow our own horns, who can?)?
- 3. If adopted, when should they be presented—all in the fall, at national, some at each meeting?
- 4. Should the recognition include a cash award in addition to a plaque? *I would recommend a certification to all who are nominated/apply; then we should decide on an award?*

Getting to know... Joy Pittman

Joy is currently the Historian for the MER. Let's get to know her in her own words:

I have been an RN for 25 years. I have been an ET nurse 5 years. I attended Palm Beach Junior College and received my ASN right out of high school in 1979. I then went to the University of South Florida (Tampa) and received my BSN. I completed the Emory Distance WOC program in 1999. Finally (no, never!) I attended Indiana University and received my MSN in the Adult NP program. Presently, I am in the Northern Kentucky University NP Advancement program to Family NP.

I chose nursing after meeting some young nurses when I was in high school and thought that it would be a good profession. I have never been sorry. I wanted to become an ET nurse many years ago but it was not possible because the programs were too far away. I worked for a general surgeon for a few years and assisted him with surgery and making rounds. He did a lot of abdominal and colon surgeries. I think this is where I learned to enjoy pouching! I enjoyed the challenge of helping someone adapt and making something work. I then met an ET nurse in Jupiter, Florida (20 years ago) and always thought how cool it would be to become an ET nurse. However, I had a young family and husband, and the few programs there were, were far away and not feasible for me at that time in my life. Twenty years later, the opportunity arose through my position in home health. HH was booming and the administration wanted managers to become certified or specialize in different markets. I chose WOC. Best thing I ever did! I wanted to get back to the patient instead of management.

I just completed the PGP recertification process. My advice is to be patient. I think it is a work-in-progress and a whole lot better than re-testing. My advice is to save all of your CEU information, plan for the 3 (wound,ostomy,continence) areas in order to have enough points, look over the various methods of getting points ahead of time, and do not wait to the last minute to submit.

I have been historian for 4 years for MER. I also assisted with the planning committee for the last regional conference in Indiana. I have not held any other positions in MER but I think I would like to. I am a member of CAPNI (Coalition for Advanced Practice Nurses Indiana) and am becoming involved in that organization. I helped on the Abstract Review Committee last year for WOCN national conference. I am looking forward to becoming more involved in that area. This experience gave me an appreciation for the hard work that goes into a poster presentation.

I have been married 23 years to a wonderful man. We have 3 beautiful girls, ages 20, 18, and 16. We have 2 dogs and 1 cat. My sisters and parents live in Florida (where I grew up). My husband's family is in Ohio. So holidays usually

So, now we know Cathy is so much more than the 3 tickets for \$2 or a chance on everything for \$17, or whatever that line is!

Cathy, we appreciate all you do for the region, and thanks for letting us get to know YOU!

Getting to know....Becky Roberts

Becky Roberts from Ohio received her BSN from Alderson-Broaddus College in 1972. In 1975, she earned an MSN from Case Western Reserve University (Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing). Becky has been a nurse for 32 years and a WOC/ET nurse for 21 years. Becky took ET training in Cleveland, Ohio, at the Cleveland Clinic, Rupert B. Turnbull School of Enterostomal Therapy. Becky has wanted to be a nurse since she was in elementary school. She always wanted to be in a service profession. Becky loves the science aspects of nursing. And ET nursing? Becky states, "I love this specialty, especially the teaching aspects. I love being able to help someone accept and live well with a major body change". Well spoken, don't you think?

Currently, Becky is the Secretary for the MER and has been for the last 2 years. In the past, she has also been trustee for 4 years, as well as chairperson for Excellence in Writing for 4 years. Becky is not active in WOCN at a national level, but she says she "just loves to attend conference"! Becky just recertified with exam, but is planning on doing PGP for the next recertification time. Her plan and advice is to check the records frequently (i.e. after each conference, and sort contact hours by category)!

