

Spring 2009 Newsletter



Regional Board

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From NCR President Shawneen Schmitt— Summer 2008



Hello Everyone! I am looking forward to serving as your president for the next two years. I especially want to thank our past President, Kathy Borchert, for all her help as I prepared for this new responsibility. I also want to welcome Dawn Bechtold as our President Elect.

While attending the National WOCN conference in Orlando in June, I had the opportunity to attend the regional and affiliate president's meeting with Kathy. This was a great way to get started in role as president. Recently I was reviewing NCR historical documents and I feel so honored and humbled to be following those who have led the North Central Region as presidents and who paved the way for NCR to be what it is today: Liz Johnson, Ruth Bryant, Diane Todd, Deb Thayer, Jane Charnetski, Midge Berger Willson, Tara Beuscher, Kathy Otten, Kathryn Hoyman, Cathy Gray and Kathy Borchert. These WOC nurses are still actively involved in the interests of our region as well as on a national level. As Dr. Katherine Jetter stated in her presentation at the national conference entitled, "Living a Designer Life: A Model for Success", we need to do the following: inspire, imagine and initiate. These women are leaders who are models of success.

Our national conference celebrated its 40th anniversary and had over 1,700 WOC members in attendance... a new record. For those who were there, I am sure you can say that we celebrated our many achievements as WOC nurses over the past four decades and now look forward to the future. Six of our regional members were recognized for their four decade WOCN commitment and active membership from 1968 to present, with their names listed on a Power Point banner throughout the conference. They are Bonnie Rolstad, Pamela Sivly, and Mary Zink are from Minnesota and Gloria Gerard, Dorothy Klofta and Merrily Zimmer from Wisconsin. Thank you to all of you for your contributions as WOCNs sharing your knowledge and expertise with others.

The national conference covered a wide array of topics in wound, ostomy and continence care along with professional development. Research and evidence-based practice was the underlying focus in the all the presentations. If you were not able to attend, you can still reap the benefit of the knowledge shared by purchasing the conference CDs online at www.wocn.org. You can also go to the new WOCN Global Learning Center to attend a variety of continuing education sessions online. Another way to keep current with the WOCN trends is by registering for one or more of the online forums. These forums are online discussions by WOC members. Education opportunities at the national level abound to keep you up-to-date. I would like to encourage you to check it out today.

Regarding education, our fall conference will soon be here. I hope you have received your brochure entitled, "Keeping Up-To-Date in 2008 with Emphasis on Pressure Ulcers" and plan to attend this conference that is packed with outstanding speakers on September 4-6, 2008, at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, Wisconsin. If you have not received the brochure you can simply go to www.wocn.org and follow the instructions found on page 4 of this newsletter. Check it out. Click on Calendar to get to the conference and brochure. I do hope that if you were not able to go to the national conference, you can attend the fall conference. We will have our regional meeting during the WOCN luncheon on Saturday, September 6th at 11:15 AM. At that time I will present the Board of Directors plans and goals for the next two years. I also guarantee you will have plenty of time to visit our wonderful supportive vendors.

As I had mentioned, NCR has a new look. Our website when it is fully functional will be hyper-linked to other websites for ease of information. The updated/revised regional by-laws and job descriptions will be posted there soon. I would enjoy hearing from you on your impression's regarding the website. You can write to me at smsrn@att.net.

Continued....

Continued from pg.1

Keeping all our members informed about what is occurring within our region and nationally is so important. Would you please go to www.wocn.org and click on the "member center". Locate "personal information" and check to be sure that your data is current. We don't want to leave you out of the information loop since we are going electronic with voting in 2009. Those members who do not have E-mails, we will still send newsletters and ballots by way of standard postal mail to them.

I would like to tell you a little about myself. I live in Waukesha, Wisconsin (about 20 minutes due west of Milwaukee). I am married to Dan and we will be celebrating our 39th wedding anniversary during our fall conference. Dan has volunteered being NCR's newsletter publisher. We have two adult children, Lisa and her husband Russell live an hour from Seattle, WA. She is a pediatric physical therapist and he is a senior webmaster. Our son, David, has his own landscaping business and lives in Grafton, WI. Even though we are empty nesters, our cat, Willow has taken up residency in our home.

