



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



Fall 2012

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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 Barb Brunt via email at bruntb@summahealth.org

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

Message from the Chapter President:

Kathy Rose RN, MSN



The time has gone by so quickly and I cannot believe that I am now into my second year as Delta Omega president. I am encouraged by the participation of so many volunteers and committee members that have joined our chapter to support in some way. We have outgrown the Delta Omega room for our monthly board meetings and are now reserving room 209 in MGH to accommodate all of the attendees.

We are currently working toward our 11th Key Award. There will be a survey coming soon to ALL Delta Omega members, active and inactive; to add to the list of those who are working in their communities and organizations to present topics on health related topics. Whether members have presented at national or international professional nursing meetings, interdisciplinary professional meetings, or have provided activities or projects focused on increasing community awareness of health promotion or prevention of illness, that is information that will help the chapter in receiving the Key Award. Please take the time to complete the

survey once it is available. You will be hearing about it very soon.

Finally, it would be my hope that you would get out and vote in the next presidential election. The date is Tuesday, November 6, 2012. It is a critical time for health care in our nation and nurses need to make their voices heard. There was much reference to the IOM report at the conference I attended in September. With nurses now playing a major role in healthcare reform, our votes can make a difference in how we reshape and deliver healthcare.

Until the next newsletter have safe and happy holidays!

Submitted by Kathy Rose, RN, MSN
President, Delta Omega Chapter, STTI

Getting to Know Our New Committee Members

Lyn Benedict, MSN, RN-BC, CNS, CDP President-Elect

As the president elect of the chapter I look forward to meeting and working with you. A clinical nurse specialist in Senior Service Administration at Summa Health System. I work on the Acute Care for Elders (A.C.E.) Unit on 5 North at Akron City Hospital.

As a nurse for over 40 years- yes, THAT long!!! (sigh)- I have enjoyed working with nurses who reflect the characteristics of Sigma Theta Tau International – achievement, scholarship, high professional standards with a strong commitment to the nursing profession. It takes all those qualities to continue in nursing- especially with the current and future health care changes
I enjoy traveling (working on my Bucket List), hiking, new things, good food and friends and quotes.

“ Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving. “ *Albert Einstein.* Lyn can be reached at BenedicL@summahealth.org. *Welcome Lyn!*

Elizabeth Good Co-Chair Leadership Succession Committee



Elizabeth Good is currently serving as the co-chair for the Leadership Succession Committee. Elizabeth received her BSN from Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. She also attended Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio where she received her MSN and MBA graduate degrees.

Elizabeth's nursing career began in the ICU at University of California at San Diego Medical Center, Thornton Hospital. After moving to Cleveland and starting the Master's program at Case Western, she was employed in the Emergency Department at Cleveland Clinic Main Campus. She was accepted as a Nurse Executive Fellow at Cleveland Clinic, and worked with the Nurse Executive Council on various projects. For the past five years, Elizabeth has served as Director at Aultman Hospital. She has managed in several areas; including: Immediate Cares, Emergency Department, and Education and Development. Elizabeth is a member of multiple organizations: Sigma Theta Tau, Emergency Nurses Association, and Association for Nursing Professional Development.

Currently, Elizabeth works with the youth group at her church as well as other volunteer opportunities

at Aultman Hospital. Elizabeth loves to travel for fun. In the past year, she has traveled to China, New Zealand, Puerto Rico and Liberia! Elizabeth can be reached at EGood2@aultman.com. *Welcome Elizabeth!*

Molly Arnold
Delta Omega Leadership Intern



An Ontario, Ohio native, I am currently a senior in the School of Nursing and the Honors College. I also have a minor in Spanish, which I obtained partially by studying abroad in Valladolid, Spain during the summer of 2010. I am a member of the Delta Omega chapter as the chapter intern, Honors Nursing Group, Akron Swim Club, Campus Focus, and the AK-Rowdies. I currently work as a Student Nurse Technician on a cardiac stepdown telemetry unit at Summa Akron City Hospital.