Becky and her husband have been married for 31 years, and her proudest accomplishment is her family. Her oldest daughter, Amy, lives in Seattle. The youngest just graduated from college and lives at home. After a hard day's work, Becky likes to put her feet up and relax! She also likes to prune shrubs (it's very therapeutic!). However, Becky and her husband's newest fun activity is paddling their canoe. It was a surprise 30th anniversary gift from their families, and has opened up a new world of adventure!

We appreciate Becky's work as the Secretary of the MER, and we also appreciate getting to know her!



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2004 Nurse in Washington Internship of NIWI.

By Cecilia A. Krusling, RN, BSN, CWOCN

I wish to thank the Mid East Region of the WOCN for sponsoring my tuition to NIWI 2004. What an exhilarating and educational experience. I wish every member of the Mid East Region would have the opportunity to partake in this adventure.

The program was 3 ½ days of intense learning about how our government works. We heard from speakers who spoke about Linking Practice; Nursing's Sphere of Political Influence; the Role of State Boards of Nursing in State Health Policy; the Role of the Media in Influencing Health Policy and many more topics. It was amazing to listen to nurses who had a dream due to their work experiences, and take action to make their dream come true. You do not have to be a professional speaker to accomplish that dream.

One of the most important things that we as professional nurse need to do is to vote and encourage our fellow nurses to become registered voters and vote. The other important point that I brought home is to let others know that we are nurses. We can be a large lobbying voice if we just become involved.

The highlight of the conference was meeting my Senator and/or their legislative aides. For the most part, I felt that they listened to what I had to offer about the needs of my patients and the nursing shortage. All the preparation to attend and the frustrations of trying to make appointments to meet with my Congressmen or their legislative aides was well worth it. So go out there and VOTE!



Getting to know you....Rita Pochard

Rita is the person who is responsible for getting the MER newsletter, the MidEas Dropper together. What a big job! Read on to get to know more about Rita, in her own words!

I've been a nurse for 23 years and an ET for 10 years. I got my AD in nursing in 1981 and BSN in 1986, both from Miami University. I went to Cleveland for ET school, and took the traditional route of a two month course there. My mom was an LPN, but I don't think that influenced my decision much, because by the time I decided to become a nurse, she was a label clerk for the Post Office. I went to the University of Dayton after high school, convinced I was going to be a French translator. It took a year and half to realize that wouldn't work, but I'd been bitten by the science bug, and switched my major to chemistry. After graduation, I knew I needed more education to do something with it, and I considered environmental studies and nursing. When I chose nursing, I knew I'd made the right decision.

I got to know our ET nurse, Linda Ruter, and when she left the facility for another position, she encouraged me to apply for the position. I can't imagine doing anything else. I love what I do, especially working with ostomy patients.

Right after finishing ET school, I started helping plan the Regional conference because it was being hosted by Cincinnati that year. I started as Publications Chair for MER in 2000, and have been doing that ever since. I think the MER is a terrific organization. My certification is up for renewal this year and I'm preparing to recertify by PGP. I really don't want to have to take the test again! (Writer's note—that is apparently a Cincinnati motto except I think that it's referred to as the @!&#% test!)

I am addicted to "Law and Order", so I love to put my feet up and watch a few reruns after a hard day's work. I love to sing, in my church choir or anywhere else. I read romance novels, because I know that unlike real life there will be a happy ending. I enjoy cross-stitching. I've been in Girl Scouts, as a girl and as an adult, for 39 years. Right now, I'm a trainer for other volunteers and I work on adult recognitions. I've played guitar since I was thirteen (not that I'm any good!). I love lighthouses and dogs and sleeping in on Saturday mornings.

I think being named the ET Nurse of the Year by MER in 2002 is the greatest honor I've had, but the greatest accomplishment I've achieved would be getting my BSN. But, I've got some life and career goals—I'm seriously considering starting on my masters. And I have two dream vacations I'd love to go on: a train trip through the Canadian Rockies and a journey down the Mississippi on the Delta Queen.

