



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



Winter/Spring 2014

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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 president Lyn Benedict at bene2065@outlook.com

Sigma Theta Tau, International www.nursingsociety.org
Delta Omega <http://www.uakron.edu/nursing/about-us/stti>

Message from the Chapter President:

Lyn Benedict, MSN, RN, CNS, CDP



**MEMORIES OF THE 42nd BIENNIAL CONVENTION
NOVEMBER, 2013**

What an awesome experience!! The parade of the flags at the first plenary session was very poignant. Flags from 26 countries were presented. It was a very moving and humbling experience to see all the various flags on stage. We are not alone in Ohio and to realize the magnitude of nursing throughout the world is magnificent.

STTI has chapter presence on all continents of the world. I realized that the society vision had been met- "to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world's people." Over 2000 nurses from across the globe attended. It was amazing to hear about nursing in Africa, Canada, Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Peru and South Africa (Those are just some of the nurses I spoke with. We all had similar concerns.)

The Delta Omega Delegation was composed of Kathy Rose, Jessica Malekait, Barbara Brunt, Lori Kidd, Aris Eliades and Lyn Benedict. Aris Eliades, Lori Kidd, and Barb Brunt were presenters at the convention. Kathy Rose (Past President) proudly accepted the chapter's 11th Key Award. We were proud of member accomplishment that made the recognition on stage possible at the convention. There was only 1 other chapter that also received an 11th Key Award – Beta Nu Chapter, East Carolina University, College of Nursing, North Carolina.

LEADING GLOBALLY

Did you know that STTI is working with the United Nations to assist with their Millennium Development Goals (MDGS). They are:

- 1) Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty
- 2) Achieve universal primary education (Did you know that globally, women have the highest illiterate rate?)
- 3) Promote gender equality and empower women
- 4) Reduce child mortality
- 5) Improve maternal health (Did you know that globally childbirth is the number one killer of women?)
- 6) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
- 7) Ensure Environmental sustainability. (Many underdeveloped countries have unsafe drinking water and lack basic sanitation.)
- 8) Develop a global partnership for development.

By partnering with other chapters in other countries and having representatives on UN committees, STTI is working toward supporting these initiatives.

SCHOLARSHIP

Each day there was multiple presentations on a large variety of topics by members across the globe. Topics included aspects of nursing in all practice settings and from birth to death. (Isn't it amazing how diverse nursing practice is?) There were posters : quality outcomes, technology use, workforce issues,, professional development, clinical models, student to practitioner issues, practice and academic issues and research just to name a few. The sessions provided networking and cultural exchange opportunities too.

GOVERNANCE

The House of Delegate addressed leadership strategies, governance and policy issues.

The 30th President, Dr. Hester Klopper, South Africa, is the first president elected outside of North America. A dynamic speaker, she calls us to action by using servant leadership to improve our connectedness and transform the organization.

Her mantra:

"Serving Locally, Transforming Regionally, and Leading Globally." She encourages chapters to

- Celebrate diversity
- Recognize colleagues for chapter and international awards and research grants
- Practice daily appreciation
- Celebrate Founders Day (October 5th) annually with 90 minutes of service
- Contributing to the Foundation
- Pay it forward.

Needless to say a very inspirational convention.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO OUR CHAPTER?

First we will continue to be who we are – a Chapter who is active, responsive to our mission and coordinating our professional activities in the areas of leadership scholarship community

Next:

- Work to increase inter-member communication by using The Circle – the intranet site developed by STTI to increase member and chapter communication
- Build our knowledge needs by attending Chapter Programs and provide feedback about education needs.
- Participate in giving back by a chapter project – possibly fundraising for the Water.Org project focusing on providing safe water and sanitation to villages in underdeveloped countries.
- Engage in collaboration, celebration and recognition of each other’s talents and skills using the newsletter, networking at events, nominating colleagues for awards just to name a few.
- Use the resources of STTI to help us grow professionally.

As we move ahead together, remember what Henry Ford said, *“Coming together is a beginning, Keeping together is a process. Working together is success”*.

Yours in Nursing,
Lyn Benedict, MSN, RN, CNS, CDP

STTI Biennial Convention

Perspective of a First Time Presenter



I attended Sigma Theta Tau International Biennial Convention in Indianapolis as a first time presenter. I have presented at other conferences, such as Midwest Nursing Research Society and practice specific conferences such as the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, but one distinguishing factor about this conference was its international flavor. There were presenters from every corner of the globe. It was stimulating to be a part of this professional melting pot.