I have been a CWOCN for nine years and have many years beyond in nursing focusing on adult medical-surgical and geriatrics both in practice and as an educator. I have two masters' degrees in nursing and adult education/administrative leadership. I also have my CFCN and do volunteer nail care at a free health care center for the disadvantaged. I currently work as a WOCN at Community Memorial Hospital in Menomonee Falls, WI both inpatient and outpatient settings. I am also an assistant professor at Columbia College of Nursing, Milwaukee, WI teaching research/evidence-based practice and a clinical instructing at Froedtert Memorial Hospital in Milwaukee. I am a member of the WOCN national education committee and have been an expert reviewer for WOCN content validation program. I have presented numerous WOC related posters at conferences and been a presenter at local and regional levels.

In my spare time, I love gardening, biking, doing word and Sudoku puzzles, and traveling. I have been on several church medical mission trips to such places as Kazakhstan, Latvia, Haiti, Indonesia to name a few. I also am chairperson for the board of directors for a senior housing agency in Milwaukee and do voluntary work as a parish nurse at my church.

Thank you again for your vote of confidence two years ago when you elected me as your president-elect and now to serve as your president. I am so proud to be part of this region. Every time that I put together the regional report for the WOCNews, I was, and still am impressed with all of the leadership, talent and expertise we have in our four states of Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Wisconsin. I look forward to working with all of you over the next two years. I would appreciate hearing from you with your thoughts, questions and ideas regarding NCR and how we can make it a model of success for other regions and affiliates.

Warm regards, Shawneen Schmitt smsm@att.net



From Dawn Bechtold, President-Elect

Hello from your newly elected President Elect.

My name is Dawn Bechtold and I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve our region in this capacity! I would like to introduce myself and let you get to know a little bit about me.

I live in Sioux Falls, SD with my husband Todd who is a counselor at Sanford Health and son Tony who is a junior in high school. Together we enjoy camping and boating, and I like to read and cook. I am a member of Memorial Lutheran Church and participate in the contemporary worship team (I play the flute), choir (I sing alto) and tone chime choir (I play whatever tone chime they give me).

I got my undergraduate nursing degree from SDSU and attended Abbott Northwestern Hospital's ET nurse education program. In 1985, I joined the WOCN Society (then known as the IAET). I was certified as a CETN in 1986 and have worked as an ET/WOC nurse in Rapid City and Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls. 5 years ago I joined the WOC Services Team at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls. My 2 partners and I cover inpatients at a 575 bed hospital, make weekly rounds in our system's local LTC facility, consult as needed on homecare patients and occasionally see wound and ostomy patients in physician's offices on our campus and a local heart specialty hospital. I also love to teach, and I'm passionate about educating other WOCN's, staff nurses and physicians.

I have participated in Regional activities as SD state rep, and helped to plan the Regional meetings in Sioux Falls and Spearfish. Nationally, I have participated on the Premier Advanced Wound Care Task Force, and some of the WOCN's best practice documents. The majority of my leadership experience comes from serving on the WOCN Certification Board as a board member and member of the exam committee. You will be hearing a lot from me about benefits of serving at the regional and national levels, and recertifying via PGP.

Thank you again for the honor to serve you as your president elect and president. I am looking forward to the next four years and hope that I can help to make a positive impact in our region on issues related to wound, ostomy, continence and foot and nail care.

Mark Your Calendars!
NCR FALL CONFERENCE 2009
IN THE TWIN CITIES
Friday, Sept. 18th and
Saturday, Sept. 19th
Minneapolis Airport Marriott

North Central Region Membership Meeting Highlights

Regional Conference, Appleton, Wisconsin

We had over 50 members present at the meeting. The regional Conference was excellent and we thank the Planning Committee for all their hard work!

President Shawneen Schmitt:

Introduced the Board to members.

