

# Texas Nurses

## District 9 Foundation

# NURSING



*The International Year of the Nurse*

# CELEBRATION

**November 18, 2010**

**Hilton Hotel, University of Houston**  
4800 Calhoun Road • Houston, Texas 77004

Barbara Bush

September 23, 2010

Dear Dr. Mary Holt Ashley,

Thank you so much for your kind invitation to attend the Twentieth Nursing Celebration Anniversary honoring twenty wonderful nurses.

Unfortunately, I have a prior commitment and I will not be able to attend. At ages 85 and 86 years old, George and I truly understand the importance of good health care. We have deep appreciation for your hard work and would like to congratulate the honorees.

Thank you for all that you. George joins me in sending all of our best wishes for a wonderful evening!

With every good wish,

Warmly,

Barbara Bush

I am sorry I can't be with you.



## **PROGRAM**

- 6:00 p.m. RECEPTION AND SILENT AUCTION**
- 7:00 p.m. WELCOME**  
Pamela K. Greene  
President, Texas Nurses Association, District 9
- READING OF BARBARA BUSH LETTER**
- OCCASION**  
Mary Holt Ashley  
Founder of TNA District 9 Nursing Celebration
- 7:15 p.m. BLESSING**  
Charlotte Stephenson
- 7:30 p.m. INTRODUCTION OF MASTER OF CEREMONIES**  
Pamela Greene
- INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE**  
Melanie Lawson  
News Anchor, Channel 13
- 7:45 p.m. FINAL BIDS FOR SILENT AUCTION**
- 8:00 p.m. RECOGNITION OF SPONSORS**  
Pamela Greene  
Shirley Morrison
- PRESIDENT'S AWARDEES**  
Pamela Greene
- SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS**  
Brenda K. Binder  
Pamela Windle  
Co-Chairs, Scholarships and Grants Committee
- PRESENTATION OF HONOREES**  
Melanie Lawson  
Pamela Greene  
Terry Throckmorton  
Co-Chair, Nominations Committee
- CLOSURE**  
Pamela Greene

**Music Provided by: Grady G. Douglas**



## **WELCOME**

Welcome to the Twentieth Texas Nurses District 9 Foundation Celebration!

It is a privilege to be joined this evening by Anne Mitchell and Vickie Galle, often referred to as “*the Winkler County nurses*.” Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Galle risked their careers, risked prosecution and faced time in prison to protect the safety of patients. Their ethical standards and moral courage are inspiring beyond measure.

As is our tradition, tonight we will honor 20 nurses from TNA District 9 for their outstanding performance in nursing. Honorees are nominated from TNA District 9 which covers an eight county area with over 39,000 nurses. Sincere appreciation is extended to each honoree for the extraordinary contributions to the nursing profession, to healthcare, and to our communities.

For over two decades, TNA District 9 has supported the advancement of nursing by awarding grants for nursing research and providing scholarships for nursing education. As we stand on the brink of healthcare reform with enormous implications for the future, supporting the advancement of nursing is perhaps more important now than ever before. Congratulations to the nurses who are receiving the research grants and scholarships.

Each attendee this evening has the opportunity to ensure that we continue to provide support for nursing research and education by participating in the silent auction. The items range from entertainment packages to festive holiday accoutrements. When bidding, keep in mind, you are helping to fund nursing’s future.

2010 is the International Year of the Nurse. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as TNA District 9 president during such an amazing time. Enjoy this evening.

Warm Regards,

***Pam Greene PhD, RN***

President, TNA District 9



## HONOREES



**Michele Bell, RN, MBA, CHE**  
***Memorial Hermann Healthcare System***

Michele Bell has been with Memorial Hermann Healthcare System 30 years, and currently serves as system CNO. Michele has earned a BSN and a MBA and has obtained dual certifications as an ANCC Certified Nurse Executive and American College of Healthcare Executive. She used her extensive expertise in policy making to design a new care delivery model in response to healthcare reform. Her proudest moment was being awarded the ANCC Magnet designation at Memorial City, where as the CNO she was honored to lead an amazing team. As a leader Michele has supported nursing development serving as adjunct faculty and mentoring graduate and doctoral students. She works with organizations to promote nursing and provide scholarships including the Greater Houston Workforce Commission, the Good Samaritan Foundation, and the Johnson and Johnson Promise of Nursing Campaign. Michelle has also underwritten nursing conferences and events such as the PNAH seminars and the CNO Summits. She is an international speaker and is not only known for her passion and humor, but especially for challenging staff to exceed patient expectations.



**Dana Bjarnason, PhD, RN, NE-BC**  
***Harris County Hospital District***

Dana Bjarnason holds a doctorate in nursing from the University of Texas Medical Branch Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and is a board Certified Nurse Executive. She serves as the Associate Administrator & Chief Nursing Officer for the Ben Taub General Hospital and Quentin Mease Community Hospital. Dr. Bjarnason is active in a number of professional nursing organizations including the American Nurses Association where she recently served as chair of the Board of Ethics and Human Rights. This year, she was elected as president-elect of the Texas Nurses Association District 9. In addition to numerous professional presentations, Dr. Bjarnason has co-authored peer-reviewed articles for professional journals and recently edited an edition of Critical Care Clinics of North America focusing on disaster response. Her research has been focused on the relationship between nurse religiosity and end-of-life care and nurse-patient dialogue regarding end-of-life. Dr. Bjarnason is committed to working with nurses to create environments that enhance patient care. Her interests include patient self-determination, advocacy, professionalism, practice, moral leadership, and diversity.



**Virginia Bowman, MSN, RN, CNS, AOCNS, CORLN**  
***The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center***

Virginia (Ginny) Bowman is an advanced practice nurse at MD Anderson Cancer Center where she serves as the Clinical Nurse Specialist for the Head and Neck/Reconstructive Surgery unit. She has worked at MD Anderson for over 20 years. Ginny received her MSN from UT Health Science Center and has dual certification as an Advanced Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist and Certified Otorhinolaryngology Nurse. She is the previous co-chair of the Nursing Peer Review Committee and is actively engaged in this effort to advocate on behalf of nurses and patients alike. Ginny is a nationally recognized nursing expert in the area of head and neck surgery. She has authored several book chapters on the care of this patient population and currently serves as the co-chair of the Clinical Practice and Research Committee for the Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nurses (SOHN), leading the effort to develop evidence-based guidelines for tracheostomy care. Ginny is currently pursuing her PhD in Nursing with a research focus on the body image concerns of patients who have undergone disfiguring surgery for head and neck cancer.