After graduation, I will hopefully receive an RN position at Akron City Hospital and stay in the Akron area, and in a few years I want to return to school to receive my nurse practitioner's licensure. I would also like to participate in medical missions, hopefully in a location that would allow me to use my Spanish language skills! Molly can be reached at mma57@zips.uakron.edu. *Welcome Molly!*

Amber Wick RN, BSN
Delta Omega Leadership Extern



Amber graduated with a BSN from the University of Akron in 2011. She currently works in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit at University Hospital, Case Medical Center. Amber really enjoys the physical and mental challenges faced while working in an ICU. After obtaining some ICU experience, Amber plans to attend graduate school to become a Nurse Practitioner with a specialty in Forensic Nursing. A lifetime goal of Amber's is to obtain a Doctorate degree to perform nursing research. Amber is an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, Ohio Nurses Association, and American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

In her free time, Amber enjoys playing volleyball, working out, scrapbooking, and spending time with family and friends. Amber can be reached at aw23@zips.uakron.edu. *Welcome Amber!*

The following individuals have volunteered to be on the Board of Directors or members of a Delta Omega Committee:

- ❖ **Lyn Benedict**, BenedicL@summahealth.org
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2nd Vice President
Induction Committee Chair

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- ❖ **Joan Baumgardner** jbaumga@uakron.edu
Awards Committee
- ❖ **Elizabeth Good**, EGood2@aultman.com
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Newsletter Committee
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Newsletter Committee
- ❖ **Matthew Cavallaro** mrc47@zips.uakron.edu
Bylaws Committee

- ❖ **Molly Arnold**, mma57@zips.uakron.edu
Leadership Intern
Newsletter Committee
- ❖ **Amber Wick**, aew23@zips.uakron.edu
Leadership Extern

*Thank you for your willingness to serve the
Delta Omega Chapter!*

Community Corner

**Cameos of Caring Gala 2012
October 20, 2012**



The eleventh annual Cameos or Caring Gala took place on Saturday, October 20, 2012 at the University of Akron, Student Union. Nurses from surrounding area hospitals attended to honor fifteen nurses. Award recipients were employed at the following hospitals: Akron General Medical Center, Akron City Hospital, St. Thomas Hospital, Summa Western Reserve Hospital, Affinity Medical Center, Robinson Memorial Hospital, Summa Wadsworth Rittman Hospitals, Summa Barberton Hospital, Akron Children's Hospital, Mercy Medical Center, Edwin Shaw Rehabilitation Institute, Aultman Hospital, and Aultman Hospital Woodlawn Campus.

The award recipients were chosen for their hard work and enthusiasm brought to the profession of

nursing. Each recipient spoke of how humbled they felt to be recognized for the award. Two students from the University of Akron were awarded the Cameos of Caring Scholarship as well. It was an honor to be in the presence of so many nurses who take their commitment to patient recovery and the profession of nursing so seriously.

Submitted by Amber Wick, RN, BSN

Serving Hot Lunch at Open-M October 26, 2012



Sigma Theta Tau served Hot Lunch at Open-M on October 26, 2012. Volunteers served sloppy joes with sides of vegetables and chips.



Help Us Bring Christmas to Families in Need

The Delta Omega Chapter of STTI is sponsoring two families this year through the OPEN-M “Christmas for the Love of Children 2012” Program. **We need your help!**

We will purchase and wrap gifts for each child. Additionally, we will purchase a gift certificate from a local supermarket. The gift certificate will specifically state “not valid for tobacco or alcohol”.



There are several ways you can participate:

- ❖ Donate money towards the purchase of gifts/supermarket gift certificate
 - Make check payable to Delta Omega Chapter, STTI and note for OPEN-M “Christmas for the Love of Children 2012” Program
 - Mail check to Delta Omega Chapter, STTI
- ❖ Donate time to **sort** donations at OPEN-M
- ❖ Shop and provide a gift/gifts
 - Contact me for the list of gifts requested for each child



Contact Dina Dornack,
ddornack@chmca.org,
with any questions.

News From Area Institutions

Summa Akron City/St Thomas News September, 2012

Jennifer A. Foster, BSN, RN, IBCLC was recognized as the OLCA Member of the year for 2012. She did a poster presentation on Distribution of Formula Company Sponsored Discharge Packs in Ohio at the OLCA annual conference, as well as the Fourth National Conference of State/Territorial/Tribal Breastfeeding Coalitions in Virginia in August.

Jocelyn Davis, DNP, RN, CNM, C-EFM was one of the co-editors of the 3rd edition of *Templates for Protocols and Procedures for Maternity Services*, published by AWHONN in 2012.