Shared her vision for NCR: "To promote and expand education and open communication"

The Regional website is up. At the time of this meeting the region is still dealing with a domain address issue. To access the website, go to WOCN.org and click on NCR-WOCN.org. Future plans for the website include: Web-based CEUs, Consultation ability, Member with expertise/preceptor/mentor lists, Educational offerings to non-members with focus to rural areas, Education for institutional administrators/managers on value of CWOCNs.

Discussion with brain-storming session for NCR funding/economic stability included: Silent auctions, Website advertisements from vendors, T-shirt sales, Booth at National with funding activities.

Shawneen shared that National is looking at training and special competency/certification for LPNs.

The youth rally was held in Boulder, CO. Go to website to view specifics.

Shawneen is a National Committee member working on blog/podcasting with the expert, more guidelines for pressure ulcers and on a webcast CEU on Atypical Wounds.

President Elect Dawn Bechtold:

Thanked everyone for their support.

Reports that the newsletter is now electronic and as Editor (part of President Elect's duties) she would appreciate articles and information to share. We were introduced to our new volunteer Newsletter Publisher Daniel Schmitt. We thank him for his commitment to our region.

Dawn will also be working on review and revisions of ByLaws which will be ready for membership vote spring 2009.

Secretary Shirley Stille:

NCR currently has 225 members.

Reminder to all members: If your contact information changes, it is vital to go to National website and change the information there.

Treasurer Midge Willson:

Financial report given.

Discussion included economy and higher costs. NCR will need approximately \$3000.00 more per year to support routine costs and scholarships.

Midge is on a National sub-committee working on male external catheters care statement.

NCR State Reps:

Minnesota: Julie Kula

North Dakota: Julie McColm

South Dakota: LuAnn Carlson

Wisconsin: Mary Wolff

Mary is Chair of a National Committee on Public Policy. She reports that CMS/CDC is very responsive to WOCNS. An advocacy and grassroots tool kit for talking to our politicians can be found on the National Website.

NIWI is planned for March 29-31, 2009.

Clinic/Professional Practice Denise Nix:

Dee Dee presented NCR-WOC Excellence Award to Cathy Gray, Brainerd, MN. Congratulations Cathy!

Future Conferences:

September 18-19, 2009, Minnesota will be hosting the NCR regional conference in Minneapolis, MN.

South Dakota has volunteered for the 2010 NCR regional conference.

National Conference for 2009 will be held in St. Louis, MO June 6-10.

Respectfully submitted: Shirley Stille NCR Secretary

**NORTH CENTRAL REGION MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
REGIONAL CONFERENCE, APPLETON, WISCONSIN**

Date: September 5, 2008

Present: Midge Willson, Mary Wolff, Dawn Bechtold, Shawneen Schmitt, Julie McColm, Shirley Stille, Denise Nix, Julie Kula

Absent: LuAnn Carlson

Respectfully submitted: Shirley Stille

Topic	Discussion	Action Required	By Whom & When	Resolution
Call to order		None	1610 by	
Introductions/Dinner	Self introductions		All present	Done
Approval of last minutes	Board minutes from teleconference, June 2008 Regional presented	Approved as written	Members all aye	Approved
Agenda review	Additions/corrections			None
President report Shawneen Schmitt	Shawneen advocating WOC Global Learning Center. 2009 National Conference Planning Committee, asking for ideas and if we want a regional exhibit?	FYI		
President Elect Report Dawn Bechtold	Dawn thanked everyone for their support.	FYI		
Secretary Report Shirley Stille	225 members. If contact information changes for any member, it is vital they go to National Website and change their information. State Reps to	FYI		
Treasurer Report Midge Willson	Financial report given. Discussion included economy and higher costs. We will need approximately \$3000 more per year to support scholarships, NIWI, etc. Will take to members and ask for ideas to increase	See Handout Take to membership meeting at this conference	Members all aye Shawneen and Board, members all aye	Approved Approved
State Rep Reports MN: Julie Kula WI: Mary Wolff ND: Julie McColm SD: LuAnn Carlson	115 members Sent emails out, not much response, concern with cohesiveness of group. Milwaukee group of around 30 members get together quarterly. 6 members, very rural area, hard to get members involved as well as go to conferences. Dawn gave report for LuAnn: 15 members, 1 new, 3 RNs attending webWOC	FYI		
Committee updates: Clinical/Professional Practice: Denise Nix Newsletter Editor: Dawn Bechtold	Cathy Gray, Brainerd, MN is the recipient for this year's NCR-WOC Excellence Award. Editor will be part of President Elect's duties. We will need articles, information to share.	Denise will accept award in honor of Cathy due to illness. FYI	All members	

Continued ...