Getting to know....Cathy Blackwell

Cathy Blackwell is currently the Fundraising Chairperson for the MER. She has done a great job in this capacity, and always serves this job with enthusiasm. Cathy has been a nurse for 29 years, attending the University of Evansville, then the University of Wisconsin at Osh Kosh, graduating with a BSN. She has practiced as an ET/CWOCN for 12 years (attending the Harrisburg [Wicks] ET School, and currently works at St. John's Medical Center in Anderson, Indiana. Cathy knew she didn't want to be a teacher, but wanted to help people and give back to them. She considered being a librarian, but ultimately chose nursing....I think she achieved all those jobs!! Cathy had been working in home care for 12 years and was already involved in wound/ostomy nursing, and then the hospital ET position came open. Cathy took that position, and developed it into what it is today, a full scope Wound Ostomy Continence service. Cathy does urodynamic testing, and truly does practice in all 3 areas of our specialty. She sees outpatients, inpatients, is a VAC trainer, and still takes care of home care and extended care facilities in her area. She also precepts nursing students from nearby Ball State University, as well as WOC students. Cathy is doing PGP for recertification. She already completed this process for recertification 2 years ago, and feels that if you are active in this profession, any one can complete this process successfully.

Cathy is an active part of the MER, taking care of the fundraising, as previously mentioned. She is also the treasurer for the Indiana Skin Care Consortium, which is a multidisciplinary group of professionals who meet quarterly in Indianapolis. Cathy's advice about participation in professional or other groups is to be as active as you are comfortable in whatever group you choose.

On a personal note, Cathy has a twin, Patty, who is an Occupational Medicine Nurse. She is a self professed James Bond nut, who also likes Pierce Brosnan (she agrees there's no replacing Sean Connery, though!). She has a "wonderful and considerate" hubby, Alan. In fact, they celebrated their 4th month wedding anniversary while she was in ET school, and he was at home tending to their four preteen kids! Cathy and Alan have 6 kids and 5 grandkids, ages 7 months to 8 years of age. In her spare time, Cathy likes to play with the grandkids, and read books. Her favorite authors include Nora Roberts and Clive Cussler, and she likes adventure and romance stories.

Cathy has been the Employee of the Month at her facility in the past. Her adage is "I do what I do". Her life goals include developing a formalized WOC program beyond what is in place now, and to get another WOC Nurse who will practice across all continuums of care. One life goal with her husband is to travel Alaska, both interior and outside, perhaps with a cruise.

Mid-East Region Nurse Researcher Award

The Mid-East Region WOCNS Nurse Researcher Award will honor an individual or group who has completed a nursing research study that has focused on wound, ostomy, or continence care and disseminated the results through presentation or publication. \$300 will be awarded to the recipient.

Criteria:

- The individual or group has completed a nursing research study which has followed appropriate research methods and protection of human rights.
- The research adds to the body of nursing knowledge in regards to ostomy, wound or continence care.
- The findings of the research have been published, submitted for publication, or presented at professional meetings.
- The study may be a funded or unfunded project.
- Investigators doing manufacturer directed and subsidized R&D studies are excluded.

Eligibility Requirements

- Active member of the WOCNS
- Primary investigator on the study.
- Investigators doing manufacturer directed and subsidized R&D studies are excluded

Submit five (5) copies of the entire application to;
The Research Committee Chair

Deadline: August 1

MID-EAST REGION WOCNS NURSE RESEACH AWARD APPLICATION

Nominee Nome _____
Professional Title _____
Employment Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Home Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone (work/home) _____
Active Member Mid-East? ___ Yes ___ No
Title of Research: _____
Provide Brief Description of Study (No longer than 2 double-spaced pages)
State purpose, protocols, results, and discussion) _____
Submission for Publication (list journal & date) _____
Presentation at professional meeting (please list) _____
Provide one letter of support.

