

Sigma Theta Tau International: Lambda Gamma Chapter

Fall Newsletter

Message from the President

I have spent more time this year as a patient than a nurse. First, the shoulder surgery in January with 3 months PT and now, on Sept 18th, the anterior cervical discectomy and fusion and who knows how much time recovering. I am still not able to swallow solid food, which has its good side. I have lost 25#.s. But through all this, the Lambda Gamma Board of Directors has covered my responsibilities and I wanted to THANK ALL OF THEM for the heroic job they all have done, especially Lisa Burns for chairing the Board Mtgs in my absence, Rae Rehn for taking the minutes and keeping me UTD, and Kathleen Rockett-Zimmerman for speaking to Becky to help Nicole get our new web site up and operational. YEA!! I also wanted to tell STT-LGC members how lucky and honored they should be to have such a committed and exceptional group of nurses working on their behalf on the Board of LGC. Thank you so much.

In the last President's letter I wrote to you about the EVIDENCE BASED RESEARCH LECTURE SERIES that STT-LGC has been collaborating on with NBNHE. This year we are in the planning

stages of our 3rd annual workshop of the series. This series has been an inspiration. We have attracted hospital and other medical administrators, faculty, charge and staff nurses from all hospitals in the area. The Seminar is attempting to answer complicated and important questions, regarding nursing research, and is generating excitement and sponsoring collaborations between multiple medical facilities and groups. It is possible this series of lectures could be published as a book, a best seller, to be marketed to other STT Chapters and other areas throughout the country who are struggling with these same issues. Congratulations to everyone who has participated. This seminar is truly a worthwhile experience, whatever your educational or professional nursing career goals.

At our last Fall Dinner Meeting, "Nursing Education's Response to the RN Shortage" we heard from expert panelists, Liz Close, SSU; Sharon Johnson, SRJC; Roz Hartman, College of Marin; and Luanne Linnard-Palmer. Some of us were amazed to realize the problem is not attracting qualified

people to nursing, but instead, the "IN YOUR FACE" problem discussed and agreed upon was, the lack of nursing teachers available to teach the students flocking to nursing schools. And what is worse, the present faculty is retiring at a rate faster than they are being replaced.

At STT-LGC next Board Meeting, it was unanimously voted that our mission regarding the nursing shortage was to sponsor, through educational scholarships, nurses who wanted a career in nursing education in the North Bay. We formed a scholarship committee and developed criteria, applications and awards. Mary Ellen Wilcox, who is an adjunct faculty at SSU, received our first PhD scholarship for \$2,500. She is pursuing her degree and doing her research at UCSF. When she has finished, she will present her research to her colleagues at a STT Dinner Meeting, which is one of the criteria for accepting the award. We would also like to provide scholarships

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Special points of interest:

- Message from the President
- STT greater Bay Area Consortium Collaborative Fall Research Program
- Fall Dinner Program

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Collaborative Research

**Sigma Theta Tau
Greater Bay Area
Consortium
Collaborative Fall
Research Program
Including:**

Alpha Eta, Alpha Gamma,
Beta Gamma, Lambda Gamma,
Nu Xi-at-large, Nu Psi, and
Rho Alpha Chapters

Keynote Speaker:

Marilyn Flood, UCSF
Associate Dean Emerita

When:

October 14
10 am to 2 pm

Where:

UCSF Millbery Union
conference Center
500 Parnassus Ave
San Francisco

Cost:

STT members \$10
Non-members \$15

Questions?

Contact Lou:

Mulligan-Beasley@ucsfmedctr.org



Spring Program 2006 Award Recipient

Who was the lucky one at our spring dinner meeting to win the 3 figure STT scholarship? It was me, Kathleen Rockett. What a thrill to hear your name called and awesome to receive funds toward my trip to Boston, my hometown by the way, to attend the Oncology Nursing Society 31st Annual Congress. Congress affords you the chance to gain educational

experiences and networking opportunities that enhances the provision of excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care.

personal dissemination of knowledge generated by the numerous sessions and presentations at Congress.

