



The Lighthouse

Letter from President

Opportunities for Professional Growth through Education/Scholarships

In every nurse's career, comes a time when she/he thinks about whether they need more education to accomplish their professional goals. You may not have actual career goals written on paper, but I would image you think about your professional future. You may be planning to get your BSN, MSN, MBA or become certified in your specialty. Whatever your thoughts are regarding your career growth, remember there is no perfect time to go back to school or expand your nursing credentials. Like the old saying goes, "where there is a will there is a way."



The Sylvia Bond Nursing Society (SBNS) was established in the fall of 1999, to honor a nursing leader who worked her entire career to improve the quality of nursing in Central Georgia. For the past three years, the Board of the SBNS has awarded scholarships to students and/or nurses in the Central Georgia area, who are trying to grow their professional careers. If you have started on the path to developing your next set of career goals and need some financial assistance, check out the SBNS website (www.sylviabond.org).

Maybe the SBNS can help you obtain your professional dreams.

Barb Stickel, Board Chair

Sylvia Bond Nursing Society

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Transformational Leadership



SBNS is proud to announce Tommy Barnes, Director of Urgent Care Services at The Medical Center of Central Georgia, as the featured Lunch and Learn Speaker for this quarter. Tommy will discuss his vision and passion related to Transformational Leadership. The offering will be held in the West Tower Auditorium (MCCG) on Wednesday, April 2, 2008 from 1130 to 1230 in the Trice Auditorium. The Lunch and Learn will be free for all members of the Sylvia Bond Nursing Society. There is \$5.00 fee for Non-Members.



Enhance your Nursing Career....

Become Certified by ANCC



“The American Nurses Credentialing Center is the largest and most prestigious nurse credentialing organization in the United States.”

Becoming certified by ANCC will validate your nursing skills, knowledge, and abilities. ANCC board certification empowers nurses within their professional sphere of activity and contributes to better patient outcome.

Benefits of ANCC Certification for the Professional Nurses

- Validates your nursing knowledge and **builds confidence.**
- Nurse Managers believe that certification validates specialized knowledge, indicates a level of clinical competence, and enhances professional credibility. (American Board of Nursing Specialties Value of Certification Survey March 2005)
- Earn an average of \$9,200 more than nurses who aren't certified. (*Nursing2006's Salary Survey*)
- Opens doors to higher-paying positions. (*Nursing 2005's Salary Survey*)
- 90% of nurse managers preferred hiring certified nurses over non-certified ones. (*The American Board of Nursing Specialties 2002*)
- Recognized and accepted by all state boards of nursing and by the U.S. military.

ANCC Certification Is Available for Several Nursing Specialties

\$150 ANCC Certification Application Discount for Med-Surg Nurses!

Certified Nurses day is coming up March 19 and Nurses Week is May 5-12

To celebrate, ANCC is offering a special discount to Medical-Surgical Nurses to encourage them to apply for initial certification. This discount coupon is valid for applications received by June 30, 2008. After applying, it will take 4-6 weeks to process the application. The applicant will then have 3 months to take the exam.

Download this coupon at <http://www.nursecredentialing.org/MedSurg-Flyer.pdf>



SBNS is excited to announce a new benefit for RN's applying for any American Nurses Credentialing Center certification exam.

2008 Sylvia Bond Nursing Society will provide certification assistance towards certification fees for first time testers. All Applications will be reviewed by the SBNS Board. Final approval process will be based on allocated funds and eligibility criteria. **These funds will be awarded for a limited time only** to SBNS members only. SBNS Certification assistance application is posted on the SBNS website.

The chosen applicant will need to participate in one of the following professional activities:

1. Recruit a new member to Sylvia Bond Nursing Society
2. Assist on the planning committee for the SBNS Annual Leadership Symposium
3. Participate in Leadership development symposium planning
4. Mentor another nurse to take certification exam



“A person with vision and passion can achieve great things.”

SBNS Fundraising News



Fundraising is vital for SBNS to continue its efforts to support the profession of nursing through scholarships, educational offerings, and mentoring. This year the fundraising committee is asking that society members submit recipes for publication into a 2009 calendar that will be sold. Each month the calendar will spotlight 2 recipes. Please submit recipes to permenter.roberta@mccg.org. The calendar should be ready for sale October 1, 2008.



Scholarship News!!

2008 SBNS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT



As healthcare's frontline professionals, nurses practice in virtually all healthcare settings and communities across our country. They offer skilled care as we recuperate, advocate for our rights when we need care, educate us to assist in our decision-making, stand by us at critical moments, help us understand the system when it baffles us, and reassure us when we feel doubt or fear. Nursing is a rewarding profession that offers diverse career paths for men and women. As a result, Americans hold nurses in high regard – and say so consistently in national polls.