Donna M. Harper, MSN, RN-BC has been accepted to be a member of the ANCC Content Expert Panel for Nursing Professional Development certification from 2013-2017. Content Expert Panel members assist ANCC staff in the development of ANCC examinations by participating in role delineation studies (practice analyses); test content outline development; and the evaluation, revision, and approval of examination items.

Debbie Washington, BSN, RN, CPCC had an article "Improvement of Transfer Times Utilizing Systematization Development Leads to the First Mission: Lifeline STEMI Receiving Facility Accreditation in Ohio" published in the October 2012 issue of *Cath Lab Digest*. She did a poster presentation at the National conference of Chest Pain Centers this past May and received her certification as a chest pain center coordinator.

The operating room at Akron City was presented with an award from Akron campus of National College as being recognized as a "Distinguished Community Employer" for being a valuable resource for National College students in the surgical tech program.

Summa Health System has once again been recognized by North Coast 99 as one of the best workplaces in Northeast Ohio. This is the 9th consecutive year that Summa has been recognized as creating an exceptional workplace that attracts and retains top performers in the healthcare and non-profit industry. Robinson Memorial Hospital, an affiliate of Summa Health System, also earned the award for the 10th year in a row. Summa was also honored to receive the North Coast 99 Special Category Award for Social Responsibility, which recognizes the passion, dedication, and volunteerism that our employees and Summa bring to the communities we serve.

A group of Summa nurses and other personnel will be leaving October 23rd for a trip to Haiti. Members of the team include: Carol Powell, BSN, RN, CEN, SANE-A, EMT-P, Dr. Nina Njus, Dr. Ross Henschen and his wife Viki and Denise Robbins, retired teacher from Rittman! Others on the team include Dr. John Weigand, Scott Atkinson, AD, EMT-P, Carol Kridler, MS< RN, CCRN, Curtis Baldridge, RN, Patty Costigan, BSN, RN, Mary K Kaczmariski, Rachel Gerber (our team leader from Mission Possible) & her husband, Austin.

Greer Kabb-Langkamp, RN, LICDC, LSW received an Advocate Award for Summit County from the Northeast Ohio Recovery Association and the Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County on September 7th.

Submitted by Barb Brunt, Reporter

Leadership Forum 2012

“Nursing Leadership: Impact at Every Level”
Hyatt Regency – Indianapolis, Indiana
September 20-22, 2012

Another fantastic STTI Leadership Conference was held in Indianapolis. The opening plenary session led by Suzanne Prevost, PhD, RN, COI, and President of STTI was geared toward the 2011-2013 Presidential Call to Action, “Giving Back to Move Forward as a Nurse Leader.” Four different tracks were offered; Student, Academic, Clinical and Service Leadership/Volunteer. Since my interest is clinical education, most of the sessions attended were geared toward the clinical track. The most informative sessions were the technology courses. Regardless of the many online offerings, there are so many questions that arise as a result of the officer position. Michelle Lilly and Janell Jackson were available after sessions to help those who confessed to computer illiteracy. In addition, they mentioned to participants where they could be reached in the event additional help is needed.



(Suzanne Prevost, PhD, RN, COI, President, STTI & Professor & Associate Dean for Practice and Engagement, University of Kentucky, College of Nursing posed for her picture immediately following the opening plenary.)

Plenary Session II during lunch on Day 2 of the conference was led by Loretta Sweet Jemmott, PhD, RN, FAAN, van American Professor of Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and Director of the Center for Health Equity Research at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in

Philadelphia. Her topic “The Voice of Nursing: Leading the Charge” was full of energy as she giggled and laughed (along with her audience). She admitted to having the after lunch topic to keep the audience involved – and she did!

The closing plenary session held by Patricia Thompson, EdD, RN, FAAN, Chief Executive Officer, STTI was titled “Membership: An Honor and a Responsibility.” She charged the group with putting the things learned into practice to bring more members back to active membership/ leadership in STTI.



(Loretta Sweet Jemmott, (right) PhD, RN, FAAN, van American Professor of Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and Director of the Center for Health Equity Research, University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing, Philadelphia is shown here following her post lunch plenary session.)

With the knowledge gained, looking forward to the Biennium Conference next year recharges one’s hopes that the conference will be as good as or better than this one. So much energy and excitement to see so many young nurses in attendance and sharing their ideas on how to make their chapter more engaged.



(Patricia E. Thompson, EdD, RN, FAAN, Chief Executive Officer, STTI, Indianapolis, IN pictured talking with young nurses and student nurses while on a break between sessions.)