<p>National Committee Updates: Public Policy: Mary Wolff</p> <p>Education: Shawneen Schmitt</p> <p>Clinical Practice, Professional Practice, National Planning, Communications and Marketing: Midge Willson</p>	<p>Chair of committee of 12 members. CMS/CDC responsive to WOCNS. Offer from CMS to partner: Our website link on CMS site and CMS on ours. Discussion yet on regulatory vs industry.</p> <p>An advocacy and grassroots tool kit for talking to our politicians can be found on National website. NIWI planned for March 29-31, 2009</p> <p>National committee member. Working on blog/podcasting with the expert. Developing more guidelines for Pressure ulcer. Webcast CEUs/global learning.</p> <p>National sub-committee member working on male external catheters care statement. Deb Netsch from Mankato on National Planning</p>	FYI		
Future Conference plans	<p>2009: Minneapolis, MN Deb Thayer, Janine Cotton</p> <p>2010: South Dakota has volunteered</p>	September 18-19 Marriott Airport	Members email ideas to Deb or Janine	
Old Business Shawneen Schmitt: Regional Website Time Line for Board of Directors	<p>New website is up. Go to WOCN.org and click on NCR-WOCN.org to get to. Still tweaking the new site and still issue with domain address.</p> <p>Handout to all members. Please adhere.</p>	FYI		
<p>New Business Shawneen Schmitt: Future of NCR</p> <p>Picture Policy Release</p> <p>Planning Guidelines for Conferences</p> <p>Youth Rally</p> <p>By-law Changes: Dawn Bechtold</p>	<p>Economy, technology, etc. Budget: Expenses vs revenue discussed. Conferences, Scholarships, ideas?, capping?. Education Outreach, especially to those far away. Do we offer increased electronic offerings?</p> <p>Presented for use by Newsletter Editor/Publisher</p> <p>Ad Hoc group to work on reinforce, change goals</p> <p>Held in Bolder, CO, will be on NCR website</p> <p>Will be working on review and revisions of By-laws: Will need to add under President Elect: Newsletter editor duties</p>	<p>Take to members for brainstorming. FYI</p> <p>Form approval</p> <p>FYI: Please visit site</p> <p>FYI</p>	<p>Shawneen/Midge</p> <p>Members all aye</p>	<p>Membership meeting</p> <p>Done</p>
Next Meeting	National Conference in St. Louis, Missouri	June 6-10 2009	Go to National website for	specific information
ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned 1740				

September, 2008	\$2,520.10
CDs:	\$11,273.41
TOTAL WORTH:	\$13,793.51

Proposed 2008	2008 to date	
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INCOME:

Fall Conference	7,000.00	6,684.16	FALL 07
WOCN Rebate	2,500.00	2,808.00	
Checking Account Interest	6.50	\$5.01	
CD Interest	400.00		
Total:	\$9,906.50	\$9,497.17	

EXPENSES:

Bonding the Treasurer	NA	NA	
Newsletter	150.00	\$300.00	
Postage/secretarial expenses	100.00	\$33.05	
Nominations	200.00	\$229.28	
Leadership Preconference	500.00	225.00	
National and Regional Conferences	6,000.00	\$5,334.87	
WOCN Nursing Scholarship	1,000.00	500.00	
Advanced Education Scholarship	500.00		
WOCN Excellence Award	375.00	\$650	
Regional Meeting at National Conference	600.00	623.66	
UOA Youth Rally Sponsorship			
NCR Web Site	450.00		
Board Member Conference Call	500.00	\$327.60	
Start up funds NCR Fall 08 meeting	-	\$100	
Miscellaneous	350.00	\$305	
NCR EX AW x 2, 2 plaq			
Total:	\$10,725.00	\$8,628.79	