The Sylvia Bond Nursing Society (SBNS) originated in 2000 to encourage people to choose nursing as a career by education, role modeling, recognizing and celebrating the nursing profession. SBNS is committed to developing highly skilled and specialized nurse leaders to excel in the profession, educate, and mentor others. Over the years, the focus of SBNS has widened to encompass the scope of the nursing profession, including a vigorous response to the national and local nursing shortage at all levels of nursing.

We are pleased to announce that our 2008 scholarships will be a total of four (4) \$2,000 awards to be announced in May of 2008.

Scholarships will be awarded to current nursing students who are pursuing AD, BSN, or MSN degrees with at least a 2.8 GPA. Applicants must be Georgia residents enrolled in a nursing program in the state of Georgia.

In order to be considered for a scholarship, applicants must submit a completed application, two recommendation forms, and a sealed official transcript. Applications may be obtained from the SBNS website (www.sylviabond.org) by contacting Sandra Higgison at 633-1700 or higgison.sandra@mccg.org.

Applications for the 2008 SBNS Scholarships must be postmarked by **Sunday, March 30th**. They should be sent to:

Sylvia Bond Nursing Society
Medical Center of Central Georgia
P.O. Box 6000
ATTN: Sandra Higgison HB#154



Membership News

Membership dues are paid annually to the SBNS. If you have been a member in the past and have not paid your renewal fee...**IT'S NOT TOO LATE.** Just give one of us a call and we will help you in getting your membership back up to date. You don't want to miss out on any of our exciting events or the 2008 SBNS lapel pin.

Your membership includes paid fees for the annual leadership symposium, at least 4 lunch and learns (at various local hospitals), and our newsletter.

We are always looking for new members. If you know someone who would like to be a part of our Society please invite them to join.

SBNS is also interested in obtaining your thoughts and ideas on ways to improve our Society. Several people have suggested that we have scheduled meetings where members can share information. Please email your comments to blalock.tracey@mccg.org or davis.debra@mccg.org.

Contact Tracey Blalock (633-7084) or Debra Davis (633-1976)

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”

Henry Ford

Mission and Vision Statement

Mission

“The Sylvia Bond Nursing Society is committed to fostering individuals towards nursing as a career, facilitating professional nurses to collaborate, lead, and promoting excellence in healthcare by providing support and mentorship.”

Vision

To enhance the nursing profession by providing scholarships, education and leadership development and mentoring opportunities for nurses in the central Georgia community.



Levels of Society Membership

- **Student Entry Level** (Must be enrolled in a school of Nursing)
 - \$25.00 Membership fee
 - T-Shirt
 - Lighthouse Pin
- **Annual Membership**
 - \$50.00
 - T-Shirt
 - Lighthouse Pin
- **Lifetime Membership**
 - \$650.00
 - T-Shirt
 - Lighthouse Pin (given annually)
 - Print of Artwork
- **Physician Sponsorship**
 - Discounted fee of \$40.00/nurse
 - T-Shirt for each nurse
 - Lighthouse Pin for each nurse
 - One Print of Artwork
 - Physician recognition during annual symposium and on web site



Congratulations to our new Sylvia Bond Nursing Society Members!

Julie Clark
Amanda Griffin
Megan Kopp
Theresa Ledrick
Angela Lintz
Mary Nobles
Gwen Riggins
Vickie Stuckey
Amy Wells
Michelle McLure
Darquita Loyd



Donations

The [Medcen Community Health Foundation, Inc](#) maintains the Sylvia Bond Nursing Society fund. Gifts designated to the Sylvia Bond Nursing Society fund will be used only for programs and purposes related to the Society. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

There are several ways to give:

- To make a secure online donation, go to www.medcenfoundation.org and click on the "Make Gift Online" tab. Please make sure that you designate Sylvia Bond Nursing Society (SBNS) on the giving form.
- You may [download a printable copy of the brochure](#) (includes the donation form) and mail it in with your gift from sylviabond.org/donations.



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Thank you for supporting the Sylvia Bond Nursing Society!

Contact Executive Director Meryl Montgomery at:

Phone (478) 633-1917

Montgomery.meryl@mccg.org

Future Events

- March 10, 2008** Certification exam applications acceptance begin
- April 2, 2008** Lunch and Learn: "Transformational Leadership"
- March 30, 2008** Deadline for Scholarship Applications
- October 2008** Annual Leadership Symposium