

# DETAILS

Sigma Theta Tau International ~ Delta Tau Chapter-At-Large



## *From the President...*

Greetings to the membership of Delta Tau Chapter-At-Large, and welcome to our new members inducted on Sunday, April 1, 2001. As I begin my term as President, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. As we plan our future together, I hope you will share in my enthusiasm about our chapter's plans and goals, which Sigma Theta Tau International has outlined in the *Strategic Plan 2005* (Available at the society's webpage: [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org))!

The core of the plan consists of our vision to lead and our mission to serve, support, and improve the health of people worldwide. Vision and mission statements are important because they keep us focused on the goal. However, these statements can lose their significance if we are not connected to the source of the vision and mission.

How can you grasp this vision to lead and this mission to serve, support and improve the health of all? You begin at the membership level. The success of the society is directly related to the commitment of its membership. As we begin to develop members across the span of their careers, we incite the retention of active members and encourage inactive members to become active members once again. We must meet the personal and professional needs of **ALL** members in order to lead, serve, support, and improve healthcare.

In addition, grasping the vision and mission requires building a strong chapter. Members make a chapter and a chapter is known by its membership. Each chapter is unique and requires specific resources. However, communication and collaboration are essential components in the strength of a chapter. Every member has the ability to contribute to the success of the organization.

I urge you to join me in planning and attaining our goals. Remember, our vision is to lead and our mission is to serve, support, and improve the health of the world's people. Help me in making this vision a reality!

*Nicky Hardy, RN, BSN, President, Delta Tau Chapter~At-Large*

## *"Free Money" in the Future...*

Delta Tau Chapter will also award one Graduate and one Undergraduate Scholarship each in the amount of \$1000 during the 2001-2002 year. The Graduate Scholarship Award will be given directly to the recipient to be used toward his/her graduate courses/study. The Undergraduate Scholarship Award will be deposited into the student's account at his/her school. One Research Grant will also be awarded during the 2002 year. This award will be in the amount of \$500 and will be given directly to the recipient to be used toward his/her research project. Look for more details in the Fall newsletter.

## *Inside Details . . .*

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*21st Annual Induction Ceremony*  
*Welcome to our new members...*



**EASTERN COLLEGE**

- STEPHANIE BENNETT
- NANCY BLACKBURN
- PATRICIA GUIFFRIDA
- ELAINE HOSSLER
- LISA MINNICH
- CYNTHIA OGLE
- KIMBERLY TOBIN
- ANN TAMACCIO

**HOLY FAMILY COLLEGE**

- HEATHER BAGBY
- CYNTHIA BARRIS
- COLLEEN CUSH
- ANDREA DONAHUE
- MARCY DOERFLER
- PATRICIA KRYSA
- THERESA KUJAR
- DEBORAH LINK
- THERESA MORSA
- KAREN RUGGERI
- KERRY SULLIVAN



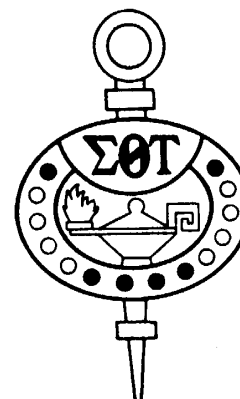
**NEUMANN COLLEGE**

- ANGELA BIDDLE
- JACLYN FONES
- KATHLEEN GLEDHILL-KISEL
- LAUREN KELLEY
- LISA MAIORANO
- COLLEEN MORRIS
- SHANNON SWAVY
- JANE MARIE TAYLOR



**COMMUNITY NURSE LEADERS**

- MARGARET DONAHUE
- YU-RU LIN
- MARJORIE A. TALBOT
- (IN ABSENTIA)



## *21st Annual Induction Ceremony Celebrates the Growth of Our Chapter!*

**C**ongratulations to all the new inductees of Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Tau Chapter at Large. The first induction ceremony of the new millennium took place on April 1, 2001 at Holy Family College in Philadelphia, PA. Thirty new members received their honor cords that day.

This year we were lucky enough to get Mr. Ramón Lavandero to speak at our ceremony. His experience at Sigma Theta Tau International and his insight into the field of nursing made him an excellent candidate to speak to the new inductees. Mr. Lavandero brought the meaning of this organization alive for not only the new inductees, but also for the current members, faculty and family members as well.

In his speech, he reminded us of the importance of this organization, what it means to be a member both personally

and professionally, and how we can influence the field of nursing by being active members of this organization.

Following the ceremony, current members, family, and faculty mingled with the new inductees as they enjoyed a nice light luncheon in the Commons. Current members chatted with new inductees and hopefully made this day a very memorable experience.

As the new inductees learn about Sigma Theta Tau International, we want to encourage them to become involved and make this chapter their organization. For more information on how to volunteer for different events, or to run for an upcoming office, please contact one of the current officers.

*Laurie Ann Bendzinski Colborn, RN, BSN*



## *Nursing Nursing Back to Health . . . One Newspaper's Perspective*

**Our view:** *The nursing shortage poses risks not only to patients but to nurses themselves. Already overworked, many are forced to work overtime. There ought to be a law against it.*

Nobody knows a profession like those who work in it. That's why the results of a January survey conducted by the American Nurses Association is so disturbing. Just take a look at these numbers: 75 percent of nurses surveyed said the quality of nursing has declined over the last two years; 56 percent said the time they have for patient care, likewise, has declined; and 40 percent said they would not want a close friend or family member cared for at the facility for which they work.