I was fortunate not only to receive partial funding from Delta Omega Chapter, but to travel and spend time with other Board and active Chapter members: past Presidents Kathy Rose and Barb Brunt, current president Lyn Benedict, and extern Jessica Mikelait. The city of Indianapolis turned out to be lovely, and a great place to visit. Fun activities included a trip to the Indy 500 Speedway.

For me, there was a level of camaraderie not always felt at other conferences. For some reason, the audiences in small group sessions seemed more engaged, more genuinely interested in what you had to say and in what everyone else had to say. Even on the last official day of the conference, as I stood in front of the podium as a presenter, I could feel the air fairly bristling with energy. I saw attentive faces smiling with me and raising questions about my research.

As an audience member in other sessions, I enjoyed listening to such diverse topics as qualitative research that explored the experience of prostitution in Ireland to nursing management of suicide to a keynote speaker that told stories about the art and “heart” of nursing. The quality of topics, posters, and speakers at the conference was quite high. What a proud moment it was to stand with my chapter colleagues in front of a crowd of international peers to accept the great honor of the 11th Key Award! I was reminded of the passion that drew me to the nursing profession.

After almost 30 years of being a nurse, that passion sometimes fades. But the STTI Convention was a wonderful place for me to relax and recharge my professional batteries. The next conference is in two years. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by,
Lori Kidd
Delta Omega Counselor

Perspective of a First Time Attendee



This past November, I had the opportunity to attend Sigma Theta Tau International's Biannual Convention in Indianapolis. I was the undergraduate student that the Delta Omega Chapter sponsored for this amazing experience. Since this was the first nursing conference I had attended, I really had no idea what to expect.

Throughout the conference, we heard from three keynote speakers as well as a number of research presentations, both through verbal and poster presentations. As a student, I was simply trying to take everything in.

The first day, the flag processional took place which was very moving and inspiring. It was interesting to see how many different countries are a part of this organization, and it was amazing to see them all present and represented at this one conference. The first keynote speaker was the

then-current president of Sigma Theta Tau International, Suzanne Prevost. It was encouraging to learn about her Call to Action for the past two years and see all the progress we have made as an organization towards her goals. I learned about many different charities, projects, organizations, and cause that Sigma Theta Tau International supports and runs.

The now current president who became the acting president on the last day of the conference is Hector Klopper. She is from South Africa and is the first non-American president, which I feel shows a strong sense of the international growth and progress STTI has made.

I am sure anyone in attendance can speak to the inspiration, knowledge, and leadership shown and shared at this conference. However, as a student, I felt there was so much extra information to take in over the five days. Anyone who found out I was an undergraduate student had advice and encouragement to offer, which was incredibly inspiring as someone who is just entering the field of nursing.

I would highly recommend attendance at a STTI conference to any nurse, but I would especially encourage undergraduate students and new graduates to try to attend one of these conferences. New perspectives on nursing, new appreciations for different specialties, and endless encouragement await any soon-to-be or new nurses at an STTI conference. I had an amazing experience, and I can only hope others will find their way to one of these conferences as well!

Submitted by,
Jessica Mikelait,
Delta Omega Chapter Member

Call for Nominations for Annual Recognition Awards!

In the midst of the holidays when we often reflect about the previous years and where we are in life, take time to nominate a wonderful mentor, leader, researcher, educator, colleague, or student who has “stood out” and made a difference, especially for you.

Every year your Delta Omega Chapter recognizes nurses with Awards of Excellence. Take time now to nominate a nurse, who so deserves to be recognized! Think of it as a holiday gift to that person.

Awards for **Excellence** include the following categories:

- **Nursing Leadership**
 - **Nursing Practice**
 - **Nursing Education**
 - **Nursing Research**
-

News from Area Institutions

Local News Reporters Needed

We are 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:

- *Barberton Citizens Hospital*
- *Akron General*
- *Children’s Medical Center of Akron*

Summa Health System News

Reporter Barb Brunt

February 2014

Jan Weinhardt, MSN, RN, CNS and Kim Ballard, MSN, RN, CNS presented a poster “An Interdisciplinary Approach Using A Root Cause Analysis To Decrease Door to IV tPA Times” at the International Stroke Conference in San Diego, CA in February, 2014.

Terry Creque, BSN, RN was named the 2013 Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nurses (ARIN) Radiology Nurse of the Year. This award recognizes outstanding radiology nursing practice as demonstrated by, leadership, mentorship, and ongoing professional development

Susan Hazelett, BSN, MS, RN, Dr. Baughman, Barb Palmisano, M. Sanders, and Ruth Ludwick, PhD, RN published an article “Factors Associated with Advanced Care Planning Discussions by Area Agency on Aging Care Managers” in the December 2013 issue of *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*.