MIDEAST REGION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 5, 2004; Tampa, Florida

- I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: TERRI ROSS: Called the meeting to order at 7: 16 p.m.
- II. INTRODUCTIONS, RECOGNITION OF FIRST TIME ATTENDEES, WELCOME PAST PRESIDENTS: Introductions of members and honoring of first time attendees were completed. Two members of the national board of the WOCN, Carol Publicover and Becky Kesler, were introduced and offered to provide information on behalf of the board.
- III. QUORUM DETERMINATION/VOTING GUIDELINES: GLENNA ALTIZER: Quorum declared. The rules of meeting and voting guidelines were reviewed.
- IV. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA: The following additions to new business were made to the agenda: Susan Stilton about Norma Gill Foundation, Jennifer Kimberling about an opportunity from American College of Colorectal Surgeons, and Patti Burke representing WOCNB. Allyn Davies moved to adopt these additions to the agenda. Dea Kent seconded the motion. Agenda approved.
- V. SECRETARY'S REPORT: BECKY ROBERTS: October 25, 2003 Fall membership meeting minutes were reviewed. Patti Burke moved that minutes be accepted as written. Cathy Blackwell seconded the motion. Minutes approved.
- VI. TREASURER'S REPORT: CECILIA KRUSLING:
The checkbook balance as of June 3, 2004 was \$20410.79. The money market account has a balance of \$19881.20. The Indianapolis conference planning committee was given money for conference planning. The NIWI expenses for two members were paid. The WEB page fee has been deducted monthly from the account. Membership dues brought in \$4968.02. The money helped cover the cost of the food at the meeting.
- VII. PRESIDENT- ELECT REPORT: CAROLYN SMITH: No report.
- VIII. TRUSTEE AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - A. TRUSTEE #1: LISA KIRK:
 1. WEB PAGE: Sonya Perry has taken over the Web page. The site has been revised and is currently under construction. Members should email Sonya with information for the Web site.
 2. RESEARCH: Pat Gallagher resigned. Mary Arnold Long has agreed to take over research.
 3. GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS: GLENNA ALTIZER: Please email Glenna if you wish to be added to the list for updates. The government affairs page on the Web site has a link to congress for each state.

Carolyn Smith and Cecilia Krusling attended NIWI in March 2004. Carolyn Smith reported that nurses were seen as experts and as a large voting block. The WOCN issue was reimbursement for compression grade stockings for healed ulcers. Cecilia Krusling emphasized the importance of being politically involved; and stated she plans to coordinate a registration table for voting at her hospital.

Pam Baker also attended NIWI with support from WOCN. She stated it was encouraging to see the nursing organizations working together. She advised persistence to obtain an appointment with the legislators.

4. MEMBERSHIP: LISA KIRK: Reminded members to mark Region Four when renewing membership so region will receive a stipend.

5. UOA YOUTH RALLY COUNSELOR SCHOLARSHIP: ALLYN DAVIES: Stated the region partially supports two persons to serve as counselors for the UOA Youth Rally. Paula Botting reported she had gained so much from the counselor experience last year. No one applied this year for the scholarship.

B. TRUSTEE #2 MARILYN WHITEHEAD: Terri Ross reported for Marilyn.

1. PUBLICATION: RITA POCHARD: Rita was unable to attend but apologized for delayed Dropper. Next deadline is June 23, 2004.

2. ET NURSE OF THE YEAR: CAROLYN SMITH encouraged nominations for the award. One has already been received.

3. FUNDRAISING: CATHY BLACKWELL: Reported that the raffle will include a stadium blanket, cooler, camera, photo printer, and a gift from Medline. Customized lab jackets and golf shirts will be sold. A sign up sheet to man the booth was distributed.

4. PR/SUNSHINE: BETH GUDDE resigned. Becky Roberts has agreed to fill that position.

C. TRUSTEE #3 PATTI BURKE

1. CONFERENCE PLANNING:

a. Fall 2004: Columbus, Ohio- Cindi Rine reported as a representative of central Ohio nurses. A flyer was distributed about the Regional Conference in Columbus from September 30- October 2, 2004. An Ohio basket of goodies was won by Dorothy Benz. Paula Botting and Therese Staton won free registrations to the fall conference.

b. Fall 2005: Indiana- Carolyn Smith reported the selection of Indiana University Place hotel and conference center for October 4,5,and 6, 2005.

c. Fall 2006: Kentucky- Need location and a chairperson. The revised conference planning guide makes planning much easier.