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Submitted by:

Midge Willson MSN CWOCN
North Central Region of the WOCN
Treasurer



Minnesota State Representative Report regarding Minnesota Member Activities *By Julie Kula state representative*

Thanks to all who kept us informed and please keep the information coming
Julie.Kula@ParkNicollet.com

MN NCR Membership: We now have 108 Minnesota Members. We would like to welcome our newest members: Karen Zuehlke, Cynthia Schroeder, Julie Schmiesing, Susan Boutin, and Joyce Carlson

I received the following information from a mass email that I sent out to the regional MN members, if you did not receive this email the email address that National has for you is incorrect.

Recent Publications from Minnesota NCR Members:

- Vicki Haugen had an opinion piece in the Pioneer Press for MN Safe Skin and WOC response to the recent MN reportable events in the news; specifically about pressure ulcers.
- Julie Powell and Vicki Haugen have sections featured in a book by one of their patient's Carol Ann Larson called Life Lines: Keeping your head above water. Stories of hope and healing.

MN NCR members serving on state or national committees:

- Minnesota Hospital Association's Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel_Mary Zink, Kathy Borchert, Wendy Kraft, Julie Kula, Denise Nix, Anita Carteaux, Vicki Haugen, and Scott Church.
- WOCN National Conference Planning Committee-Deb Netsch

More MN NCR Member news:

- Kathy Borchert passed her CNS Certification exam.
- Kristina Leuthard is currently living in the Dominican Republic volunteering for a year as a teacher.
- The Mankato Clinic has hired another Nurse Practitioner who has completed her Wound and Ostomy education through the WebWOC program and her name is Lisa Van Watermolen.
- Nena Wilen is the new CWOCN for Ridgeview Medical Center in Waconia, MN. She is currently seeing inpatients and outpatient for wound and ostomy.

The Minnesota Hospital Association has released a report on adverse health events in Minnesota, including reportable pressure ulcers. In October of 2007, the definition of a reportable pressure ulcer changed to include "unstageable" pressure ulcers. From October 7, 2007 thru October 6, 2008, there were a total of 36 reportable Stage 3 & 4 and 86 unstageable pressure ulcers reported by Minnesota hospitals. The number of Stage 3 & 4 pressure ulcers was down 16%. This is the second consecutive annual decrease.

The breakdown of pressure ulcers by age is:

> 75 years	– 25%
65 - 74 years	– 23%
40 - 64 years	– 38%
19 - 39 years	– 7%
< 18 years	– 7%

The Minnesota Hospital Association's "Call to Action" on pressure ulcers has been in place for more than a year. It has been successful in increasing the adoption Best Practices among participating hospitals from less than 60% to greater than 80%. In the coming year, the Minnesota Department of Health and Minnesota Hospital Association will be working with wound nurse and clinical advisors to analyze common patient characteristics as well as clinical and environmental factors. This analysis will lead to the development of future recommendations for preventing pressure ulcers in clinically complex patients.

Mark Your Calendars! Planning is underway for the NCR's 2009 Fall Conference in the Twin Cities on **September 18 and 19th, 2009**. The Minneapolis Airport Marriott has been selected as the conference venue. It is conveniently located adjacent to the Mall of America. Please forward any ideas for topics, speakers or networking to the co-chairs Deb Thayer (dmthayer@mmm.com) or Janine Cotton (jmcotton1@aol.com). We are looking forward to a great meeting.



South Dakota Representative Report regarding Member Activities *By LuAnn Carlson state representative*

Thanks to all who kept us informed and please keep the information coming
dakotalu@sio.midco.net

SD will be hosting the NCR conference in Sioux Falls in 2010 and we are looking for volunteers.

Sanford Health in Sioux Falls will be hosting a spring one day workshop on May 20th, Meeting the Challenge of the Changing World in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Care. Dr. Joyce Black of the NPUAP and Ann Page from Coloplast will be the speakers.