N. Istenes, J. Bingham, J. Stephens, Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, CNS, J. Kirk, and Sue Hazelett, BSN, MS, RN published an article on “Patients’ Potential Role in the Transmission of Healthcare-associated Infections: Prevalence of Contamination with Bacterial Pathogens and Patient Attitudes Towards Hand Hygiene” in the September 2013 issue of the *American Journal of Infection Control*.

Dr. Radwany, Kim Kousaie, MSN, RN, Erica Hoiles, MSN, RN, Hallie Mason, MSN, RN, Terry Albanese, and Cindy Struk, PhD, RN presented “Is There Such a Thing as Comprehensive Community Based Palliative Care? How Do We Get There?” at the Center to Advance Palliative Care national meeting in Dallas, TX in November 2013

Amy Durig, BSN, RN and Diane Jamieson, BSN, RN, Robin Houk, BSN, RN, CPAN, and Vickie Wells, MSN, RN, CAPA had a poster “The Three (3) T’s of a New Preadmission Optimization Department : Timeline, Teamwork, and Transformation” accepted for the ASPAN 33rd National Conference in Las Vegas in April.

Cindy Struk, PhD, RN, Valerie Sisson, MSN, CNP, CWOCN-AP, Erica Hoiles, MSN, CRNP, Robin Kraut, MSN, CNP, ACHPN, and Ellin Gafford, MD presented a pre-convention session on “Heart Care at Home and Integrated Palliative Care Education” at the MidWest Care Alliance annual conference on November 3rd.

Steven Scott Atkinson, AD, EMT-P, Carol Kridler, MSN, RN, CCRN, Dr. Rami Ahmed and others presented sessions at the Society for Simulation in Healthcare conference in February on “From Bleeding to Blacklights 1: Procedures you did not know you could perform on your full body simulator” and “From Bleeding to Blacklights 2: Surgical procedures you did not know you could perform on your full body simulator”. In addition Scott Atkinson was the keynote speaker on “Making Connections” and served on a simulation technician expert panel.

Jennifer Doyle, MSN, RN, WHNP-BC was elected to the AWOHNN National Board of Directors, Region IV at Large. She was also the featured speaker on “Fetal Heart Monitoring: Case Studies and Evidence-Based Practice” at the AWHONN/ACOG Ohio Joint Venture Conference in September of 2013.

Janice Weinhardt, MSN, RN GCNS-BC, ANVP co-authored a chapter entitle “Transient Ischemic Attacks and Stroke” with Dr. Bowling, which appears in *Ham’s Primary Care Geriatrics: A Case-based Approach*, published by Elsevier.

Submitted by,
Barb Brunt
Leadership Succession Committee Chair

Induction Invitations

Invitations for new members to join Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Omega Chapter have been sent out. Those who met the eligibility criteria were contacted via email. The deadline to complete the online membership application is March 30, 2013. Induction will be held April 13, 2013 at the Student Union, Ballroom A University of Akron. Hope to see you there!!!

*Delta Omega Chapter
Sigma Theta Tau International & The University
of Akron College of Health Professions, School of
Nursing*

*You are invited to attend a program focusing on Current Research
“Research Updates”*

*Wednesday, April 30, 2014
Registration at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner Program from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.*

*Nursing Students \$10
STTI Members \$20
Non-STTI Members \$25*

*Summa Health System
Akron City Hospital
Professional Center South 55 Arch St. PODs D and E*
**Please plan to attend and learn about 3 current
research studies.**

1. Asthma Knowledge, Control and Self-Management of adults at an urban university
Carolyn Sutter DNP, RN, CNP

2. Identifying Mentoring Practices that Predict Mentoring Benefits among Pediatric Nurses

Meghan M. Weese, MSN, RN, CPN and Jennifer J Huth BSN, RN, CPN

3. APN Care Delivery to Non-Offending Caregivers of Child Sexual Abuse Victims

Sheau-Huey Chiu, PhD, RN, Maryhelen Kreidler, EdD, RN, CNS and Karen Fitzgerald, MSN, PPCNP-BC, PMHS

Community Corner

OPEN-M “Christmas for the Love of Children 2013” Program

Many thanks to our membership for helping a family have a better holiday season in 2013. We provided gifts for 9 children and a gift card for the family to a local grocery store. Final chapter expenses for the project were \$57.25 thanks to donations made by chapter membership.