**Shirley Branch, RN, FCN**  
***Faith Community***

Shirley Branch is a Healthcare Nurse Coordinator & Certified Parish Nurse at Fifth Ward Missionary Baptist Church. Shirley has received awards from Governor Perry, Mayor Bill White, Council Members and the Fifth Ward Missionary Baptist Church for her leadership in senior care, volunteer service, community-building, and community health. She is a founding member and co-coordinator of the Greater Fifth Ward Congregational Health Coalition. Recently she received Congressional Recognition from Congress Woman Sheila Jackson Lee for her ten years of community service with the coalition. Together with over one hundred Shirley's Angels Volunteers, more than 7,000 community service hours are provided annually in free senior and care giving support, congregational nursing, health and nutrition support, leadership development, home restoration makeovers, ramp building and disaster management. Shirley helped establish the Revere Corps Disaster Project. Group members provide seniors with education and assistance in preparation for hurricane or other disasters. Shirley coordinates a Back to School Health Fair, providing more than 1500 free school packs and gently used clothing. Shirley is an educator, mentor and inspiration to the community.



## HONOREES



**Heather Chung, RN, PhD, MSN, NE-BC**  
*The Methodist Hospital*

Heather Chung is the Director of Nursing of a Medical Pulmonary unit and a research unit at The Methodist Hospital. She has earned a BSN, MSN, and a PhD in nursing, and Nurse Executive certification. She is a national speaker and has published on pain in the Journal of Health Care Quality and patient satisfaction in JONA. Through her current research, she developed a fall continuum related to falls in hospitalized older adults. The implementation of fall prevention strategies has resulted in significant cost reduction and injury prevention. She has received multiple awards including the John Winston Carter Scholarship, Who's Who recognition, the Florence Research Award, John Winston Carter Research Grant, and a CTSA grant from the TMH Research Institute. She is a member of TNA, ANA and Sigma Theta Tau, serving as a reviewer for the Journal of Nursing Scholarship. Dr. Chung serves the community as a Cystic Fibrosis fundraising walk team leader, Savior's House board member, Sunday school teacher and Westbury Christian School volunteer. Her desire is to make scientific contributions to the care of older adults.



**Ladona Honea Cook, MSN, RN, OCN**  
*The Methodist Hospital*

Ladona Honea Cook has been an Education Nurse Specialist with The Methodist Hospital since 2008 and currently organizes Nursing Grand Rounds and provides oncology education for nurses across the system. Ms. Cook holds a masters degree and is certified by the Oncology Nursing Society. She has 25 years of Oncology experience working with patients and nurses from all over the world. As an Academic Nursing Director, she encouraged new nurses to enter the Oncology specialty and promote nursing excellence through evidence based practice. She has collaborated on research projects that evaluated nurse's actions and attitudes toward the oncology patient and the impact of sexuality related to body image. She utilizes a holistic approach to the oncology patient incorporating spirituality and has provided programs to address spiritual distress interventions. Ladona is a member of ONS, Houston chapter, serving as secretary, and the Bay area ONS chapter. She is a member of PNEG, ANA, and TNA District 9, where she serves as nominations chair. Her passions are education and oncology nursing, especially spiritual care.



**Vivian Dawkins, PhD, RN, NEA-BC**  
*The Methodist Hospital*

Vivian Dawkins is the Associate Chief Nursing Officer for Education at The Methodist Hospital and is a Virginia Henderson and Bilye Brown Fellow for Sigma Theta Tau. She received her bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Colorado and her doctorate from Texas Woman's University. Her clinical and volunteer work involves the care and education of the most vulnerable: children with developmental disabilities, elderly people with dementia, the mentally ill, and the dying. Dr. Dawkins has extensive experience in administration and nursing education, serving in Chief Nurse and facility administrator positions as well as holding faculty appointments. She has taught in full-time and adjunct professor positions at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Prairie View A&M University, the University of Houston at Victoria, and UTMB. In 2007 she received the Texas Dean's and Directors Award for Teaching Excellence. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, the American Holistic Nurses Association and the National League for Nursing. Her current position in the Center for professional Excellence at TMH blends her passions for administration and nursing education.



**Grace Diaz-Font, MS, RN**  
*West Houston Medical Center*

Grace Diaz-Font is the Day Surgery/Endoscopy Nurse Manager at West Houston Medical Center. She has a MS in nursing administration. Grace has a strong passion for improving surgical work flow processes, promoting safety, efficiency and patient/staff satisfaction. She is actively involved with her professional organizations: Philippine Nurses' Association of Metropolitan Houston (PNAMH) as Past President and chair of several committees, as well as the Philippine Nurses' Association of America (PNAA), the Society of Gastroenterology Nursing Association, and AACN. She is a member of the Filipino Cancer Network of America-Metro Houston. Grace volunteers regularly with community health fairs, Star of Hope projects, fundraising for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, American Heart Walk and the MS 500. She assisted with the hurricane Katrina victims at the convention center and collaborated with other civic organizations in raising funds for disaster victims. She received the President George W. Bush Award for Community Volunteer activities during her PNAMH presidency. Her most recent award is the Spirit of Nightingale Award from the Rio-Grande Valley. She is very active in her parish church.



## HONOREES



**Elizabeth Fredeboelling, MSN, RN, NEA-BC**  
***Texas Children's Hospital***

Elizabeth Fredeboelling is the Director of Special Care Areas at Texas Children's Hospital. Ms. Fredeboelling holds a BSN, a MS in Nursing and Health Systems Administration, and has Nursing Executive Advanced certification. She has been a nurse for 23 years, working in the positions of staff nurse, transport/trauma nurse, administrative coordinator, head nurse, and director. As Director of Special Care Areas, Elizabeth directs operations of the Cardiovascular ICU, Progressive Care Unit, Pediatric ICU, Inpatient Cardiology Unit, and Transport Programs. Elizabeth was instrumental in achieving house-wide adoption of the Central Insertion and Maintenance Bundles to reduce catheter acquired blood stream infections resulting in a >60% reduction of blood stream infections. Elizabeth recently led efforts to enhance patient access to care by developing a step-down unit for patients in the CVICU, thereby creating more spaces to accommodate patients requiring heart surgery. She serves as a mentor and has presented at the state and national levels. Elizabeth is a Clinical Preceptor for the Nursing Systems Management Program at Texas Woman's University and an active participant in the Houston Organization of Nurse Executives.



**Melanie Gander, MHA, BSN, RN**  
***Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital***

Melanie Gander has been with Memorial Hermann since 1999 and currently is the Director of Critical Care Services for Memorial Hermann The Woodlands. She received her BSN from the University of Texas in Houston and her MHA from the University of St. Francis. In her 11 years with the Memorial Hermann System, she has worked as a staff nurse, educator, and director. Currently she oversees the operations of the emergency center and ICUs. In this role she has focused on implementing changes in clinical practice, which have greatly improved employee satisfaction and retention. Her passion resides in advocating for children, women in crisis, and the mentally ill. Ms. Gander has worked with numerous community groups to improve care for these populations of patients. She is an advocate for women in crisis through her work in the EC and her involvement with Montgomery County Women's Shelter. Ms. Gander is also working at the local level with Montgomery County judges and the MCSO to improve psychiatric care services in the county.



