



Sigma Theta Tau

Theta Omicron Chapter

Univ of Alaska Anchorage
School of Nursing
Theta Omicron
3211 Providence Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

February, 2007

Upcoming Events 2007

For Updates, Check the *NEW* Theta Omicron Website at
<http://alaskanursingsociety.com/index.html>

Spring Membership Meetings:

March 7, 2007: 5:30 PM, Snow Goose Restaurant

Speaker: Theresa E. Philbrick, RN, BS

Theta Omicron Grant Recipient

UAA University Nursing Honors Graduate

"Alaska Registered Nurses Perception of Empathy"

Board Meetings: **SECONDTURSDAY AT 3PM,**

MARCH: Thursday, 3/1 (switched to 1st Thur)

April: Thursday, 4/12

May: Thursday, 5/10

June: Thursday, 6/7 (switched to 1st Thurs)

Special Events:

Undergraduate Social/Orientation: March 8, 2007

Location: UAA, School of Nursing, PSB122B (Lab B)

Spring New Member Induction:

April 19, 2007 at 7 PM, University of Alaska

Consortium Library, Room 307

Keynote Speaker:

Andrea Posey, MSN, PhD Candidate, RN

Chief Nursing Officer

Central Peninsula Hospital

Soldotna, AK

If you have any questions regarding the posted meetings and events please contact Dr. Maureen O'Malley at 907/786-4584 or via email at afmbo@uaa.alaska.edu.

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Theta Omicron Chapter

- ◆ Chartered on April 12, 1986
- ◆ 1995—Establishment of the Tina DeLapp excellence Award
- ◆ 1999—Establishment of Theta Omicron Research Award Committee

Are you a nurse professional interested in becoming a member of STT?

Is there someone you would like to nominate for membership?

For more information, go to http://www.nursingsociety.org/membership/mem_become.html

Or Contact Member Svs at 888.634.7575 (U.S./Canada) or +1.317.634.8171
memserv@stti.iupui.edu

Notes In a Nutshell
Highlights of the Theta Omicron Board Meeting
Dec 15, 12 Noon, PSB 103C

- ◆ The Spring Membership Meeting was discussed. This event will take place February 28, 2007 at the Snow Goose. There was discussion about other locations, including poster presentations, and the opportunity to earn CEU credits for the poster presentations.
- ◆ Invitations to Inductees will be sent as soon as the fall grades have been received.
- ◆ Orientation of Inductees should be convenient for all 3 groups of students. Board members will participate to answer students' questions.
- ◆ Discussion was held regarding the Graduate Orientation, scheduling is challenge since the two groups are on opposite schedules. Fall was suggested as the better time, since spring is fairly busy.
- ◆ The Excellence Award Committee will start working on the nominations for the 2007 award recipient. There have been calls from outside of Anchorage. There was also discussion about who should be the guest speaker.
- ◆ Theta Omicron will participate in the Women's Run again this year.
- ◆ Discussion was held regarding Sigma Theta Tau presence at the upcoming Evidence Based Practice Conference at the Alaska Native Medical Center. The conference is scheduled for June 25 and 26, 2007. Discussion points included the cost of sponsoring a table, paying for conference break snacks, and enlisting a member staff a table to recruit inactive members or who belong to another chapter and may wish to transfer over to Theta Omicron.
- ◆ Sponsoring Poster Receptions was discussed. Poster topics, suggestions for locations and participatory incentives were offered. For example, provide mini-grants for posters, or create a research award that focuses on nursing student participation.
- ◆ The Research Award guidelines have been revised. These are posted on the website.
- ◆ The Membership Report indicated there are 300 active members.

Please contact the appropriate board member for further information if you have any questions or comments regarding the information presented.

Anya Boutwell Reports on Chapter Academy Leader Conference

Dear Members of Theta Omicron:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to attend Sigma Theta Tau International Chapter Leader Academy in September. What an experience! I attended the Academy with a goal of strengthening my personal and team leadership skills and gathering new ideas for chapter building as well as membership recruitment and retention. I was able to leave it with that and much more!

The schedule of events at the Academy included two full days of workshops on planning, leadership, community building, board effectiveness, as well as addresses by the president, Carol Picard, the President Elect - Carol Huston, and others. There was plenty of time to make connections with leaders of other chapters. During the academy the attendees were encouraged to meet with and plan collaborative events with members of various chapters and the workshops gave us opportunities to share about challenges, successes, and future goals. Some exciting propositions for future collaboration with our Region I chapters include virtual meetings and even conferences.



Katherine Ricossa, Region I Coordinator (left)
Anna Boutwell, Vice President, Theta Omicron

An inspiring event was the chapter award ceremony during which chapters were recognized for outstanding achievements; some of the most memorable were Tau Pi Chapter providing primary care to victims of Hurricane Katrina and the Rho Delta Chapter in Pakistan providing first aid to victims of an earthquake. I was also able to take the tour to the Headquarters: the International Center for Scholarship and took a photo of the Theta Omicron brick paver. Once again, I do thank you for this very special opportunity and a new inspiration for my involvement in Theta Omicron.



Anna Boutwell, Vice President, Theta Omicron
Carol Picard, Honor Society President

Very Sincerely, Anya Boutwell, Vice President, Theta Omicron

NEWS FROM THE PENINSULA

Anya Boutwell

When surveying membership of the Kenai Peninsula we found that close to 30 members live in the area and many are interested in becoming involved in the society. Unfortunately, the 3 hour drive to Anchorage for meetings and events discourages members from attending (especially in the winter months).

That is why Theta Omicron members held their first meeting in November right in Soldotna - close to home. Five members attended the first meeting and discussed the possibility for future events such as a small seminar open to nurses in the community, fundraisers, teleconferencing with Anchorage members and, most definitely, future membership meetings. A dinner event is being planned for February and the Peninsula members are looking forward Judy Peterson joining them. If you are in the area and are interested in attending our events, please contact Anya Boutwell at asaab11@uaa.alaska.edu for more information.



Theta Omicron Brick Paver at the
International Center for Scholarship
Photo taken by Anya Boutwell during her trip to
Indianapolis.

Theta Omicron Offers Financial Support for Nursing Research

Are you returning to graduate school? Do you have an idea for a small study? Theta Omicron has established a research fund to award grants to support these endeavors. Contact Betty Predeger at 786-4575 for more information.

Theta Omicron Board:

President: Maureen O'Malley, PhD, RN
Vice President: Anya Boutwell, BS, RN
Treasurer: Judy Petersen, MSN, RN
Secretary: Jane Hebert, RN, BSN, CCM
Counselor: Georgia Heiberger, EdD, RN
Counselor: Fredricka Gilge, PhD, RN
Nominations: Carol Coose, MS, CNE, RN
Past President: Terri Olson, MSN, RN

Theta Omicron Committee Chairs:

By Laws: Dianne Toebe, PhD, RN
Continuing Education: Peggy Balster, MSN, RN
Membership: Gail Holtzman, MSN, RN, CCRN
Excellence: Tina DeLapp
Research: Betty Predeger, PhD, RN

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We're on the Web!

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