The “Christmas for the Love of Children” Program is established by OPEN-M a faith-based ministry that helps people throughout the greater Akron area. The OPEN-M acronym stands for Opportunity for People Everywhere in Need Ministry.

Many thanks to Dina Dornack, Jessica Mikelait and Kathy Rose who shopped for the family on a snowy Friday evening in early December. Thank you to Kathy Rose for providing the gift card for groceries. The chapter also appreciates the financial contributions made by the following members: Joan Baumgardner, Linda Benedict, Barb Brunt, Dina Dornack, Michelle Enlow, Mary Franklin, Greer Kabb Langkamp, Martha Miyares, Linda Shanks, and Carolyn Sutter.

Serving Hot Lunch at OPEN-M

Many thanks to those members who gathered at OPEN-M to serve lunch on February 28, 2014.



Health and wellness posters were also on display to provide education about smoking cessation.



All members are invited next time! *Come join in the fun!!!*

Want to become involved with Sigma Theta Tau???

Attend a meeting!!!

When: The 4th Monday of every month

Time: 5:00-7:00pm

**Where: Mary Gladwin Hall Room 101,
University of Akron**

Call for Volunteers

It is time to elect new Chapter Officers. To assist the Leadership Succession Committee in preparing a ballot – **we need your input.**

Please let us know if you are interested in running for an office, or if you would be willing to serve on a committee(s).

I am interested in running for the office of: **TERM OF OFFICE TWO YEARS (EXCEPT FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT, WHO SERVES 1 YEAR IN THAT POSITION & THEN TWO YEARS AS PRESIDENT)**

- PRESIDENT-ELECT 2ND VICE PRESIDENT
- TREASURER GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT 1)
- LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION (NOMINATING) COMMITTEE (ELECT 2)

I am willing to serve on the following committees:
TERM ONE YEAR

- INDUCTION COMMITTEE COMMITTEE BYLAWS
- WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER/WEB COMMITTEE
- PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE RESEARCH

Other Positions

- EXTERN (LICENSED NURSE)
- INTERN (STUDENT)

Application and criteria found on STTI Delta Omega website

Please direct questions to: Carolyn Sutter at csutter@uakron.edu or Elizabeth Good at EGood2@aultman.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT: The president-elect serves a one year term to learn the role of President and then serves a two-year term as president. He/she serves as the executive officer and administers all business of the Chapter as provided for in the bylaws. Also, the president is the chief chapter representative at inter-chapter activities and is an ex-officio member of all committees except the Leadership Succession Committee. The president submits a report at each board of directors meeting and to members at the annual business meeting, and assists in the preparation of the Chapter Annual Report.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: The 2nd vice president performs the duties of the president in the president's and 1st Vice-President's absence, submits a report at each board of directors meeting and to members at the annual business meeting, and assists in the preparation of the Chapter Annual Report. Serves as induction committee chairperson and works on membership activities.

TREASURER: The treasurer serves as the custodian of the chapter's funds. The treasurer also proposes a budget to the board of directors, submits a report at each board of directors meeting and to members at the annual business meeting, and assists in the preparation of the Chapter Annual Report.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: this is made up of two elected chapter members, plus the counselor. This committee is charged with overseeing the bylaw compliance, makes recommendations for bylaws changes, and oversees member eligibility issues. The counselor serves as the chair of this committee

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION (NOMINATING) COMMITTEE: develops members in organizational leadership roles, mentors members to assume organizational board and officer positions, selects nominees, and prepares and sends the ballot to the board of directors four weeks prior to a scheduled election.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE: oversees the bylaws amendment process and submits the Chapter's bylaws to headquarters.

INDUCTION COMMITTEE: Assists with the planning and coordination of the annual induction process and the

induction service and oversees the preparation of the annual induction ceremony.

NEWSLETTER/WEB COMMITTEE: oversees the development and implementation of strategies to maintain and increase the chapter's visibility through venues such as Web sites and newsletters.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Plans develops, coordinates and implements chapter meeting programming; also oversees the CE process for all programs and meetings.

RESEARCH AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE: Reviews grant applications and award nominations, and submits recommendations for funding/award recipients to the board of directors

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE: Works with the chapter treasurer as needed with fund-raising strategies, and the coordination, implementation and evaluation of chapter fund-raising projects and events.

**Checkout the Delta Omega Facebook
page
for upcoming Chapter events!**



<https://www.facebook.com/DeltaOmegaChapter?cropsuccess#!/DeltaOmegaChapter>
