

Note from Executive Director



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CLNC, CLNI, CHCRM, WCC, DWC, OMS



National Alliance of Wound Care
and Ostomy®

The theme for this issue of *Wound Care Advisor* is “the best of the best,” so it seemed appropriate for this note to be about the “best of the best” from the NAWCO viewpoint.

What does “best of the best” mean? Merriam Webster defines the word best as “the greatest degree of good or excellence.” In addition, Merriam Webster defines the word excellence as, “extremely high quality.”

One high-quality conference full of excellence is the Wound Care Education Institute’s Wild on Wounds (WOW) Conference. Since its inception in 2004, this conference has provided bedside clinicians with the opportunity to come together to learn, network, and have fun! After 12 years, WOW continues to be the go-to conference of the year for many clinicians. With a loyal group of dedicated clinicians, continued growth, and a focus on what is best for the attendees, the WOW conference makes it on my “best of the best” list.

As WOW has grown, so has the number of Wound Care Certified clinicians. With more than 18,000 certified clinicians, NAWCO continues to be the largest certification body in the United States. I think about all of these clinicians with a great sense of pride for each and every one of them and what they have accomplished. Enhancing their knowledge and increasing their presence was an individual decision made by each person. Why? Because they wanted to be the “best of the best.”

I’d like to take that one step further. What

constitutes the “best of the best” in this group of talented, intelligent, compassionate clinicians? It’s clinicians who consistently go above and beyond to make it better for patients who are often overlooked. Others perceive these clinicians as “going the extra mile” and “giving 150%.”

As WOW and the certified number of clinicians grew, we knew there needed to be a way to acknowledge these excellent practitioners. Who better to choose these deserving clinicians than the people they work with on a daily basis? That’s why in 2007 NAWCO established the Awards Committee and decided on the criteria for four awards to be given that year: Outstanding WCC of the Year, Outstanding Work in Diabetic Wounds, Outstanding Research in Wound Care, and a WCC Scholarship to an Outstanding Clinician working in the field.

Every year, the clinicians who are chosen receive their 15 minutes of fame. But what happens when the curtain goes down, the lights go out, and everybody goes back home? We may think that these individuals are forgotten, but I believe that among their peers, patients, and families they remain famous. With that said, I wanted to give them all another 15 minutes of fame by recognizing them again. I am certain that today they play as vital a role in the care of wound patients as they did the year they were chosen.

Outstanding WCC of the Year

2007 – LuAnn Reed RN, WCC, DWC

2008 – Rachel Pacheco RN, WCC

2009 – Shane Pilkington OT, BS, WCC
 2010 – Sharon Perry RN,NP-BC,WCC
 2011 – Beny Tadina-Himes RN, WCC
 2012 – Monessa Wadford RN, BSN, WCC
 2013 – Ava Chavaz RN, WCC
 2014 – Chelsey Hawthorne RN-BC, WCC,
 BSN

Outstanding Work in Diabetic Wounds

2007 – Michelle Goncalves, LPN, WCC
 2008 – Stanley Rynkiewicz RN, BSN, WCC,
 DWC
 2009 – Catherine Jackson RN, WCC
 2010 – Kulbir Dhillon NP,WCC
 2011 – Nnette Brown MSP, NP, WCC
 2012 – Sandra Leamer-Newhouse RN, WCC
 2013 – Jessica Kuznia PT, WCC, DWC
 2014 – Anna Ruelle DPM, WCC

Outstanding Research in Wound Care

2007 – LuAnn Reed RN, WCC, DWC
 2008 – Amy Narciso RN
 2009 – Anne Blevins RN, BSN, WCC
 2010 – Christine Fanelli MS, NP-BC, CWS,
 WCC
 2011 – Connie Johnson RN, MSN, WCC,
 DWC, LLE, OMS
 2012 – Julie Lientz BSN, RN, WCC, CWON
 2013 – Connie Johnson RN, MSN, WCC,
 DWC, LLE, OMS
 2014 – Michael Katzman BSN, RN, ONC,
 WCC