2. SCHOLARSHIP: BARB METZGER: Reported she has had no applications yet. Please apply!

3. EXCELLENCE IN WRITING: DEA KENT: Reported she has received only one article for the award. Contact information is in the Mid-East Dropper and on the Web page.

D. TRUSTEE #4 ALLYN DAVIES: Betty Winn resigned, and Allyn agreed to assume the position.

1. OPERATIONS MANUAL: CAROLYN SMITH: Operations manual is in process of being updated.

2. BYLAWS: GLENNA ALTIZER - No changes to report.

3. **NOMINATIONS: DEANNA BOYD:** Sandy Duda resigned recently, and was thanked for the great job she has done. Members were encouraged to run for office. The positions of President Elect, Secretary, Trustee #2 and Trustee #4 are up for election in the fall. Members working in industry are permitted to run for a regional office.
4. **HISTORIAN: JOY PITTMAN** not present. Members encouraged to remain after meeting for state by state pictures.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **AWARDS TO RECOGNIZE ET NURSES TASK FORCE:** Rita Pochard was unable to attend but submitted a proposal for awards, which Terri Ross distributed. Concerns raised were: lack of nominations for previous awards, need to be certified in all three areas to be eligible for an award, and need to graduate from an ETNEP versus the experiential tract. Carolyn Smith suggested the proposal be voted on in the fall. Members should send comments to Rita Pochard via email.
- B. **NEW AWARD FOR NATIONAL WOCN POSTER PRESENTATION:**
MARY LONG: Presented a proposal for helping to defray the cost of poster presentations independent from industry. The third criterion of "member" was changed to "active member." Glenda Altizer will post definitions of active member as stated in the bylaws. Bob Trout moved that the criteria for the poster presenter award with the change to active member be accepted. Lisa Kirk seconded the motion. Motion approved.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **SUSAN STILTON:** Presented on behalf of the Norma Gill Project. She reported that scholarships and onsite training have been provided to persons in need through out the world. A second ETNEP was started in China. She thanked the region for past generosity and asked for donations to the fund. Kathy Loran moved that the region match the donations. Dea Kent seconded the motion. Motion approved. A basket was passed bringing in \$345.00, which was matched, for a total donation of \$690.00.
- B. **JENNIFER KIMBERLY:** Reported that she is a newly elected member of the American Society of colorectal surgeons as an allied health/ physician liaison. She has membership application forms for those interested in joining.
- C. **PATTI BURKE:** Announced that she is on the board of WOCNB and will be available at the booth to answer questions.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: Susan Stilton moved that the meeting be adjourned. Carolyn Smith seconded the motion. Motion approved. Terri Ross adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca Roberts, Secretary

KUDOS FROM NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Two MER members won awards of merit for the posters displayed during conference.

Lena McCubbin (Indiana) won for both a case study poster and for a practice innovation poster (two ribbons—the first time this has occurred!!)

Barb Pieper (Michigan) won for a research poster (this is her second award of merit—she also was awarded in 2002 when the ribbons were introduced).

Kay Bobbit (Ohio) presented her research on perceived needs of ostomates during the general session on Monday.

Joy Pittman will be succeeding me as Poster/Podium Chair for NCPC.

And, as you may know, the motion to provide two \$250 stipends to support poster presentations by members of the MER was approved by the membership. An application form still needs to be developed.

Mary Arnold

(Ed. Note—Mary has served on the National Conference Planning Committee for several years.)

A Card of Thanks

(We received this note from Judith Weller in response to the region's contribution to the NNGF):

Dear Cecelia,

The only disadvantage of the continued generosity of the MidEast Region of the WOCN is that I'm running out of appropriate phrases to express my delight every time Diana Gard of the WCET Central Office tells of yet another windfall coming from Ohio! I've checked the synonyms for thank you, gratitude, acknowledgement, recognition, gratefulness—but I've already used all those words in previous messages. Words fail me —almost.