**Gayle Garland, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC**  
***The Menninger Clinic***

Gayle Garland is the Director of Quality Resources at the Menninger Clinic and currently chairs the hospital-wide Quality Council. She began her career as an associate degree nurse and has completed a master's degree at Texas Woman's University. Since the early 1990's, she has assumed a leadership role in ensuring that organizations adhere to the State of Texas regulations, the Joint Commission standards, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid requirements. Ms. Garland has developed numerous evidence-based protocols, including use of psychotropic and sleep medications and orthostasis related to fall prevention, management of the agitated patient in the medical-surgical setting, and implementation of a smoke-free environment in the inpatient psychiatric setting. She advocates for the health and well-being of all individuals and uses every opportunity to address the issues of social stigma and mental illness. She coordinated the development of a Jail Diversion Program for mentally ill individuals in the community and has volunteered in numerous community initiatives including the hurricane Katrina and Rita Care Centers. She is a consummate advocate for persons suffering with mental illness.



**Nancy Hunter, MBA, BSN, RN**  
***St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital***

Nancy Hunter, MBA, BSN, RN demonstrated her passion for nurse and patient advocacy early on in nursing school through local, state and national pre-professional initiatives. At her hospital, she is active in various committees and councils through her shared leadership role. Nancy also developed a support group for family members to help them navigate their challenging journey in the ICU. She is also dedicated to promoting wellness and community involvement inside and outside the hospital walls. Don't be surprised if she tries to get you to sign up for one of her next projects!



## HONOREES



**Terry Kirk, RN, EdD, NEA-BC**  
***Houston Northwest Medical Center***

Terry Kirk has been a nursing administrator since 1980 and currently is the Chief Nursing Officer at Houston Northwest Medical Center. He holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Nursing and a Doctorate in Healthcare Education. Dr. Kirk has held chief nursing and chief operating officer positions in small and large healthcare facilities throughout his career. His interest in nursing education has resulted in faculty positions in both community colleges and universities in undergraduate and graduate level education. He also serves numerous advisory boards. Dr. Kirk is active in professional associations serving on several TNA, District 9 committees and on the TNA Finance Committee. His passion for excellence has contributed to numerous recognitions for the hospital including placement in the top ten percent among CMS hospitals. His passion and love of nursing has touched many nurses and patients both in tangible and non-tangible ways over the years.



**Patrick Laird, MSN, RN, ACNP-BC, CCRN**  
***St. Luke's The Woodlands Hospital***

Patrick received a Master of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC) School of Nursing and is currently completing the requirements for a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. He has held previous positions as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner at Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit and at Woodlands Internists. Patrick utilized evidence-based practice to design and implement an induced hypothermia protocol for neuroprotection following cardiac arrest at St. Luke's The Woodlands Hospital. In 2009, Patrick published a peer-reviewed meta-analysis on induced hypothermia in the Internet Journal of Advanced Nursing Practice. As a patient advocate, he has impacted response time for myocardial infarction in the ED utilizing the ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) program and developed a semi-closed intensivist model for ICU to decrease communication time. In recognition of his many achievements, Patrick was selected as a Bronze Medalist for the Good Samaritan Foundation Excellence in Nursing Award.



**Karen Lyon, PhD, APRN, MBA, ACNS, NEA**  
***Texas Woman's University***

Karen C. Lyon is Associate Dean and Professor of Nursing at the Nelda C. Stark College of Nursing, Texas Woman's University (TWU), Houston campus. In addition to her PhD in education, Dr. Lyon earned an MBA and a MSN as an Adult CNS. Before coming to Houston, Dr. Lyon was the Associate Dean of Operations at Samuel Merritt University and Assistant Dean for Graduate Nursing at UTEP. She is recognized as an advanced practice RN and had an active 15-year private practice in wound care before relocating to Houston. In her role as Associate Dean of Nursing for TWU, Dr. Lyon has operational responsibility for implementation of the BS, RN-BS/MS, MS and PhD programs on the Houston campus. Dr. Lyon has dedicated her professional life to excellence in patient care and excellence in nursing education. She started the first accelerated BSN program in west Texas with an \$834,000 HRSA grant. She is currently working with a team of researchers at TWU to implement a simulated immersion experience for graduating seniors, which is believed to be the first of its kind in the nation.



**Kelly Maresh, RN, MBA, CCRC**  
***The Methodist Hospital***

Kelly J. Maresh is the Director of Operations of the Academic Office of Clinical Trials at The Methodist Hospital Research Institute (TMHRI), an office that she helped establish in 2006. Kelly received her Nursing Diploma from Methodist School of Nursing, BSN from the University of Texas, and MBA from Texas Woman's University. Kelly has over 23 years of experience in clinical research, coordinating and site managing over 150 clinical trials in multiple therapeutic areas. Kelly is nationally recognized for her work, has served on numerous national advisory committees relating to trial management, and has published and presented locally and nationally. In her current role, she provides leadership for clinical research operations and oversees central support for clinical trials management, multicenter operations, budget and billing services and regulatory support. She serves on numerous institutional steering and leadership committees and assists with policy development. Kelly is certified in clinical research (CCRC) and is a member of several professional organizations including the Association of Clinical Research Professionals, American College of Cardiology, and the American Heart Association.



## HONOREES



**Sharon Newman-Kemp, BSN, RN, CDE**  
***St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital***

Sharon Newman-Kemp has 25 years of nursing experience and has worked at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital as a diabetes educator for 12 years. She graduated from Texas Woman's University receiving her BSN and has worked in the medical-surgical ICU, Cardiac Catheterization Lab, and as a legal nurse consultant. She received her Certification in Diabetes Education in 2001 and provides education to patients, family, and nursing staff. She received the St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital Award for Excellence in 2006. She has worked to improve community awareness regarding diabetes and spear-headed development of a standard of care for the hospitalized patient wearing an insulin pump. She is an active member of the American Diabetes Association and serves as a committee member for "Project Power" an African American initiative for diabetes education sponsored by the ADA. With leadership in clinical practice and very positive interpersonal skills, Sharon continues her endeavors to exemplify excellence in nursing.



**Amelia Pacardo, RN, BSN, CCRN, CPAN**  
***St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital***

Amelia Pacardo, a dual certified nurse is a Staff Nurse/Charge Nurse in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. She has extensive critical care and post anesthesia nursing experience. She is a Nurse Clinician, Preceptor, BLS Instructor, Infection Control Liaison, and unit scheduler. Her involvement in the advancement of nursing spans many years, marked by her willingness and commitment to share her time. She is sought by her peers regarding infection control issues and serves as a Surgical Specialties Review Board Member for the Professional Development Model. Very active with her professional organization, TAPAN/ASPAN, she has held several offices as TAPAN District 1 Board member; ASPAN Team Leader for the Educational Approver Committee, PeriAnesthesia Core Curriculum reviewer/contributor; and is a member of AACN and PNAMH/PNAA. Ms. Pacardo has had several poster presentations at national conferences and received the ASPAN's Star recognition at the 2009 ASPAN Conference.