WCC Scholarship

2007 – Janet Jones, RN
 2008 – Christina Albright RN, WCC
 2009 – Rebecca Thompson RN
 2010 – Maren Zinski RN, BSN, WCC
 2011 – Marlene Bilello RN, WCC
 2012 – Melinda Kofmehl, RN
 2013 – Angela Rumery LPN
 2014 – Craig Johnson RN, BSN

I would like to extend my personal thank you to all the winners for the job that you do, the care you provide, and the compassion you display. We are honored that you chose the WCC credential to enhance your professional careers. Your commitment to learning, along with your expertise, makes a difference in the lives of wound care patients you encounter across the United States.

This is our ninth year of recognizing individuals who have been chosen by their peers as the “best of the best.” Be sure to attend Saturday’s Session 114 (Paying it Forward) to meet the Award Winners for 2015.

In the next issue, I will continue our series of Board member introductions, but I enjoyed this break in the series to be able to recognize the “best of the best” in the wound care field. Congratulations, once again, to all of the past award recipients. You are all truly the “best of the best.”

New certificants

Below are WCC, DWC, and OMS certificants who were certified from June to July 2015.

James Adams
 Laila Alamgir

Judy Bakken
 Michelle Ball

Dana Barr
 William Barrett
 Bettina Bates
 Kristin Batts
 Stina Bjurstrom
 Autumn Blevins
 Barry Bontempo

Catherine Boone
 Randolph
 Jennifer Brenker
 Peaches Brown
 Jessica Brown
 LeeKoshia Campbell
 Jo Cavalier

Sonja Chase
Christina Christianson
Donna Cinco
Eugenio Clarke
Conrado Clemente
Delores Coats
Marcella Crider
Berta Deanda
Catherine DelBello
Sirner Dhaliwal
Lisa Diaz
Jacinda Diplacido
Karen Dirschel
Kathy Do
Jessica Dominguez
Brooke Donston
Julie Dow
Harmony Eck
Sina El-Khoury
Misty Emmert
Lauren Everett
Renee Fagone
Rebecca Franklin
Susan Giardino
Mercy Golo
Kristy Gosson
Dawn Graham
Melodie Grainger
Jeffrey Green
Sandra Guzman
Linda Hammons
Paige Harkness
Homa Hasnain, MD
Catherine Haug
Rebecca Haugaard
Cheryl Hill
Danielle Hilton
Zachariah Hlad
Karin Hohl
Tammy Hopkins
Kimberly Inge
Joseph Jack
Kalonji Jahi

Katlen Jean-Louis
Lilia Karlstad
Amanpreet Kaur
Laura Kelly
Misty Keough
Judith Kimatu
Susan King
Suzanne Kinsella
Laurie Knowles
Maria Kopp
Eleni Kordazakis
Kimberly Krull
Wanda Kudaj
Amanda Kvien
Charleen Lance
Joy Langley
Gina Laroche
Jennifer Larson
Elizabeth Lawinger
Amanda Lejeune
Dawn Lewis
Linda Lough
Maria Romina
Sancha Malvar
Yunaidys Marrero
Larry Martindale
Katherine Marx
Margaret Mason
Jacob Massey
Carolyne Mburu-
Gerena
Maurice McCain
Leann McCurdy
Lisa McGee
Debra Meyers
Stephanie Miller
Travis Miller
Shelley Miller
Christina Minter
Lisa Moffa
Oscar Moreno
Anita Mukerjee
Sandra Muller White