I am looking forward to attending the biennium next year and to receive that eleventh Key Award as well. I hope that many of you are there with me.

Submitted by Kathy Rose

Delta Omega Fall Program

Delta Omega's Fall Program
Wednesday, October 3, 2012
Akron Children's Hospital

Delta Omega's fall program, "*Across the Lifespan: Making an Impact on Abuse*," featured three excellent speakers: Karen Fitzgerald, Carol Kridler, and Stephanie Woods. The program began with refreshments and a silent auction to benefit ACCESS, a local women's shelter in Akron. This was followed by three 30 minute presentations. Over 50 nurses attended the program. Kathy Rose, president of the Delta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International provided a welcome to the attendees.



(Pictured from left to right: Stephanie Woods, Carol Kridler, Karen Fitzgerald)

Our first speaker, Karen Fitzgerald, MSN, PNP-BC, is an Associate Instructor in The College of Health Professions, School of Nursing, at The University of Akron. Karen presented information based on her work as the nurse clinician for the Children's Center of Medina County. She is a member of the multidisciplinary team for the Children's Center of

Medina County and serves as a consultant to Medina County Child Protective services. She presented "*What's Next After Child Sexual Abuse is Reported*."

Carol Kridler, MSN, RN, CCRN, is the Staff Development Instructor for Critical Care at Summa and was one of the charter members of Summa's Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program in 1997. She was also one of the first nurses nationally, along with other nurses in their department, to obtain certification as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner for Adults and Adolescents (SANE-A). Her talk was entitled, "*Developing Options for Violent Emergencies (DOVE)*."

The third speaker, Stephanie Woods, PhD, RN, is a Professor at The University of Akron, School of Nursing. She has received federal and foundation funding to support her research on the complex issues surrounding the integration of physiologic, immunologic, and psychosocial consequences for women experiencing violence and trauma. She presented a talk entitled, "*The Invisible Wounds of Trauma*."

We are very thankful to Karen, Carol, and Stephanie for sharing their expertise, and to Akron Children's Hospital for co-sponsoring this program. The venue, refreshments, and presentations were excellent!

Submitted by Linda Shanks, 1st Vice President,
Delta Omega Chapter

SAVE THE DATE

Delta Omega Winter Program
February 2013

Keep an eye out for upcoming announcements regarding the location and time of the Winter Program!

Call for Volunteers!

Serve as a Delta Omega officer or on a committee. New officers and members are welcomed in Spring 2013. For more information, contact Elizabeth Good at egood2@aultman.com or Carolyn Sutter at csutter@uakron.edu

Have you worked with a **GREAT** *mentor, leader, researcher, or colleague* lately?

Recognize this person by nominating her or him to receive an **Award of Excellence.**

Submit your nominations to Chris Graor at graor@uakron.edu.

Research Corner

“All we’ve ever wanted for all our kids is that they’re happy and healthy.”

“All we’ve ever wanted for all our kids is that they’re happy and healthy.” This is the mantra my parents have impressed upon my siblings and me as children and through our young adult lives. In this

seemingly simple and humble desire, providing for us kids was their biggest priority. As nurses, we work for that same priority of our patients’ health and happiness like we would our families. To say it’s not that simple (especially when five call lights turn on simultaneously) is an understatement. Yet we form relationships with our patients, and advocate for their quality of life and for behaviors to prevent disease and promote health. This is our commitment and calling within the nursing profession. This calling was this same passion that led me a world away this summer to care for a very different patient population: 10 orphaned boys living in the slums of southern India.



This mission became a reality with the help of LeaveUrMark; they coordinated housing and outreach sites. As the mission trip began to unfold, the doors for a research opportunity also began to open. In preparation for the trip, I reflected on my mission to Ghana, West Africa in summer 2011. There, I witnessed a disturbing point of intersection between health care and charity. The issue was that despite donations of mosquito nets to the people of rural West Africa, the people were not given education which rendered this malaria prevention measure useless. Afraid that this discrepancy was occurring worldwide and interested in knowing whether education was a key factor in promoting healthy behaviors, I looked into India as another developing country and malaria hotspot. We, along with LeaveUrMark, collaborated in conducting an initial needs assessment to determine the health needs of the children.