Please join us at our Lambda Gamma Tau chapter dinner meeting on November 06th relax, socialize, network, collaborate and hear about my renewed sense of excitement and

Fall 2006 Dinner Program

"What's the importance of belonging to a National Nursing Organization? " Come find out at the dinner program!!!

Topic:
Oncology: The Importance of belonging to a National Nursing Organization
Speaker:
Kathleen Rockett-Zimmerman
When:
November 6, 2006

Time:
Chapter Business Meeting 6-6:30 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm
Where:
Osake Restaurant
2446 Patio Court
Santa Rosa

Cost:
STT Members: \$35
Non-members: \$40
Students: \$20
Tea only: \$5

Questions?
Contact Patricia swanwoods@sbcglobal.net

Regional Simulation Center



SSU Nursing Department Technology Update!

The department of nursing is currently working with several partners in northern Marin County and southern Sonoma County to remodel a building at the Indian

Valley Campus (IVC) of College of Marin (COM) in Novato that will be a Regional Simulation Center for Sonoma State and Dominican University's nursing programs. Indian Valley is working very quickly and very effectively in securing separate funding to provide a

Nurse Simulation Manager (a real nurse!) and technician to support this effort. This will ultimately be a great setting for this simulation lab as the space is excellent. Placing the Sim lab in Marin county is necessary because Betty Moore Foundation

Regional Simulation Center Cont.

money that is supporting this project covers the Bay Area only. So this collaboration with College of Marin and Dominican is much to Sonoma's benefit. It is great to see all the local schools of nursing working together to address the nursing shortage by sharing the technology that will assist them in their

teaching. The lab should be up and running in the Spring Semester. Meanwhile, College of Marin is going to arrange for the Laerdal (the manufacturer of the simulation manikins) to help design the space properly, and when finished to come set up the simulations and provide instruction to

faculty in their use. There should be a press release going out soon that will announce this multi-agency partnership (Kaiser, Sutter, and Marin are supplying funds and possibly nurses to get the lab started). Look for more information from the local press and from the SSU department of nursing.



Award Nomination for April 2007 Induction

Sigma Theta Tau Lambda Gamma Chapter is planning and preparing for our up coming induction in April 2007. The chapter will have the honor of inducting new membership to deserving baccalaureate and graduate nursing students, who demonstrate excellence in leadership and scholarship as well as to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing.

Lambda Gamma Chapter continues the tradition of honoring nurses who demonstrate professional excellence in research, education, nursing practice, leadership and mentoring. By acknowledging their contributions, we affirm the energy, spirit,

leadership and creativity that our chapter and Sigma Theta Tau International values and supports. We encourage you to nominate a colleague for a Sigma Theta Tau Recognition Award. Nominations are due by December 31, 2006. Briefly describe the nominee's qualifications using the criteria as outlined with a CV attached and send to a Lambda Gamma board member.

Criteria:

Awards for Excellence in Research:

- Conducts distinguished research in nursing,
- Communicates nursing research findings.
- Publishes scholarly works

related to nursing theory / nursing research.

- Encourages research activities within Sigma Theta Tau and or nursing practice.

Awards fro Excellence in Education:

- Demonstrate excellence in education
- Advances the science of nursing practice
- Promotes theory/research base for nursing curricula and nursing practice.
- Encourages scholarly development in nursing education, practice, and or research through education and teaching.
- Influences the professional practice of nursing and the public's image of nursing through excellence in teaching.

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"It is great to see all the local schools of nursing working together to address the nursing shortage."



EBP: Conference Report

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE: Focus on Symptom Management

This conference, cosponsored by Lambda Gamma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and the North Bay Network for Healthcare Education, was held on June 9, 2006 at the Jean & Charles Schulz Information Center on the Sonoma State University campus. It was moderated by Sandra De Bella Bodley RN EdD, Nurse Consultant.