**Mary Ellen Trail Ross, DrPH, MSN, RN, GCNS-BC**  
***The University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Nursing***

Dr. Mary Ellen Trail Ross received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from McNeese State University. She continued her education at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston earning a Master's degree in Nursing as well as a Doctor of Public Health degree. She is board certified as a Gerontological Clinical Nurse Specialist and serves as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing at UT Health Science Center. Her primary teaching responsibility is Gerontology and Community Health. Her research interests include stress and coping in grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. She has published and presented on this topic as well as other topics related to senior health and aging. Her work on grand parenting was featured in the Houston Chronicle and she was recently interviewed by FOX 26 News for her research on this topic. Dr. Ross actively participates in numerous professional associations and finds time to volunteer in the community including Houston Senior Olympics and in the Hurricane Katrina Triage Center.



**Julie Thompson, PhD, RN, APRN, CNOR, CIP**  
***Harris County Hospital District***

Julia Thompson serves as the Administrative Director of Research & Sponsored Programs at the Harris County Hospital District. She received her BSN from UTMB Galveston, MSN from The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and PhD from Texas Woman's University. An expert in perioperative nursing, she has spent the past eight years advocating for patient safety and human subjects' protection. Her passion for advancing research is evident in her establishment of an Institutional Review Board at Harris County Hospital District. Dr. Thompson's vitae reflects her numerous contributions as a practitioner, educator, author, consultant and researcher. Her dedication to professional service is clear from her many appointed and elected positions including twice serving as president of AORN Galveston Chapter and currently chairing the national AORN Research Committee. Dr. Thompson feels her greatest impact has been mentoring countless registered nurses and nursing students.

## ***PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENTS***

# **the Winkler County Nurses**

**The Winkler County Nurses put their careers on the line for the safety of patients.**

**Vickilyn Galle RN, BSN** – Vickilyn Galle graduated from Odessa College in 1977 with an associate degree in Nursing. She began her nursing career in Odessa, Texas, at Medical Center Hospital. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing in 2003. Vickilyn was employed by Winkler County Memorial Hospital in 1987 in the Home Health Agency of the hospital. When that department closed, she continued working in the medical and emergency room departments part-time. In 1994 Ms. Galle assumed the Discharge Planning position. That position soon included the Quality Assurance Director role. In 2000 the Credentialing and Medical Staff Coordinator positions as well as the Utilization Management position became available and these roles were also assumed. Vickilyn continued in the Medical Staff Coordinator, Utilization Management Coordinator, and Quality Assessment Performance Improvement roles until her termination June 1, 2009. She is currently a member of the Texas Nurses Association and the American Nurses Association.

**Anne Mitchell RN, BSN** - Anne received her ADN from Grayson County College in 1981. She received certification in Gerontology in 1990 and graduated from Texas Tech with a BSN in 1991. Before beginning her career at Winkler County Memorial Hospital, Anne gained valuable experience by working as a traveling nurse. She has worked in a variety of settings, ranging from remote White Sulphur Springs, Montana, to Cheverly, MD, at Prince George's Hospital, not far from Washington, DC. Anne was also the Director and instructor for the Odessa College LVN program in Kermit, TX. In 1985 Anne began her career at Winkler County Memorial Hospital on a part- time basis. Her part- time position evolved into permanent full- time positions as the Director of Home Health, Staff Development Director, Infection Control Nurse and Director of Nursing. She has been a member of the Texas Medical Staff Society, and is currently a member of Texas Nurses Association and the American Nurses Association. In 2000 Anne was given the positions of Compliance Officer and Medical Staff Coordinator, titles she held until her termination on June 1, 2009.

**Naomi Warren, FNP** – Naomi Warren graduated from Arkansas State University in 1974 with an Associate Degree in Nursing. She was employed at St. Bernard's Hospital in Jonesboro, Arkansas in the orthopedic unit, CCU, and ICU from 1974 thru 1977. During the years from 1977 thru 1992, Ms. Warren was employed by Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, where she obtained her Bachelor Degree in 1981 from UT of Arlington, Arlington, TX. She obtained work experience in CCU and Nursing Education. In 1989, Ms. Warren obtained her Masters Degree in Nursing from Texas Woman's University in Dallas, TX. From 1992 until 1996, she was an Assistant Professor in Nursing at Odessa College in Odessa, Texas. She graduated with a Post-Masters Family Nurse Practitioner Degree in 1996 from Texas Tech University School of Nursing. She worked in the Winkler County Rural Health Clinic in Kermit, Texas from 1996 until 2009 as a Family Nurse Practitioner. In 2009 she was employed by the Sandhills Clinic in Monahans, Texas, where she is currently in practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner.



## ***TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS***

**Joellan Mullen, RN, BSN, CCRN**

Masters in Nursing Administration  
University of Houston Victoria

**Cheryl Buteaux, RN**

RN-BSN-MSN (Executive Track)  
Chamberlain School of Nursing

## ***RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS***

**Lisette Barton, MSN, RN, FNP-BC, CNE**

Title: The Experience of Nursing School Failure  
Texas Woman's University

**Francine Kingston, MSN, RN-BC**

Title: Nurse Likelihood to Report Pediatric Medication Errors  
University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston School of Public Health

## ***PROCEEDS***

Your involvement in Nursing Celebration 2010 supports:

1. Recruitment: Qualified, highly educated nurses are needed to meet the ever-increasing health care demands of the Houston community. This event for nursing will provide community support of nursing and recruitment of nurses to this area.
2. Scholarship: Nursing schools in the Houston area are desperately in need of funds to enable them to educate and advance the profession. Scholarships will assist deserving persons to further their nursing education.
3. Research: To guarantee access to high quality nursing care, research to define nursing practice is essential. The support of nursing research provides this community with highly educated nurses invested in advancement of the profession. Nursing research promotes excellence in care, cost control and access to care for all individuals.



## ***MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES***



### **MELANIE LAWSON** **13 Eyewitness News**

Award-winning journalist Melanie Lawson is a proud Houstonian and a product of Houston schools.

Journalism has always been in Melanie's blood. She started first as a full-time general assignments reporter at Channel 13, then went on to become co-anchor of Live at 5 and Channel 13's midday show, Eyewitness News at 11am. Melanie also hosts a weekly Community Affairs program called "Crossroads", focusing on issues and events around our city.

Melanie has had a varied and exhilarating career at Channel 13. She has covered virtually every city, state and national election during her career. She has traveled to Cuba, Panama, Africa and Australia, among other places. She's won numerous awards for her reporting, including two Emmys. Melanie has interviewed a wide range of notables, including three U.S. Presidents, the Dalai Lama, poet Maya Angelou, Grammy Award winners Destiny's Child, former heavyweight champion George Foreman, director Spike Lee, legendary journalist Barbara Walters, evangelists Joel and Victoria Osteen, Hall of Famer Magic Johnson and actor Denzel Washington.