The project, then, was born as Molly Arnold, Kelsey Snyder, and I worked with the idea that we could positively influence children's health behaviors by implementing an education program. In agreement with the initial assessment, we specifically targeted hand washing, tooth brushing, and malaria prevention.

As I write this today, exactly four months after I met the kiddos in Bangalore, India, I have to laugh a bit at our initial plans. Literally, everything was upended there! We had intentionally made the program flexible and culturally sensitive as we planned it. I couldn't have been more grateful for that and for the boys' patience (and most times, amusement) in getting this program underway. The detours I encountered, and subsequent responses to them, not only developed my improvisation skills as a nurse, but they really highlighted the holes in infrastructure within the Indian culture. For example, the child demographic was polar opposite of the information given to us. This changed the format of the program and the teaching mediums used.

The available resources at the orphanage were less than expected, and the infrastructure of the orphanage was less and more unpredictable than what was initially presented. This resulted in less time with the boys, less of a chance of sustainability, and a high attrition rate as it could not be determined which of the boys were similarly needy neighborhood kids and which ones lived there. Two days into the program, a letter was sent out to all in the city informing us that the water supply would be cut off for a week. This provided a greater focus on malaria prevention than the other subsets of the program that would depend on the precious water the boys needed to drink. The dentition of the kids was so poor that tooth brushing became a more hazardous than beneficial. Lastly, it became apparent that the children had the education but did not have the supplies. This was the exact opposite problem than what this project was built on!! However, we forged through in our own time

and way, and had success with the same program that at first didn't seem to be possible.



Ultimately, the program and the time together the boys and I had were blessed, and cannot be measured in numbered outcomes only. The statistics and project will speak for themselves. However, I hope my experience will be a voice for the boys. Molly, Kelsey, and I truly intended that this project would be more than just a project.



People have said the project was extraordinary; it went beyond what was required. People have patted us on the back and said, "Way to go. Good for you. You were brave to want to go to and help in such a place." In all honesty, it wasn't brave. The project was not that out of the ordinary. The three of us sincerely believe that our faith, our humanity, and our profession as nurses call us to prevent and respond to basic human need. In this way, the project was a just a response to human need. The extraordinary part of the project was how many people became a part of this response! To name a few generous supporters: to the Delta Omega Board for truly making this Mission Possible through your encouragement and financial support, to Dr

Christine Graor & Dr Marlene Huff for your endless patience and guidance (we can't thank you enough for your editing and re-editing skills!), Dr Elaine Fisher for perspective and faith in us. To our readers Lisa Hart at the University of Akron and Dr John Pope of Akron Children's Hospital, your perspective checks and abilities to keep us smiling through the whole process kept it fun. Lastly, to Dr Dale Mugler and Dr Rita Klein who have been behind us 100 percent since the idea started...we thank you. We hope to continue to spread global health awareness and social advocacy with this microcosmic experience throughout our last year at Akron and as we start our next journey of graduating in May 2013. Ultimately, this pilot study was an attempt to fill a void, not just in research, but in the promotion of happiness and health in ten children...even if they are on the other side of the world.

Submitted by Erin Rosen, UA Nursing Student

science of nursing using innovation and new technologies.

Join us in Prague, Czech Republic, for the 24th International Nursing Research Congress.
Event registration opens 4 February 2013.

42nd Biennial Convention Give Back to Move Forward

Call for Abstracts is open!

Submission deadline is 30 January 2013

The Biennial Convention has it all! You'll experience an abundance of educational workshops, poster presentations, elections, house of delegates and more! It's the best opportunity you'll have to network with other STTI members both new and established. There's something for everyone, no matter if you're a student, clinician, academic, manager or staff nurse. This event is planned with EVERY member in mind.

Join us in Indianapolis, Ind., USA, for the 42nd Biennial Convention.

Event registration opens 4 February 2013.

Call for Grant Proposals

Deadline: February 15, 2013

For more information, contact Chris Graor at
graor@uakron.ed

24th International Nursing Research Congress

Call for Abstracts is open!

Submission deadline is 5 December 2012

This International Nursing Research Congress is *the* place for the exchange of evidence-based practices and solutions among nurse researchers, clinicians, educators, policy makers and administrators.

Participants will have the opportunity to network while learning more about what nurse researchers from all around the globe are doing to advance the

Checkout the Delta Omega Facebook page
for upcoming Chapter events!

<http://www.facebook.com/DeltaOmegaChapter>