Would you please be kind enough to transmit to your members the BENEDICTION which the NNGF committee would like bestow on them for their repeated generosity? Please don't let my paucity of vocabulary prevent them duplicating their wonderful gesture—I will always find the words to say thank you.

Judith Weller

MID-EAS DROPPER SUPPLEMENT

TAMPA



Joy Pittman
Kathy Wilson
Lena McCabbin
Deb Hartman
Jimmy Loa
Aalt

Cruising
Tampa Bay

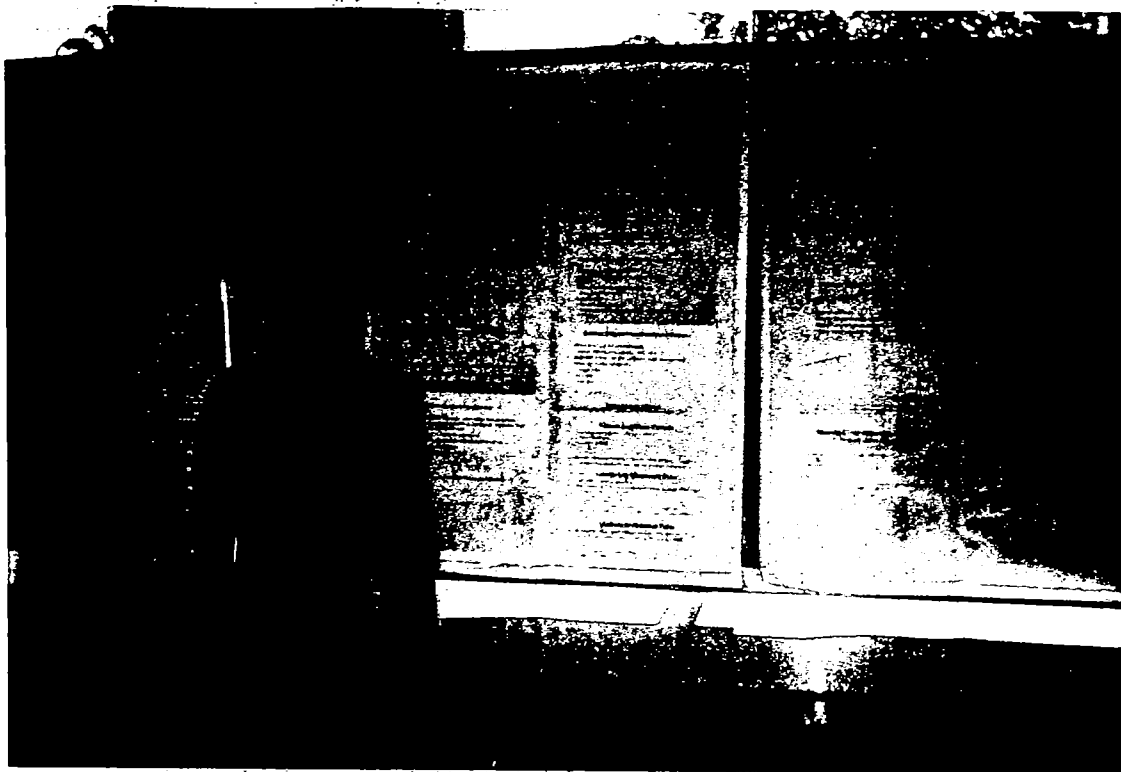
If you
couldn't make
it, here's
what you
missed