But Melanie's favorite stories are those about Houston's rich, multi-ethnic community - especially stories about children and those quietly working to make a difference in their lives.

Melanie's involvement in the Houston community is far reaching. She is on the board of numerous community organizations, including the Houston Ballet, SHAPE Community Center, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Volunteer Houston, and the Houston Association of Black Journalists. She is the chairperson of the Houston Museum of African American Culture, scheduled to open late next year. She also belongs to the Houston Chapter of the Links, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and American Leadership Forum.

Melanie has also been honored as the YWCA's "Outstanding Women of the Year", a "Women of Distinction" by the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, and a "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Houston Association of Black Journalists.

Melanie received her undergraduate degree in Politics from Princeton University and a joint degree in Law and Journalism from Columbia University. She worked at a Wall Street law firm for three years before returning to Houston, and is admitted to both the Texas and New York State Bars.

Last, but certainly not least, she is a proud member of the church founded by her parents, Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church.



**1991-2009  
Nursing  
Celebration  
Honorees**

**1991**

Diana L. Cruzan  
Elizabeth de Guzman  
Ampy de la Paz  
Anne Stewart Helton  
Addie Mae Herman  
Marcia Hill  
Susan Jadowski  
Jeanette Kernicki  
Brent Longtin  
Rosemary Luquire  
Kathy Mishaw  
Eula Bush Myles  
Paula Reiger  
Rachel Rodriquez  
Gwen Sherwood  
Debra Spiller  
Deborah Thorpe  
Kelly Wallin  
Myrtle Williams  
Sarah Joanne Williams

**1992**

Joyce Adams  
Cecil Brewer  
Anecita Fadol  
Melissa Fausset  
Mary Ann Gilmore  
Terris Kennedy  
Pauli Marr  
Thelma Thomas Maynor  
Judith McFarlane  
Katherine J. Moore  
Mae Taylor Moss  
Louise Nix  
Dorothy Otto  
Mary Pazdur  
Betty Pimm  
Billie Sills  
Pauline Skinner  
Katie Gerard Starnes  
Ana Valadez  
Pamela Windle

**1993**

Annette Bisanz  
Annabelle Borromeo  
Nancy Busen

Eufemia Chua  
Kathy Clark  
Linda Crosset  
Betty Davis-Lewis  
Edythe Lyn Greenberg  
Deanna Grimes  
Brigid Lattner  
Marianne Marcus  
Peggy McCall  
Ann McKennis  
Brenda McNeese  
Kimberly Rumsey  
Cynthia Stoltzfus  
Patricia Timpanaro  
Susan Tyler  
Deborah Volker  
Angelia Wahrenberger

**1994**

Phyllis Adams  
Catherine Burke  
Stacye Dick  
Janet Duncan  
Beverly Hampton  
Shirley Henry  
Michele Hobbs  
Jean Kelley  
Alice Lark  
Cheryl Levine  
Patricia Liehr  
Sue Potter McLeod  
Kathleen Murphy  
Tali Neumann  
Richard Pozda  
Shelia Pruitt-Orr  
Patricia Starck  
Terry Throckmorton  
Joyce Triplett  
Anne Wojner

**1995**

Jeanette Adams  
Joyce Alt  
Robin Britt  
Ella Curry  
Betty Thomas Daniel  
James Halloran  
Sandra Hanneman  
Marilyn Hockenberry-Eaton  
Karlene Kerfoot  
Nancy Kline  
Heather Kopecky  
Rebecca Krepper  
Cheryl Lindy  
Cindy Murphy  
Joyce Newmann  
Terri Newsom

Elmora Peralta  
Susan Ruppert  
Dory Sample  
Joan Seidel

**1996**

Mary Abraham  
Chris Algren  
Brenda Binder  
Joan Engebretson  
Susan Frisbee-Hume  
Donna Gerber  
Nannette Goddard  
Judith Headley  
Linda White Hilton  
Susan Houston  
Delores Hubbard  
Mary Anne Lewis  
Mary Ann Neeley  
Sharon Ostwald  
Linda Pollack  
Terry Raburn  
Deborah Richardson  
Patricia Schwartz  
Katherine Sudela  
Lynn Wieck

**1997**

Mary Holt Ashley  
John Crossley  
Martha Curry  
Barbara Czerwinski  
Robin Fleschler  
Jan Foster  
Patti Hankins  
Marylyn Harris  
Lynna Littleton  
Candy Lockhart  
Mary McCord  
Kay Miller  
Teresa Oehler  
Joanna Po  
Theresa Reed  
Barbara Schreiner  
Mervianna Thompson  
Carolyn Waddington  
Diane Wardell  
Christina Wells

**1998**

Jackie Anderson  
Rebecca Aulbach  
Cheryl Bressler  
Linda Cole  
Susan Cooley  
Susan Distefano  
Sylvia Doyle

Kathy Froiland  
Mary Gillispie  
Ginger Kee  
Susannah Kish  
Sandra Krebs  
Sulema Luna  
Kathleen McLane  
Elizabeth Nutt  
Bobbie Rossigion  
Rena Schumann  
Mary Lou Warren  
Darimell Waugh  
Hallie Zietz

**1999**

Jill Barrow  
Mary Brown  
Theresa Carroll  
Mary Choroszy  
Helen Currier  
Kim Evans  
Beverly Green-Rashad  
Donna Hahus  
Betty Henderson  
Dorothy Kite-Powell  
Shirley Laday Smith  
Ruth Miller  
Ainslie Nibert  
Elias Provencio-Vasquez  
Sandra Thornton  
Lynn Whitaker  
Mary Jo White  
Jane Williams  
Marie Woodward  
Anne Young

**2000**

Beverly Anderson  
Nancy Calles  
Sandra Cesario  
Harriett Chaney  
Coni Ellis  
Jacalyn Gano  
Joanne Hickey  
Lawrence Hutchinson  
Shirley Hutchinson  
Joan Killen  
Thomas Mackey  
Janet Meininger  
Shirley Morrison  
Rosemary Pine  
Peg Reiter  
Nancy Scroggins  
Jane Sidwell  
Janet Taubert  
Pamela Triolo  
Pam Willson



**2001**

Deborah Boyle  
Kim Brodie  
Catherine Eastwood  
Shawn Elliott  
Vaunette Fay  
Elizabeth Hossan  
Susan Hricko  
Beverly Hughes  
Videlyn Ilacio-Uy  
Francine Kingston  
Margaret Moore Konefal  
Peggy Landrum  
Marita Lazzaro  
Herminia Robles  
Dianne Stephens  
Lucille Travis  
Valsamma Varghese  
Precy Villamayor  
Kathy Walsh  
Patricia Wilson