Those disturbing responses almost certainly are rooted in two troubling developments - the nursing shortage and forced overtime generated by the shortage. The former is driven by cultural and socioeconomic factors. For example, little girls no longer are funneled into health care by parent- and teacher-supported stereotypes. Also, more families can afford to send "all" of their children to college and a more enlightened society has emboldened women to venture beyond traditional female professions.

As a result, women obtain four-year degrees and often more in numbers equal to and even greater than men. And they compete with men, practically without discrimination, for most any job the market has to offer.

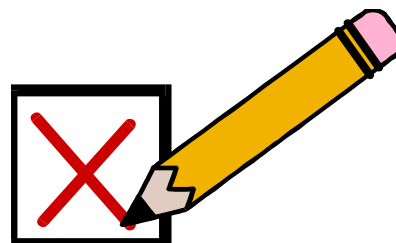
But with fewer women - and not enough men - getting into nursing, those staffing our hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities are working harder and longer. And they're not doing so by choice.

It's why hundreds of nurses converged on Harrisburg this week, National Nurses Week. They visited the Capitol in support of reasoned legislation that would ban mandatory overtime, an ill-conceived, knee-jerk reaction that nurses say merely drives people out of the profession. More worrisome is the potential danger tired, overworked nurses can pose to the sometimes critically ill people they care for.

Wouldn't you be tired if forced to work 16 and 24 hours at a time? There ought to be a law against it, and that's what state Representative Dan Surra has in mind. The Elk County Democrat's legislation fortunately has widespread support in the House and Senate. We encourage Bucks lawmakers to get on board - because we need to find ways

to make nursing more appealing. And eliminating brutal hours under threat of job loss is an obvious starting point. That the situation exists at all is a scandal. As much as anything, it explains why 54 percent of nurses said they would not recommend the profession to their children or their friends, a telling and startling revelation this aging society had better address - soon.

*Printed as an EDITORIAL in the  
Bucks County Courier Times  
May 9, 2001*



### *Looking for a Good Candidate...*

It is that time of year again... time to elect members to the 2001 ~ 2003 Executive Board of Directors of Delta Tau Chapter-At-Large. We are looking for someone to fill the position of "treasurer." If you are interested, please "write-in" your name and briefly describe your interest in becoming the treasurer for this chapter. The role of the treasurer includes the following:

- Be custodian of the funds.
- Prepare a quarterly financial report and present a current financial report to the Board of Directors at each meeting.
- Prepare and submit the Annual Chapter Financial Report; Work with the accountant on the biennial audit and submit a copy to headquarters.
- Obtain and complete necessary tax forms for the Internal Revenue Service.
- For inductions, cut checks needed for international induction fees and jewelry and honor cord orders
- Oversee and manage the investment plan of the organization with support from the Board of Directors.
- Develop and maintain fiscal policies and procedures in collaboration with the Board of Directors.
- Submit new policies or modifications of existing policies to the Board of Directors for approval

Now is the time to become more involved. This position offers an excellent opportunity to learn and network. Don't be shy — just apply!

# *Delta Tau Ballot 2001*

**MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS FOR THE BELOW POSITIONS BY PLACING A CHECK ON THE APPROPRIATE LINE. DEADLINE IS JULY 16, 2001. PLEASE RETURN YOUR BALLOT BY FOLDING THE BALLOT (SO THE ADDRESS SHOWS ON THE FRONT), TAPE, AND STAMP. THANK YOU FOR PAYING THE POSTAGE.**

## VICE PRESIDENT – NEUMANN COLLEGE

Jane Marie Taylor \_\_\_\_\_

Write-In Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

## HOLY FAMILY COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Cathleen Jenner \_\_\_\_\_

Write-In Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

## EASTERN COLLEGE COUNSELOR

Christina Jackson \_\_\_\_\_

Write-In Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

## \*TREASURER

Write-In Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

**BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR INTEREST AND EXPERIENCE FOR THIS POSITION:**

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## NOMINATING CHAIRPERSON

Jacqueline Conaty \_\_\_\_\_

Write-In Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

**\*POSITIONS NOT FILLED WILL BE APPOINTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.**

Delta Tau Ballot ~ 2001

Eileen M. Alexy  
1137 Shackamaxon Street  
Suite C  
Philadelphia, PA 19125-4143

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PLEASE SEND YOUR BALLOT BY:

***JULY 16, 2001***

## *The Delta Tau Holiday Tradition Continues...*

**D**elta Tau holiday traditions continue at the Community Nursing Center and Holy Family Neighborhood Center. In keeping with the spirited tradition, Delta Tau Chapter-At-Large sponsored a "Christmas Dessert Festival" at the Community Nursing Center in Chester, PA on December 14, 2000. Many older adults attended this festive event, where various, decorative desserts were plentiful. In addition, the children at the Holy Family Neighborhood Center in the Frankford section of Philadelphia were treated to a great time of fun, games, food, and gifts. Many thanks to the faculty of Neumann and Holy Family Colleges, as well as Delta Tau members who assisted in making these events a success. We could not do this without your generous support! Plans are underway for next year's

