



The Insider

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News from Inside the UOA Central Office

- The United Ostomy Association and ConvaTec have announced details of three **Ostomy Education Seminars** scheduled in celebration of World Ostomy Day to update the medical community and general public on ostomy care and current issues. The seminars are scheduled as follows:
 - October 17, 2002, 1-5pm, Houston, TX, Crowne Plaza Hotel
 - October 31, 2002, 9am-3pm, Salt Lake City, UT, University of Utah
 - November 16, 2002, 9am-3pm, Miami, FL, Jackson Memorial HospitalThe registration fee is \$20 and includes lunch. Visit www.uoa.org to register.
- Do you have **families or parents of children** with ostomies in your chapter? UOA is committed to helping parents and families attend the national conference in Las Vegas, August 10–13, 2003 and will offer scholarships to assist up to ten families, depending on available funding, with conference travel and registration expenses. Application forms will be distributed to chapters in January 2003. Watch for additional details shortly.
- The WOC(ET) **Nurse of the Year Award** sponsored by UOA was presented to Shirley Harkins at the WOCN Convention in June. Shirley is a member of the Waterbury, CT Chapter and has been very active in ostomy education, advocacy and fundraising in Connecticut. Meeting patient needs are the focal point of her nursing care. Congratulations to Shirley—indeed a worthy recipient of this prestigious award.
- **The Archie Vinitzky Scholarship Fund for ET Nursing and Community Outreach** was established in 1988 to assist nurses obtain enterostomal therapy education. This year, two candidates were selected to receive \$500 scholarships: Carol Ann Carls of Beardstown, IL and Dora Richard of Bridge City, TX. We wish them both the best of luck with their training in this special career.
- A great time was had by all at the **national conference** in Philadelphia this summer! Now you can see how conference attendees helped celebrate UOA's 40th Anniversary at this educational and social gathering. A CD-ROM of several hundred photographs of conference activities is available from the Central Office at no charge. Contact rustad@uoa.org for a copy.

- Please note that UOA's official travel agency, **Stellar Access**, has a new phone number. Stellar handles travel reservations to the national conference, the Youth Rally and other volunteer leader travel and can be reached toll-free at 1-866-929-4242, FAX 877-359-2423, via www.stellaraccess.com or linked from the UOA Web site. Our group code remains #446.
- The American Cancer Society reports interesting **statistics about colorectal cancer** in its *Cancer Facts & Figures 2002* publication:
 - Anyone can get colorectal cancer, but it usually strikes men and women over the age of 50.
 - The incidence rate is similar among men and women of equivalent age until age 50; it then becomes higher in men than in women.
 - There will be an estimated 148,300 new cases and 56,600 deaths from the disease in 2002.
 - Approximately 90 percent of all colorectal cancer cases and deaths are thought to be preventable given prevention and early detection.
 - The highest risk factors in order include family history, physical inactivity, IBD, obesity, red meat, smoking and alcohol.

Remind your friends and family to be screened.

- UOA is currently installing a new **association management information system** that will change the way we do business. In the future, chapter dues billing notices, reminders and reports may look very different as we are moving from an unstable antiquated system to a state-of-the-art software product designed specifically for UOA. We will keep you informed as we make these changes and will welcome your feedback at every step.
- The new **UOA Web site** is coming soon! This newly designed site has improved navigation, new features and many new resources. Stay tuned—it won't be long!
- UOA's Central Office is pleased to welcome a new employee. **Debra Provencio** has joined the staff as Administrative Assistant, Development Department. Debbie will be responsible for tracking fundraising details and filling publication orders. She replaces Sue Hanchin who left UOA in August to pursue other opportunities.
- The Central Office reports the following **response to member needs** for August:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Telephone Calls: 1,534• E-Mail Inquiries: 609• Care Guide Sales: 126 copies, \$441• Chapter Members, "D" Quarter: 25,384• New Association/Professional Memberships: 46 |
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