**2002**

Terri Armstrong  
Anita Broxson  
Mary Burney  
Nida Dizon  
Patricia Brown Dominguez  
Joan Edwards  
Lisa Green  
Brenda Haile  
Robin Hardwicke  
Margaret Harle  
Elaine Roper Jessup  
Angela Jones  
Harriett Linenberger  
Molly Loar Wilkins  
Veronica Magee  
Barbara McFadden  
Sharon McLane  
Joanne Monroig  
Ann Schreiner  
Lynda Woolbert

**2003**

Paula Bowers  
Rebecca Churchman-Winn  
Betty Cody  
Nancy Crider  
Ruth Grubestic  
Karen Hahn  
Shari Hemphill  
Mary Hughes  
Janet Jessup  
Geraldine Jones  
Alexander Laceras  
Ann Malecha

Lea Ann Matura  
Laurie Mitchell  
Susan Morrison  
Faun Ryser  
Debora Simmons  
Barbara Summers  
Lene Symes  
Millie Toth

**2004**

Constance Ayers  
Fedricker Diane Barber  
Gloria Beriones  
Lucindra Campbell  
Ramona Castillo  
Joyce Dains  
Juliana Darbonne  
Janet Davis  
Thomas J. Flanagan  
Patricia Ford  
Patricia Johnston  
Meggie Kwan  
Patricia S. Lewis  
Robert Massey  
Vivian Nowazek  
Sylvia Reimer  
Darlena Stevens  
Kathryn Tart  
Deborah Thompson  
Robin Toms

**2005**

Mary Jo Andre  
Sharon Axton  
Carol Causton  
Mary Dunn Chatman  
Janice Di Falco  
Susan Engleman  
Viola Hebert  
Debbie James  
Margaret Jones  
Kenn Kirksey  
Patricia Knight  
Jane Mahoney  
Ann Scanlon McGinity  
JoAnn Mick  
Gary Napier  
Kristin Ownby  
Tory Schmitz  
Claudia DiSabatino Smith  
Bonnie Strout  
Doris Walker

**2006**

Faisal Aboul-Enein  
Tammy Brown  
Terri Brown

Carol Turnage Carrier  
Janet Glines Donath  
Debra Frye  
Pamela Greene  
M. Christine Hawkins  
Judy Ong Ho  
Mary Jennings  
Debbie Jones-Tyrone  
Sarah Livesay  
Michelle Purdom  
Arlene Quarles  
Talulah Ruger  
Mary Shepherd  
Cara Simon  
Tangula Taylor  
Susan Vincencio-Garaygay  
Carmen Watrin

**2007**

Rita DelloStritto  
Charley Elliott  
Janet Gilmore  
Nancy Hurst  
Lola Denise Jefferson  
Janice Johnson-Umezulike  
Debby Lanclos  
Johnie Leonard  
Barbara Montagnino  
Paula Rupert  
Teresita Santiago  
Florence Schaefer  
Brenda Schiavone  
Linda Stafford  
Charlotte Stephenson  
Pat Varvel  
Mirian Vázquez-Ortiz  
Evangalina Villagomez  
Teresa Walsh  
Karen White

**2008**

Debra Belgard  
Meredith Cowan  
Shannan Hamlin  
Joy Hesselgrave  
Brandi Horvath  
Diane Montgomery  
Angela Morgan  
Rachelle Nurse  
Nancy Palyo  
Susan Paradela  
Barbara Reece  
Angelle Rhemann  
Tiffany Richards  
Marilou Rosario  
Rebecca Schultz  
Sharon Tatum

Ann Quinn Todd  
Emily Weber  
Rhonda Wolfe  
Nancy Yuill

**2009**

Roxann Blackburn  
Vicki A. Brownell  
Beth Cloyd  
Moranda Dansby  
Nancy Diacon  
Carson Easley  
Laura Espinosa  
Jonathan Gecom  
Catherine Giegerich  
Tuong Vi Ho  
Mary Ann Hoffmans  
Cynthia Kay Jenkins  
Michael Mistic  
Hope Moser  
Shelly Nalbore  
Beverly Nelson  
Yvette Ochoa  
Elda Ramirez  
Sue Rimes  
Rheatte Solomon

\*In loving memory



## **PREVIOUS HONOREES SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**1991**

### **Eula Bush Myles –**

Future Senior Sales Director for Mary Kay Cosmetics

[www.marykay.com/emyles1emyles1](http://www.marykay.com/emyles1emyles1)

DIVAS (D-Divine I-Inspired V-Virtuous A-Anointed)

### **Gwen D. Sherwood, PhD, RN, FAAN –**

Gwen D. Sherwood, PhD, RN, FAAN, among the first 20 honorees for Nursing Celebration, has been Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing since 2005. Previously she was Executive Associate Dean at the University of Texas Health Science Center Houston School of Nursing with joint work at the Medical Schools' Center for Patient Safety and Co-Director for The Methodist Hospital's Center for Professional Excellence. Her work focuses on transforming health care environments by expanding relational capacity of health care providers. She has examined caring relationships relative to patient satisfaction with pain management outcomes, the spiritual dimensions of care, and teamwork as a variable in patient safety. Since 2005 she has been co-investigator for Phase I, II and III of RWJF funded grants on Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN), to transform curricula to prepare nurses in quality and safety consistent with practice redesign and led several grants related to interprofessional teamwork training. She works globally to advance nursing education and leadership capacity with emphasis in China. She is Past President of the International Association for Human Caring and currently is the Vice President of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing. She is co-editor of the International Textbook of Reflective Practice and author of more than 50 publications.

### **Dorothy A. Otto, MSN, EdD, ANEF –**

Being recognized as a Nurse Educator by District 9 in 1992 has been a significant highlight in my academic nursing career for over 50 years. Giving to students through teaching/learning is a hallmark for providing optimal and safe care in the practice of professional nursing. Belonging to professional organizations, as the ANA, TNA and District 9, gives us the privilege and obligation to advocate for quality health care for all persons in wellness and illness conditions. Supporting nursing students through District 9 scholarship will continue to be in the forefront of my professional rewards.

### **Myrtle Taylor Williams –**

Myrtle Taylor Williams was an honoree in 1991. Since her TNA recognition, Myrtle has continued to contribute to the advancement of the Nursing profession through her focus on excellence and innovation. In leadership roles at Texas Children's Hospital, she mentored colleagues; facilitated the development of creative learning solutions for nursing and interdisciplinary teams; led successful magnet journeys; and spear-headed efforts to establish a state-wide nursing collaborative of free-standing children's hospitals to sponsor an annual Children's Hospital Association of Texas nursing conference. The conference, which is currently in its 17<sup>th</sup> year, was designed to inform and educate nurses about issues impacting pediatric health care. She has published articles in national journals and presented poster and podium presentations at national conferences highlighting best practice strategies. In addition to being a TNA honoree, Myrtle has also been recognized by the National Nursing Staff Development Organization (NNSDO) for "Excellence in Educational Design" and has received NNSDO's highest honor, the Belinda Puetz "Excellence in Leadership and Nursing Staff Development" award. Myrtle serves as a court appointed volunteer advocate for abused and neglected children in Fort Bend County. She is devoted to making a difference in the lives of children in crisis. Myrtle also co-chaired TNA's Nursing Celebration in 2005, 2006, and 2007.

