



GAMMA ALPHA CHAPTER NEWS

Volume 34 Issue 2

Spring 2016

"Championing Nursing Excellence"

Mobile Library Gifted to Malawi, Africa



Left to Right: Mrs. C. Nkhoma the previous Head of Nursing department, Mrs. G. Pidini, the current Head of Nursing department, Mrs. E. Kholowa, Senior Nurse educator, Jacqueline Saka, student, and Principal Dr. F. Kasenga

A big THANK YOU to all members that participated in our major fundraiser to send a mobile library of current references/texts in a secure, weather-proof mobile cabinet. The total cost of books, shipping/transport came to \$3,000. The mobile library went to the Malamulo College of Health Sciences Nursing Program, Malawi, Africa. See response below.

"Greetings from the warm heart of Africa, Malawi! We thank you very much for the wonderful gift of Mobile Library that Gamma Alpha Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International sent us. May the good Lord continue blessing you all and may you extend our gratitude to all members. The mobile Library is a very useful resource for the department since it has latest books which is one of the requirements from the regulatory bodies. We will continue using and taking a good care of it."

There are so many other areas in need internationally. LET'S DO IT AGAIN!

Christmas Posada Gifts Received

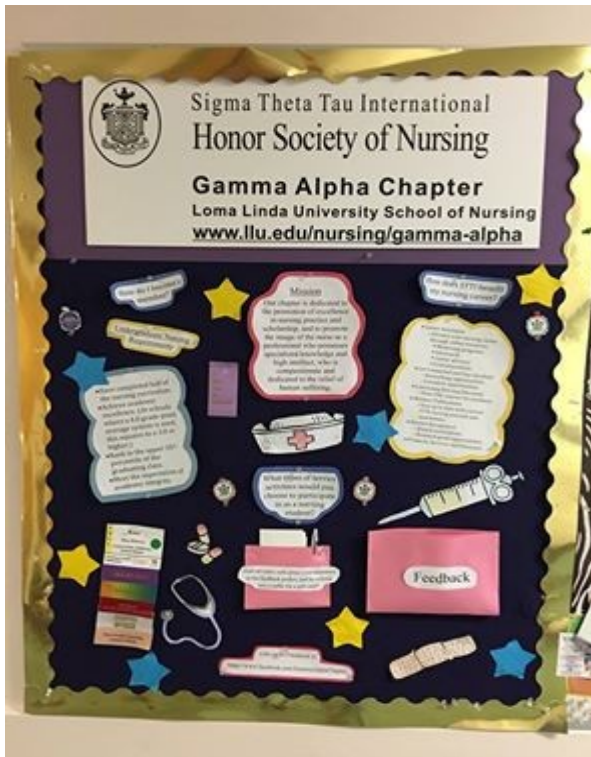
Gamma Alpha Chapter and the Association of Student Nurses at Loma Linda University teamed up to participate in a service project this past holiday season. Gifts were collected for the oft “forgotten age group” of ages 11-16 years old. Approximately \$500 worth of gift cards, scarves, hats, personal hygiene items, socks, earbuds, craft kits, and other novelties teenagers like were collected and taken to the December 17, 2015 “Holiday Posada” in Upland, California. “Reach Out”, an organization dedicated to embracing communities, youth and families to strengthen the bonds that enable all members of the community to grow and thrive, put on the event. Youth were able to get their picture taken with Santa, eat delicious holiday goodies, and receive gifts chosen especially for them. The Holiday Posada provided an opportunity for the youth to experience the holidays like never before.



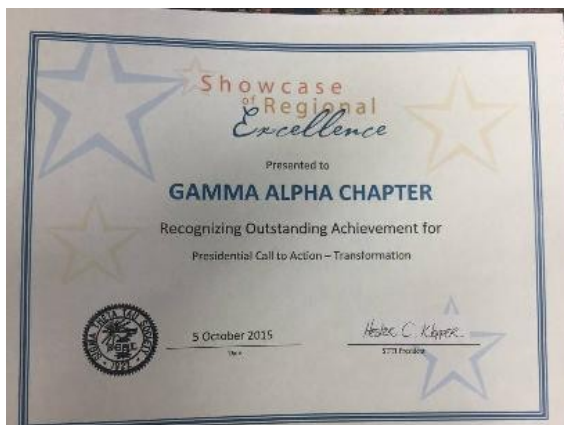
A huge THANK YOU goes to junior student Cheyenne Peevy, who was instrumental in the implementation of this project. The foster youth had a wonderful time!

Leadership Intern Program Started

Gamma Alpha Chapter is collaborating with the Loma Linda University School of Nursing's undergraduate Capstone leadership course. One to two students each quarter will be assigned to chapter members to initiate a change project. This past quarter our interns were Tessa Martin and Cynthia Munoz. These enthusiastic and energetic young ladies conducted surveys regarding student's level of awareness about STTI, designed and implemented an update of the bulletin board in the school of nursing, and implemented a service project "Ministry of Love" where students were invited to create greeting cards for patients confined in the Children's Hospital. The chapter has greatly benefitted from their energy and commitment to professional nursing. Thank you ladies!



GAMMA ALPHA RECEIVES "SHOWCASE OF REGIONAL EXCELLENCE" AWARDS



In congruence with the 2013-2015 Presidential Call to Action, Gamma Alpha chapter received three "Showcase of Regional Excellence" awards.

The citations were activities the chapter initiated to support gratitude, transformation, and connectedness.

2015-2016 Gamma Alpha Chapter Invitational Tea

Over 75 students are eligible for induction into Sigma Theta Tau this year. For the first time in many years, students at the junior level have been invited, since the school of nursing no longer offers an associate degree opt out at the junior level. We look forward to having new inductees still at the school for one more academic year! Congratulations to all who have "made the cut." Welcome! We trust you will proudly accept membership into the honor society.



Board Members

Top row: Left-Right, Fayette Truax, Avery Anderson, Jan Nick, Ellen D'Errico.

Front row: Left-Right, Iris Mamier, Vanessa Oyefeso-Jones, Kimberly Buck

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



MAY 9, 2016

Annual Business Meeting Gamma Alpha Chapter 5-7PM

West Hall Room 1378

Light Supper will be served

MAY 12, 2016

Nurses' Week Annual Research & Innovation Conference 8AM-4PM

Wong Kerlee Conference Center on the campus of Loma Linda University

JUNE 9, 2016

Annual Gamma Alpha Induction Ceremony 4-5:30PM

Damazo Amphitheater, Centennial Complex, Loma Linda University Campus

2015-2016 Gamma Alpha Chapter Board Members

President: Carolyn Davidson

Vice President: Iris Mamier

Treasurer: Jan Nick

Secretary: Gloria Huerta

1st year faculty counselor: Kim Buck

2nd year faculty counselor: Vanessa Jones-Oyefeso

Governance & Eligibility: Lisa Roberts, Monica Haj, Patti Radovich, Kathi Wild

Leadership Succession Committee: Michelle Ballou, Avery Anderson,
Cora Caballero, Nancie Parmenter, Fayette Traux

Newsletter Editor: Ellen D'Errico