Dawn Bechtold and Cathy Wiebers presented at the South Dakota Medical Foundation's 9th Scope of Work conference in January regarding wound care. The 9th scope of work is focusing on pressure ulcer prevention in 15 participating nursing homes and 4 hospitals.



North Dakota Representative Report regarding Member Activities *By Julie McColm state representative*

Thanks to all who kept us informed and please keep the information coming
Julie.mccolm@meritcare.com

MeritCare is working on an actual wound care clinic. The Grand Forks wound care clinic is going great.

We serve as a place for further education and assessment after patients have had procedures in the twin cities or Rochester and then come home to our area. We are also trying to reach out and educate our regional facilities through teleconference meetings.



Wisconsin Representative Report regarding Member Activities *By Mary Teasdale Wolff state representative*

Thanks to all who kept us informed and please keep the information coming
mom_teadale@yahoo.com

Heidi Hackbarth, RN WOCN reports from Franciscan Skemp Surgery Clinic in La Crosse. They will be presenting a poster at National on Scorecard Creation: tracking, displaying, and communicating WOCN practice! And they have just hired 3 PRN/Float WOCN to assist with PTO coverage and high pt volume days. Heidi highly recommends WOCNs explore the option of PRN WOCN to assist with current practice if FTE expansion is not an option.

Connie Blazek RN CWOCN proudly reports having 5 other CWOCNs in the Luther/Midelfort/Mayo system: Darlene Fenner / James Hubert / Kay Bilsle / Evie Christensen / Rhonda Schneider.

Jill Redding at St. Marys Hospital in Madison has precepted eight WOC nurses in the last four years and currently is precepting a student from the home health care setting.

Lynn Huenink has been a WOCN member since becoming a student of the WebWOC program in August 2007. She passed her WOC certification exams in mid-2008 after a very long 13 months of study. Lynn writes "I am proud to say that I accomplished all this and I love my career. I love the patients that I have had the privilege to serve. ...I would like my fellow WOC nurses to encourage your colleagues to support students in a WOC program or nurses to become WOC nurses. I had a very supportive department when I was going through the process and I am deeply appreciative of their efforts."

Janet Lutze shares the news that Judy Block RN, BSN, CVT, WOCN and Kim Smitka RN, BSN, WOCN have become new members in the Milwaukee area after completing their WOC programs and their orientation at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee

Lena Fairless and the NCR Annual Conference committee are happy to report a very positive member turnout for the 2008 meeting and a very positive bottom line. Although the conference is about networking and learning it also means NCR is able to do more things with the money earned. Lena is also trying to publish the lessons her conference committee learned in a Med Surg newsletter
Patty Cimino, Shawneen Schmidt and Mary Wolff are attending NIWI this year.

Billie Skubal joyfully reports that Kali Jane Skubal was born Christmas morning. She weighed 6 lbs 8 oz and measured 19 inches long. Everyone is doing well.

Having watched so much reality TV it has been discussed that a friendly competition might be fun this year. Therefore the fine state of Wisconsin would like to challenge the fine state of Minnesota in a friendly competition to see which state can have the highest membership by the end of 2009. The fine state of Wisconsin will wait for the reply from the fine state of Minnesota!!

Here's your Chance

The NCR is seeking nominations for the position of secretary, treasurer and Wisconsin representative for elections later this year. Shed your shyness and throw your name in the hat for any of these positions. Here are the top 5 reasons for applying for a NCR Board position...

1. It's easy. You don't have to know Robert's Rules of Order or parliamentary procedure.
2. You get to work with other WOCNs from the North Central Region including WOCNs from North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin.
3. Through the wonders of teleconferencing you can attend Board meetings in your 'jammies.
4. You can tap into your inner leader and make the NCR the most progressive region of the WOCNS.
5. You will have the undying respect and attention of your fellow WOCN colleagues.

CAUTION

How many of you have perused the new 7-page Fact Sheet –Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections at the WOCN website? http://www.wocn.org/pdfs/WOCN_Library/Fact_Sheets/cauti_fact_sheet.pdf

Check it out – it is brand new, hot-off-the-press

NCR Clinical Practice Chair Report - Summer, 2008

Denise Nix RN MS CWOCN

denise.nix@parknicollet.com

Nominate Someone for the 2009 NCR WOC Excellence Award!