**1993**

### **Dr. Bettye Davis-Lewis, Ed. D., RN, FAAN –**

Since receiving the prestigious award from Texas Nursing District 9 Foundation, I have continued to work to help move the nursing profession forward. I have served two times as President of the National Black Nurses association, work many hours helping the deployed people impacted by Hurricane Katrina, served on the Nurse Advisory Council for Nurse Education and Practice for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service. Presently I serve on the Advisory Council for the Office of Minority Health, Board of Trustee for the National League of Nurses, board member of Greater Houston Black Nurses Association, recognized by Ebony Magazine as one of the "100 Influential African Americans," and co-author of three papers focusing on Health Care Disparities for the Advisory Council for office of Minority health. I am a member of the American Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, a Fellow American Academy of Nurses and a Fellow in American Leadership Forum. I have presented papers nationally and internationally on health care disparities. I have had the opportunity to serve on Gateway To Care Board, Blue Ribbon Task Force for the National Advisory Committee Against Drugs and The National Multicultural Health Care Board.

### **Mary Ann Gilmore, PhD, RN –**

Completed PhD in nursing – 1996. Retired from MD Anderson as CNS in 2002. Moved to Twin Falls, ID and began part-time as Clinical Educator at The College of Southern Idaho, RN program – first year students – long-term care, hospital, clinical lab and instructor for oncology classes. Retired in 2008. Travel, taking classes at CSI, active in church groups, enjoying the local scenery, etc.



**Marianne T. Marcus, EdD, RN, FAAN –**

My major accomplishments have been to enhance nursing education in the area of substance use disorders through curriculum development and research. I continue these efforts as Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Education, and Research at University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing, Houston.

**Ann T. McKennis, RN, CNOR(E), CORLN(E) –**

Ann specialized in perioperative and otolaryngologic nursing for over 45 years. She is certified (Emeritus) in both areas. Ann has received many honors and awards and is widely published in the nursing literature. She has lectured at home and abroad on laser safety, head and neck cancer, government relations and patient advocacy. She retired from Methodist Hospital in Houston, TX seven years ago. Ann has been a member of TNA for many years and is active in the TX Nursing Legislative Coalition. She continues to volunteer in many capacities, helping to found The Woodlands Children's Museum. She remains active in Texas Laryngectomy Association and is a frequent speaker at their annual convention. She lectures at the local college on the altered airway. A major part of her volunteerism is in the world of politics and health policy. She is extremely proud to have mentored many colleagues in this area and counts NIWI (1991) as one of her life changing experiences. She was honored to receive the national Outstanding Achievement Award from the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) this past March in Denver, CO.

1994

**Dr. Patricia Starck –**

It has been my privilege to serve as Dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston for 27 years. During that time, our School reached the mark of being in the top 5% of the nation's graduate nursing school. We have more than tripled the enrollment of entry level nurses, have ten specialty masters tracks, and two doctoral programs (PhD and DNP). We have developed online and distance programs reaching all over the state and beyond. Our simulation labs and our new state-of-the-art "green building" are some of our proudest accomplishments. We have a robust clinical practice, developing nurse-managed models of care and unique nursing research contributing to the science of our profession.

1995

**Betty Thomas Daniel -**

I have been retired for several years now and traveling the US in my motor home. Having a wonderful time exploring new places and making new friends.

**Cheryl Lindy, PhD, RN-BC, NEA-BC –**

Cheryl Lindy continues to work at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. She is now the Director of Nursing & Patient Education and Research. Between 1996 and 1999 Cheryl was a member of the Consensus Committee for the Texas Nurses Quality Indicator Project Phase I & II which contributed to the establishment of National Database for Quality Indicators (NDNQI). As the site coordinator for NDNQI, she coordinates data submitted quarterly by the hospital. She has served on the TNA State Continuing Education Committee since 1996. Cheryl was appointed the Magnet Program Director in 1999. St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital was the first hospital in Texas to be designated as a magnet hospital in 2001. The hospital was redesignated in 2005 and 2009. In 2004, Cheryl was selected to be a magnet appraiser. She has co-authored 3 research articles and 3 quality improvement articles. A fourth quality improvement article is currently scheduled to be published in January 2011. At this time, she is involved in 3 quantitative research studies and a major quality improvement initiative. She has spoken nationally at conferences hosted by the National Nursing Staff Development Organization, Institute for Healthcare Improvement, the University Healthcare Consortium and NDNQI. Cheryl has spoken internationally in Brazil, Austria, Slovenia, Singapore, Canada and Wales. Currently, she is a member of a consultation team working with the Sultanate of Oman. She is certified by ANCC in Nursing Professional Development and Nursing Administration, Advanced. In 2005, she received a research grant from TNA #9 to complete her dissertation. She was awarded a PhD in Nursing Science from Texas Woman's University in 2006.

1997

**Mary Holt Ashley, PhD, RN –**

Retired from my nurse executive job and have continued my support of TNA and other professional organizations. Published a book titled "Leaders Get Up off the Canvas" and I am now working part-time at Prairie View A&M University teaching leadership in the Masters program. I also serve as the president of the Community Artist Collective, a non-profit organization that supports aspiring artists and provides art exhibitions for seasoned artists.

**Barbara Sheldon Czerwinski, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN –**

My 49 year nursing career has spanned seven states that drew to a close in a May 2010 retirement to Truckee, California. Most recently, I served as the *RN Professional Practice Director* at Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center, a 660 bed teaching faculty with ANCC Magnet Recognition®, in Phoenix, Arizona. Selected major accomplishments are Fellow, American Academy of Nursing, 2000-present. Nurse Executive Advanced Board Certified (NEA-BC), American Nurses' Credentialing Center, 1985-2014.



**Jan Foster –**

Since being honored at Nursing Celebration the 1990's, Jan Foster has enjoyed numerous opportunities to pursue her love of nursing education and research. She received her PhD from the University of Texas at Austin in 2001, allowing her to develop skills in the research process to help improve care for critically ill patients. Her dissertation work concerned recovery from neuromuscular blockade and was published in Heart and Lung. Her research interests in recovery from sedation, muscle weakness, and delirium persist. Jan founded and serves as president of Nursing Inquiry and Intervention, Inc., a consulting firm to assist hospitals and systems with implementation of research and evidence-based practice. She currently is a member of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists Research Committee. Additionally, she co-chairs the Texas Clinical Nurse Specialists Education Committee. She has enjoyed working with TNA District 9 in several capacities and has never missed a Nursing Celebration! Jan had the privilege of chairing the American Association of Critical Care Nurses Certification Corporation in 2005. She was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at Texas Woman's University in 2008, where she enjoys teaching undergraduate and graduate students and serves as Coordinator for both the Clinical Nurse Specialist and the Clinical Nurse Leader Tracks.