Emily Nordberg
Joan Ondrejka-Cole
Dava Owen
Cora Palmer
Bentley Pannell
Christine Paranal
Tiffany Pearson
Lacy Pessagno
Jean Peterson
Lindsey Peterson
Gina Piccione
Shawnee Putnam
Amy Reagan
Christy Recke
Wadella Richards
Carmella Richardson
Jennifer Riley
Maria Rodriguez
Wanda Rodriguez
Pelaghia Rosca
Susan Rothenberger
Margaret Ruddy
Sarah Rudolph West
Elisa Salgado
Debra Saltsman
Laura Scalf
Judy Seals
Rashda Shaheen
Doreen Sharp
Alexandra Short
Kristina Shroll
Sarah Skretkowicz
Neika Small
Amy Smith
Dona Smith
Brenda Steepleton
Jenny Stout
Evan Swanson
Lauren Szilagyi
Gail Taylor
Yoseph Tesfaye
Monique Thomas
Tammara Travis

Stephanie Unger
April Vandergriff
Laurie Vandermeer
Angela Vaughn
Ginger Wade
Kimberly Waters
Crystal Waters
Nancy Wates
Tiffany West
Betsy Wright
Lily Yanacek
Julieann Yerkes
Milissa Zack
Cyan Zieske

Recertified certificants

Below are WCC, DWC, and OMS certificants who were recertified from June to July 2015.

Christen Adam
Marilyn Al-Twal
Pamela Anderson
Elija Armstrong
Laura Avelar
Maureen Avery
Emma Basco
Christine Bell
Stacey Bencic
Christina Berry
Carol Blankenbaker
Sue Bruno
Rebecca Buhidar
Joanne Burbank
Teresa Caldwell
Vivienne Campbell
Brenda Carriere
Christa Cavallo

Gail Christopherson-Brown
 Marion Clarke
 Toni Clarke
 Audrey Cokenour
 Paula Corris
 Susan Crowley
 Emma Czazasty
 Nydia Del Toro Rivera
 Carla Donahue
 Michele Doughty
 Denise Drake
 Shirley Drake
 Marilou Ermitano-Martel
 Barbara Fisher
 Elizabeth Flores
 Jennifer Foster
 Celia Garcia
 Megan Gilmore
 Sandra Goodin
 Consuelo Grant
 Donna Greenfield
 Wuntanee Gruzen
 Lisa Harris
 Rebecca Hecox
 Tina Hover
 Melanie Hughes
 Jacqueline John-Mull
 Audrey Joy
 Natalia Jungwirth
 Gahan Kaloostian
 Ana Kim
 Barbara Kimsza-Mendes
 Diana Kircher
 Stacy Krakower
 Tamara Kuhn
 Michelle Ladreyt
 Michele Leahy
 Deborah LeBourgeois

Anusa Lepadatu
 Kathleen Levering
 Lorraine MacFeeters
 Elizabeth Maloney
 Eleanor Mangsat
 Angela Maroon
 Carla Marshall
 Marilyn Martinez-Wool
 Lori Masterson
 Lisa McCoy
 Amy McIntire
 Matthew McNutt
 Suh-Lian Mei
 Ricardo Mendoza
 Carmen Milagros Garcia
 Patricia Mitchell
 Christine Montalbano-Kroon
 Holly Montgomery
 Lakisher Morgan
 Joni Myhre
 Tami Naumann
 Sandra Nease
 Suzanne Nelson
 Gina Nguyen
 Kevin Nimmo
 Casie Noel
 Josephine Notter
 Trisha Novello
 Dola Oelslager
 Bernadette O'Keefe
 Kristianne Ong
 Omobola Opawoye
 Jill Osborn
 Maribel Pale
 Teresa Quirk
 Elizabeth Rata
 Janice Reich
 Nora Rowsey
 Laura Russell
 Marcus Scharre

Kela Schram
 Mary Schwartz
 Jan Sevieri
 Sharon Shirley
 Donna Skillett
 Kathleen Smith
 Jennifer Smith-James
 Diane Stieg
 Sheila Sud
 Salimma Thomas
 Maureen VanHorn
 Dawn Verscheure
 Kathy Jean Walter
 Shannon Wasmer
 Joan White
 Crystal Wilkes
 Regina Williams

Denise Williams
 Mary Williams
 Sharon Zaverl
 Sandra Zsikla

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