

Gamma Alpha Chapter News

Special points of interest:

- 58 inducted June 10, 2010
- Welcome Back Information booth
- 2010 Awardees
- Rose Parade Float Decorating
- January seminar
- Coming Events

Welcome New Members and Officers!

The 34th Annual Gamma Alpha Induction ceremony held June 10, 2010 ushered in 58 new members. We were privileged to honor 33 undergraduate, 19 graduate, and 6 community nurse leaders for their commitment to nursing excellence, knowledge, service and leadership throughout their careers.



2010 Inductees at the 34th Annual Induction Ceremony
June 10, 2010

Dr. Ann Dechario-Marino, senior VP of Patient Care Services at Northridge Hospital Medical Center, CA challenged our membership with her keynote address "Leadership: Heart, Mind and Soul."

Awards were presented to the following individuals for their commitment and service.

Excellence In:

Education: Ellen D'Errico
Service: Cora Caballero
Writing: Michelle Tinkham, Delores Wright
(see p. 2)

"Friend of Nursing" Award

Jan Michaelis (p. 2)

Special Recognition:

Vaneta Condon (p. 2)
Richard Cho (p. 2)

2010-2011 Officers

President: Ellen D'Errico
VP: Michelle Buckman
Secretary: Carolyn Davidson
Treasurer: Delores Wright
1st Yr Counselor: Megan Schatzschneider
2nd Yr counselor: Kathie Ingram
Leadership Succession: Ruby Sun, Anne Berit-Petersen, Dorothy Forde
Archivist: Eva Miller

New Officers



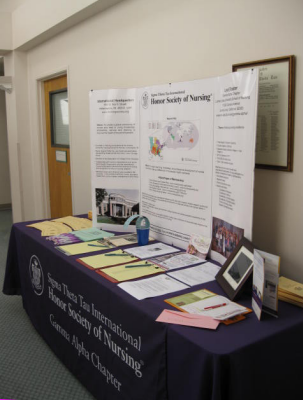
Get to Know Gamma Alpha Information Booth

Challenge: How can we introduce students to Sigma Theta Tau International early in their academic experience?

Answer: Tell them about our organization earlier! On September 26-29, 2010, the Gamma Alpha

chapter sponsored a "Getting to Know Us" information booth explaining qualifications for selection into the honor society, our history, and events taking place this year. The Loma Linda University School of Nursing has over 500 stu-

dents enrolled this year. Most of them were able to stop by and receive information about the honor society of nursing and how, if they study hard, they may be invited to join our esteemed organization.



Awards of Excellence

Cora Caballero RN, FNP was given the excellence in practice award. Cora is a family nurse practitioner, general internal medicine at the Loma Linda Veterans Health System.

Ellen D'Errico PhD, RN, associate professor was given the excellence in teaching award. She teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses at LLUSN.

Michelle Tinkham MS CNOR, CLNC is an operating room nurse at Riverside Community Hospital in Riverside, CA. She was given the excellence writing award for her article, "Care of the patient undergoing surgical incision of a carotid body chemodectoma" AORN 91 (1) 2010.

Delores Wright PhD, RN, PHN was given an excellence in writing award for her article, "Perceived barriers of Non-US healthcare providers to responding during mass causality" Journal of Disaster Medicine 4 (6), 2009.

Special recognition awards went to Vaneta Condon, PhD, RN for her LLU school of nursing leadership and scholarship in helping nursing students succeed in their academic studies. Since 2000, she has presented her scholarly work at five STTI sponsored International Research Congresses and numerous other local and regional STTI sponsored events.

Richard Cho RN, BS was recognized for his excellence in service as chapter web master from 2001-2010.



Current Students welcoming new students at the school of nursing orientation September 26, 2010

Come Help Us Decorate a Rose Parade Float

Thursday, December 30, 2010 from 8AM-4PM, Gamma Alpha members and their friends (18 and older) will be decorating floats for the 2011 Tournament of Roses Parade.

We have registered with the Kiwanis Club International who is contracted to manage

volunteers for Phoenix Decorating Company—the company chosen to design and build the 2013 "Nurses Float." Gamma Alpha members are getting experience now, so that when December 2012 rolls around, we will be experienced float decorator volunteers and will be able to take part in decorating the nurse's float. If you would

like to join us this year, contact our Vice President, Michelle Buckman at: mbuckman@llu.edu. You can also meet us at the Rosemont Pavilion 700 Seco in Pasadena at 8AM December 30. Look for the Gamma Alpha sign.

"I think one's feelings waste themselves in words; they ought all to be distilled into actions which bring results."

Florence Nightingale

January seminar for Senior students

With job competition at the highest point in years, it is necessary for new nursing graduates to know how to interview well and learn how to showcase the talents/skills they will bring to a hiring organization.

Gamma Alpha supports students and is sponsoring the seminar, "How to Get a Job you will Love" in January 2011.

Nancie Parmenter, RN MS, in collaboration with nurse managers at LLUMC will be helping students polish their resumes, learn effective interviewing strategies, and teach how to build and showcase a professional portfolio.



Gamma Alpha Chapter STTI

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*An Honor to Belong
A Benefit to Join*

A word from the President

I would like to give a big "Thank You" to those who, year after year, keep their Sigma Theta Tau membership active.

In these tough economic times, many individuals and families are drastically trimming their budgets out of necessity.

Gamma Alpha depends on the significant percentage of your annual dues that come back to fund the activities of our chapter.

We have a special desire to reach out to students and members. Sigma Theta Tau has a treasure trove of resources to develop and encourage

COMING EVENTS

Oct. 28 & 29, 2010 "Nursing Odyssey" Regional Conference, San Diego

December 30, 2010: Rose Parade Float Decorating, 700 Seco St. Pasadena

February 4, 2011: Film Night—details To Be Announced

March 10, 2011: Gamma Alpha Invitational Tea 1-3PM West Hall

April 22, 2011: Business Meeting 5-6:30 West Hall

May 12, 2011: Research Day LLUMC

June 9, 2011: Gamma Alpha Induction

to find out more.

nursing leadership and scholarship. For an annual dues of \$89.00, the Gamma Alpha Board can support nurse-centered leadership and scholarship programming. In comparison to many other professional organizations, whose dues are well above \$100, STTI dues are a bargain!

I would like to encourage you if you have become inactive, to consider reactivating your membership today.

When you are an active member, you have access to all of the wonderful resources STTI has to offer. Visit www.nursingsociety.org



Ellen D'Errico PhD, RN, NEA-BC