A Message from Rhoda . .

Upcoming Medical Supply Drive and Global Health Service Project Trip

Planning continues for the global health service project with the Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa (FHSSA). Rhoda Owens, Laurie Dimler and four MSU nursing students (Amber Barnes, Amber Widmayer, Mikey Gessner and Sara Samulenk) will be traveling to Moshi, Tanzania Dec. 30, 2009 – Jan. 11, 2010 to visit and work at the Machame Lutheran Hospial Palliative Care Program. Omicron Tau Chapter and the MSU Nursing Student Association will hold a medical supply drive October 12, 2009 to October 23, 2009 to collect medical supplies that trip participants will take and distribute to the program. Supplies not taken by the participants will be shipped to other FHSSA African partner hospices. Monetary donations will also be accepted that will be sent directly to the program to use in purchasing medical supplies and expenses. Our American dollar goes a long way in Africa and can be more helpful than medical supplies. For example, $100 covers the average monthly expenses for one patient including medications to control symptoms, clinical nursing care, food to feed a patient and family, home care supplies such as dressing supplies, equipment and travel-related costs for rural locations. Checks can be made out to “Omicron Tau Chapter” and deposited at one of the drop off locations or mailed to address below.

What medical supplies are needed? (Expiration dates must be for November 2010 or later and no outdated supplies will be accepted):

- Vitamins for all ages
- Travel size alcohol hand wash
- Bandages
- Disposable gloves

Where can medical supplies and money donations be dropped off?

- MSU Department of Nursing, 3rd Floor Memorial Hall
- Affinity First Federal Credit Union at 811 South Broadway, Minot

Monetary donations (indicate medical supply drive on check) can be mailed to: Omicron Tau Chapter, MSU Dept. of Nursing, Minot State University, 500 University Ave West, Minot, ND 58707-0001

As a member, please consider participating in our global health project by donating medical supplies and/or money and spread the word to family and friends.

Any questions, please call Rhoda at 720-1588
Chapter Key Award Recipient

The Omicron Tau Chapter, Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International has been selected as a recipient of the 2009 Chapter Key Award. This award honors chapters who excel in chapter related activities such as membership recruitment and retention, publicity and programming, professional and leadership development, local, national and international collaboration. The award will be presented to Omicron Tau Chapter representatives on November 1, 2009 at the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International 40th Biennial Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Say Cheese!

It’s never to early to start planning for the annual Nurses’ Day Celebration. Mark your calendars . . . The annual Nurse Day Celebration Wine/Cheese at the Taube will be on May 6, 2010 from 5pm – 7pm. The Taube has been reserved and the committee will be meeting soon.

Omicron Tau Chapter’s Strategic Plan
2009-2010

- Hold two scholarly activities each year
- Encourage member involvement in specific projects and/or committee work
- Invite community nurse leaders and nursing students for induction
- Involve students in chapter processes
- Provide mentor opportunities for student members
- Attain financial support through membership fees and fund raising
- Support two delegates to the biennial convention
- Support 1 active member as an officer to attend the Leadership Academy
- Recognize outstanding performance and service through awards and public relations
  - Hold regular board meetings and an annual meeting
  - Facilitate meetings between members
  - Publish newsletter three times a year and send to all active members
  - Maintain chapter web-site to provide information and communication among members
  - Develop internal resources
  - Participate in at least one community and one global outreach project annually
October Officer Training Opportunities

The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is pleased to present October officer training opportunities. Join us as we take a virtual tour of the honor society’s Web site and demonstrate how to use function tools available through Officers Only. Learn how to maximize member contact by using chapter rosters to create mail merges, labels and more. Be sure to check out the new leadership series on each officer position, this month focusing on treasurers. And don’t forget to register for October’s Leader to Leader call as we discuss Time Management.

Officer training opportunities are free of charge, though registration is required. This invitation has been sent to chapter officers serving as presidents, president-elects, vice presidents, treasurers, counselors and secretaries. Feel free to forward this email or direct other chapter officers to the Leadership and Training page of the honor society’s Web site for additional training information.

Please review the brief descriptions, dates and times of October officer training opportunities and select those most convenient for you.

**Officer Orientation** is an interactive session that uses the honor society’s Web site as a virtual classroom that will demonstrate how to use functional tools such as Officers Only, the chapter management system.

- **6 October at 3 p.m. ET (2 p.m. CT, 1 p.m. MT, 12 p.m. PT)**
- **7 October at 11 a.m. ET (10 a.m. CT, 9 a.m. MT, 8 a.m. PT)**

**The Basics of Mass Communications** demonstrates how to use member contact information to develop distribution lists, mailing labels and creating mail merges. It is recommended that participants attend the Officer Orientation webcast before participating in The Basics of Mass Communication.

- **13 October at 3 p.m. ET (2 p.m. CT, 1 p.m. MT, 12 p.m. PT)**
- **15 October at 11 a.m. ET (10 a.m. CT, 9 a.m. MT, 8 a.m. PT)**

**Taking the Lead Series: Treasurer** is the fourth in a series of officer focused webcasts discussing the specific functions of individual positions and their impact on chapter operations and chapter health. View the first, pre-recorded webcast, Taking the Lead: Chapter Structure and Officer Responsibilities prior to attending the Treasurer’s webcast.

- **20 October 3 p.m. ET (2 p.m. CT, 1 p.m. MT, 12 p.m. PT)**
- **22 October at 11 a.m. ET (10 a.m. CT, 9 a.m. MT, 8 a.m. PT)**

**Leader to Leader: Time Management**. Hear how other officers and chapter leaders balance commitment to their chapter with other life priorities.

- **21 October at 11 a.m. ET (10 a.m. CT, 9 a.m. MT, 8 a.m. PT)**

Visit the STTI Website to learn more about these opportunities and to register.
Our Vision
The vision of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world’s people.

Our Mission
The mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to make a difference in health worldwide.

Sigma Theta Tau has over 450,000 nurses in 90 countries working to improve health worldwide. Omicron Tau Chapter, chartered in 1998, is located within the Department of Nursing at Minot State University.

Important Dates!
Future Board meeting Dates: (all will be at MSU, Dept. of Nursing) (All members welcome to attend.
Attendance is a great way to find out what is going on and a way to get more involved in chapter activities)
Next board of director meetings:
November 10, 2009 at 5:00pm – 6:00pm
February 2, 2010 from 5pm – 6pm
Annual meeting—March 23, 2010 at 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Board Transition Meeting - May 18, 2010 5pm–7pm.

New member induction: April 22, 2010 at 7:00pm MSU Student Center
Nurse Day Celebration/Raffle at the Taube: May 6, 2010 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Collaborative Education Conference - April 9, 2010: Register anytime for “Evidenced Based Nursing Practice for Today.” Contact hours will be awarded for attendance. (Brochure Attached)

We Want You!!!
Do you want to become more active in Omicron Tau Chapter activities while meeting and networking with other members? We are looking for new members on all our committees. Why not become a member of one of our several committees? Members will be contacted over the next 3 months to determine interest. If interested, contact Rhoda Owens 720-1588 or owens-fam@Min.midco.net