View from
Carolyn Smith
&
Mary Arnold Long's
room

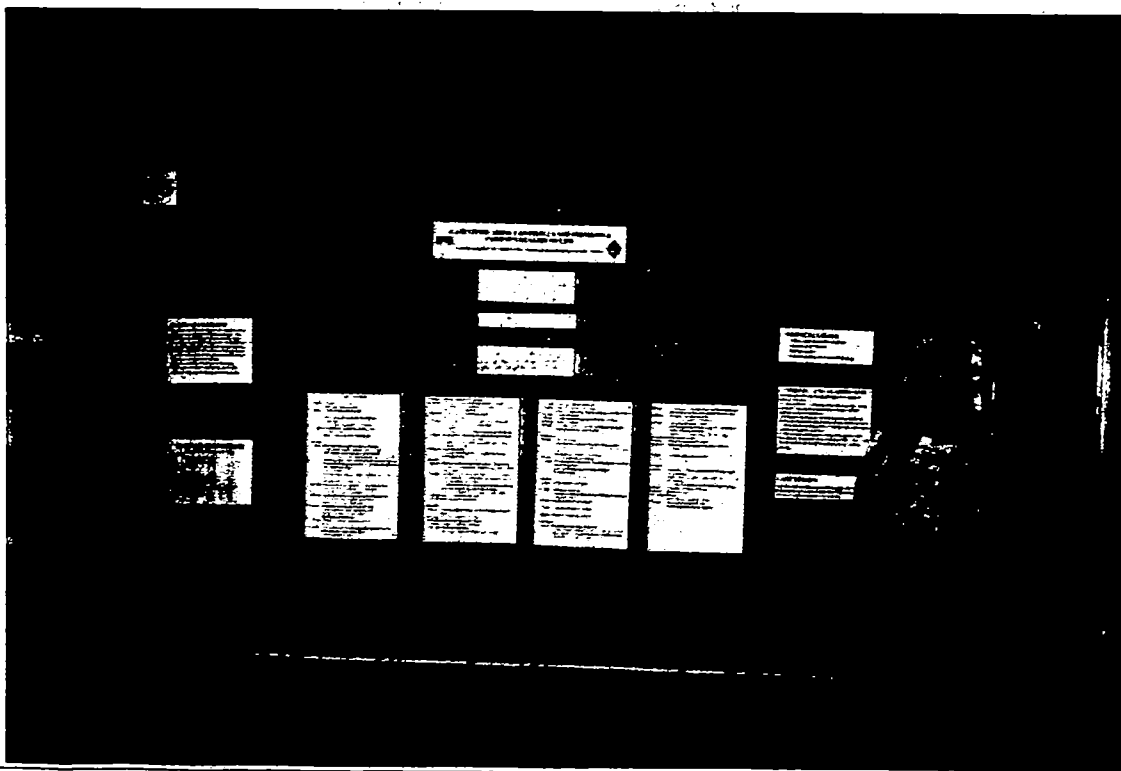


MID-EAS DROPPER SUPPLEMENT

FROM TAMPA



Barb
Pieper
Merit
Award
Winner -
Research



Lena
McCubbin
Merit Award
Winner -
Case Study $\frac{1}{2}$
Practice
Innovation

MID-EAS DROPPER SUPPLEMENT

WANDERIN' DOWN MEMORY LANE...

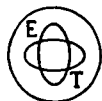
Any of these folks ring a bell? These business cards were donated by Rita Graves, RN, WOCN and are headed for the archives...



Brenda Kinder, RN, ET
Enterostomal Therapy
Nurse Specialist

University of Cincinnati Hospital
Cincinnati General Division (513) 872-6260
234 Goodman Street or
Cincinnati, Ohio 45267 (513) 872-3100 to page

Member International Assoc. for Enterostomal Therapy



JO ANNE ALDRICH, R.N.
Enterostomal Therapist

ST. LAWRENCE HOSPITAL LANSING, MICHIGAN
372-3610, Ext. 1124 HOME-626-6890



Peggy Valmassoi - R.N.
ENTEROSTOMAL THERAPIST

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ANDERSON-FIVE MILE AND STATE RD. MESSAGE 527-5539
MARIEMONT-ROWAN HILLS DRIVE HOME 561-4086

CONSULTANT: COLON & RECTAL DEPT
CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION, CLEVE., OHIO
MEMBER: WCST, IAET



NORMA N. GILL-THOMPSON
Board Certified Enterostomal Therapist
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