Twenty two nurses attended to hear Kathy Beebe RN PhD, Assistant Professor of Nursing at Dominican University, discuss the development and use of a

conceptual model as a guide to exploring evidence based practice related to symptom management. Virginia Carrieri-Kohlman RN DNSc, Professor of Nursing, UCSF, discussed research in the area of dyspnea management. Professor Carrieri-Kohlman stayed for most of the day to add her knowledge and expertise to various aspects of EBP. In the SSU computer laboratory, Librarian Raye Lynn Thomas MLIS, reviewed and demonstrated how to set up a search statement and perform searches. All participants practiced doing data searches in their own interest area.

The afternoon was devoted to two panel presentations. In the first panel, Laurel Mastro RN PhD(c), Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital and

Rebecca Munroe RN, Palm Drive Hospital, discussed EBP and policy development in Acute Care Hospitals.

In the second panel, Karin Reece RN MSN, and Kathleen Rockett RN MSN, Kaiser Santa Rosa discussed using evidence in health teaching.

Thank you to all the presenters and participants for making this conference another valuable learning experience in the evolution and implementation of evidence based practice into clinical settings within our healthcare community.

President's Message continued

Little did we know that our Scholarship Fund for Nursing Teachers is STATE OF THE ART? The problem has reached critical mass, meaning the government is considering ways to step in and do something. And the Gov. solution is usually to put a pink teddy bear bandage on a gapping 10" dehiscent abdominal wound. Yesterday in *USA Today*, in the article, "Nursing schools short on teachers", Jeffrey MacDonald states, "nursing schools rejected 41,000 qualified applicants in 2005". This is bad news, given the projected 36% vacancy rate in RN positions by 2020, Boomer's Old Age Time.

We realize that we can not solve this gigantic problem. But we can make a significant contribution to local STT nurses trying to continue their nursing

education to become teachers. We realized to provide nursing education through scholarships, we would need additional funds. In August last year, you received a request for donations from the Scholarship Fund. We received \$210 in this first appeal for donations. While, this was probably not a bad return for the first time, we cannot possibly sustain support of nurses in their quest to become nursing educators with this level of donation.

In an attempt to lessen the financial burden of our members, Patricia Rozenoff, has negotiated an excellent and more conducive Dinner Meeting Restaurant for the Fall Dinner Mtg., Nov 6, at \$35. Osaka Restaurant has been the meeting place for many Pharm, CANP and medical meetings. We are hoping you will enjoy the change and will be able to make a generous contribution to Lambda

Gamma's Scholarship Fund.

Kathleen Rockett-Zimmerman will be our guest speaker, who chose to go to Massachusetts's Annual Oncology Mtg with her winnings from the raffle last fall. Knowing Kathleen it will be both educational and fun. See you soon.

Your support and your excellent service to STT-LGC are appreciated.

Sincerely,
KC Grigsby, BSN, RN, MSN, FNP,
APRN, BC
President, STT-Lambda Gamma Chapter

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Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing

Current Executive Board Officers Lambda Gamma Chapter

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[http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing/
lambdagamma/newsletters/
fall2005.htm](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing/lambdagamma/newsletters/fall2005.htm)

Award Nomination Continued

Excellence in Nursing Practice:

- Demonstrates breadth of knowledge in a area of nursing practice.
- Develops creative approaches in nursing practice that contributes to provision of quality client care.
- Advances the scope and practice of nursing
- Serves as mentor/preceptor that inspires the practice of nursing.
- Enhances the image of nursing through nursing practice.
- Participates in community affairs, legislation, or organizations that affect nursing practice.

Excellence in Leadership:

- Demonstrates local, national and or international recognition as a nursing leader in education, practice, administration and or research.
- Influences leadership in nursing through visionary and innovative approaches to leadership.
- Creates and environment that enhances the image of nursing.
- Engages in the development of nurse leaders.

Excellence in Mentorship:

- Actively shapes and promotes the career of a nurse or the development the chapter.
- Collaborates and promotes the growth and development of an individual and or the chapter.
- Maintains the mentoring relationship over time with an individual and or colleagues.