Send a nomination no later than MAY 1, 2009 to Denise Nix deenix@comcast.net

Nomination must include:

- Name and Contact information for the person nominating (including email)
- Name and Contact information for the Award Candidate (including email)
- Candidates Credentials
- Work position and location
- Education
- Professional Accomplishments
- 3 reference letters



Eligibility Requirements:

- Member of the North Central region for a minimum of 2 years.
- Dedicated to the philosophy of the WOCN Society.
- Demonstrates clinical/professional expertise in the field of Wound, Ostomy, or Continence Nursing.
- Possesses personal/professional qualities that are respected by colleagues and patients.
- Participates in community and/or professional organizations.
- Contributes to the advancement of WOCN through educating, publishing or mentoring
- Current president and past recipients of the award are NOT eligible.

The Award:

- A plaque and \$325 presented at the Fall Regional Meeting.
- A letter of recognition sent to the recipient's supervisor and local newspaper.
- Recognition in the NCR newsletter and the WOCN News.

Past NCR WOC Excellence Award Recipients:

1990 Mary Olson	2001 Kris Drierfurst
1991 Bonnie Sue Rolstad	2002 Kathy Hastings
1992 Nancy Piencikowski	2003 Denise Nix
1993 Kathy Otten	2005 Dawn Bechtold
1994 Marlys Hay	2006 Carolle Frocillo
1995 Diane Todd	2007 Shawneen Schmitt
1996 Laurie Maidl	2008 Cathy Gray
1997 Kathryn Hoyman	
1998 Barb Provo	

A NETWORK OF CARING PROFESSIONALS: A DRIVE TO SUC- CEED



Dear WOCN Member:

Time is running out to get a 30 percent refund of your 2008 membership dues while advancing the career of a colleague?

As a member of the WOCN Society, you know how beneficial membership is and what it has meant to your career development. With this campaign, WOCN members can help get the word out about WOCN's benefits and, as a result, help the association continue to grow. No one knows the value of WOCN membership better than you, so consider sharing your experience! You'll not only help out a fellow WOC nurse, you'll also earn a reward.

The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society is officially launching A Network of Caring Professionals; a Drive to Succeed membership recruitment program. Simply by recommending two colleagues to join WOCN, you will receive a 30 percent refund of your 2008 membership dues (once they complete the membership application process)!

WOCN offers three different categories of membership: Active, Associate, and Student. Remember that almost everyone on the WOC team may be eligible for membership.

For complete information on the program, please visit:

This program ends August 31, 2008, so spread the word and start reaping the

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11:15 AM Saturday, September 6, 2008

The regional membership meeting will be held during the WOCN luncheon at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. The meeting will include the NCR President's Annual Address to the Region and the presentation of the 2008 WOC Excellence Award.

NCR WOC Excellence Award

Last year the WOC Excellence Award went to Cathy Gray who works at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Brainerd, Minnesota. Congratulations to Cathy. The process to nominate a fellow WOCN for the annual Excellence Award is easy, requiring the completion of the application form and 3 letters of reference. Take a look at the following web addresses and nominate the next NCR WOC Excellence Award.

Application form: <http://ncr-wocn.net/Content/Documents/Document.ashx?DocId=10477>

Letter of Reference: <http://ncr-wocn.net/Content/Documents/Document.ashx?DocId=10478>

St. Louis in June

Before you know it the flowers will be blooming, the birds will be singing and you'll be wondering why you haven't signed up for the WOCN National conference in St. Louis. You can register now, reserve your room and choose your preconference and concurrent sessions online at <http://wocn.conference2009.org/registration/>. So much information....so little time.

How do I get to our website...? The new NCR website is under construction, so for now you must use www.wocn.org as a portal to our own site.

- Go to the WOCN website at www.wocn.org and click on "Who We Are"
- On the next page click on "Regions/Affiliates"
- On the next page click on "Region and Affiliate Websites"
- On the next page click on "North Central Region"
- On the next page click on "Click Here"