**1998**

**Susan (Susie) Distefano, MSN, RN, NEA-BC –**

I have been privileged to be honored by TNA District 9 two times - once in 1998 and in 2007 I received the President's Award. It is always very meaningful to be acknowledged by one's peers, and these awards have meant a great deal to me. Hopefully I have made ongoing and meaningful contributions to our profession during this timeframe. In 2009 I left Texas Childrens Hospital after serving as the Senior Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Patient Care Services for 19 years. During that time I had so many opportunities to support the growth of Nursing through advancing our profession in the areas of clinical care, research and education while supporting collaboration with other disciplines to meet the patient's needs. I am currently in a doctoral program and continue to work with various organizations to help build a healthy environment for care providers and, of course, provide great care to the patient and family!

**2000**

**Sandra K. Cesario, PhD, RNC, FAAN –**

Since receiving the prestigious award from Texas Nursing District 9 Foundation, I have continued to work to help move the nursing profession forward. I have served two times as President of the National Black Nurses association, work many hours helping the deployed people impacted by Hurricane Katrina, served on the Nurse Advisory Council for Nurse Education and Practice for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service. Presently I serve on the Advisory Council for the Office of Minority Health, Board of Trustee for the National League of Nurses, board member of Greater Houston Black Nurses Association, recognized by Ebony Magazine as one of the "100 Influential African Americans," and co-author of three papers focusing on Health Care Disparities for the Advisory Council for office of Minority health. I am a member of the American Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, a Fellow American Academy of Nurses and a Fellow in American Leadership Forum. I have presented papers nationally and internationally on health care disparities. I have had the opportunity to serve on Gateway To Care Board, Blue Ribbon Task Force for the National Advisory Committee Against Drugs and The National Multicultural Health Care Board.

**Coni Ellis, MS, RN, CWOCN –**

Since receiving this honor Coni continued to work at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center until 2007. During that time she was promoted in 2003 from Program Manager for the Nursing Outreach Program to the Director of the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurse Education Program. She is a member of the Houston Chapter of ONS where she participated in a multisite research study focusing on pain management and its subsequent publication. She also wrote a chapter on Colorectal Cancer in Cancer Nursing Principles & Practice (2000) and was an item writer for the ONS Study Guide for the Core Curriculum for Oncology Nursing (2005). Coni's presentations enabled her to travel to Spain, Japan, Madrid, Italy, China and Australia as well as around the US. Active in the WOCN she served as its Education Chair in 04-05 and National Conference Planning Committee (08-11) and the SCR WOCN Conference Planning Committee (09-11). Since 2003 she has served on the TNA District#9 Nursing Celebration Committee. The year she retired from UTMDACC she was honored to be nominated for the Nursing Spectrum Excellence in Nursing Education. Coni found another way to help patients with oncology and or wound, ostomy or continence needs by working as a Nurse Consultant for ConvaTec, Inc., traveling throughout the U.S. presenting on topics or products to meet those needs. It is very rewarding as she often sees former WOC nurse students now grads in practice "being all they can be."

**Shirley Morrison, RN, PhD(c) –**

I am pursuing my passion for nursing by recently completing an interpretive, qualitative study of expert nursing practice in ambulatory care, and hope to complete my PhD studies soon. After retiring from 30 years at MD Anderson Cancer Center, I am enjoying writing for publication, volunteering at TNA District 9, and serving on the TNA Governmental Affairs Committee. In the next 2 years, I look forward to studying the contribution of Texas Nurses Association to the history of nursing in the Houston area and to use my nursing management experience by continuing to teach nursing at the undergraduate level.



**2001**

**Francine Kingston, MSN, RN-BC –**

Participated in a three-hospital research study in collaboration with the Texas BON to evaluate an alternative to traditional hospital-based nursing peer review and to inform the profession about multiple contributing factors to nursing error. Served as one of three originators of a pediatric hospital falls collaborative. Goals included reduction of pediatric falls through efforts to define and capture falls in a consistent manner, and to create a comparative benchmark. The collaborative has resulted in multiple national presentations and publications. Provided leadership at Texas Children's to capture productivity and outcomes of the Nursing Professional Development function. We continue to refine business analytics that describe our practice and improve the ability to demonstrate impact on business outcomes; and have shared our work in local and national presentations. Provided strategic nursing leadership in the architectural design and build-out of Texas Children's Simulation Center which opened in 2009. The simulation team already finds it hard to keep up with internal and external requests for education of health care professionals. Pursued a doctoral degree at the UT School of Public Health, having completed the qualifying exam and now finishing data collection on the likelihood of nurses to report medication errors.

**2002**

**Joanne Monroig, BSN, CNRN –**

I have continued to stay active with TNA District 9 and am currently serving on the Board of Directors. I have served on the Nursing Celebration committee since its inception. I am a TNA delegate and participate in Nurse Day at the Capitol. I have been employed at The Methodist Hospital for 22 years. I am chair of the unit Clinical Practice Council as well as Professional Nurse Advisory Council and house wide Clinical Practice Council. I am currently a RN Level 3. I enjoy precepting new grads and students.

**2003**

**Karen Hahn, PhD, RN, APN–**

Since receiving her award in 2003, Dr. Karen Hahn has completed her PhD in nursing at Texas Woman's University. She was the primary investigator of an ethnography with an interdisciplinary, multiethnic team which explored the everyday lives of women 85 and older living alone in their own homes. She also served as co-investigator of a qualitative study examining ethical dilemmas of mid-career nurses. She organized international, national, and statewide conferences on spirituality and health and community health worker workforce development. She authored a book chapter, has presented for over a dozen professional conferences, and given over 100 community workshops and seminars. She has received congressional and City Council awards for her leadership in community health. The Texas House of Representatives passed a resolution commending the work of the Caring Communities Home Restoration Project which she directs. She received 7 awards of Volunteers in Service to America (VISTAs) workers to organize culturally appropriate health and social services. In the years of Katrina/Rita and Ike/Gustav alone, the VISTAs brought services, goods, and grant monies with a total value of over \$30 million dollars. Most significantly, however, she has continued to promote faith community health outreach as a model for building health communities.

**2004**

**Janet M. Davis MSN, RN, GNP-BC, CWOCN –**

After receiving my TNA award, I have continued to educate nurses on wound, ostomy and continence care topics. My former role as the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center's Director of the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurse Education Program and my current role as a Senior Educator and Consultant has afforded me audiences of nurses from all healthcare settings. Our shared interests and the importance regarding skin and wound care has given me the opportunity to share knowledge. My passion is to promote quality care for people with wounds, ostomies or continence issues. Through education, I serve patients and nurses by empowering them with information to make a difference. My hope is that the nurses apply the knowledge I share to elevate the quality of care.

**Patricia S. Lewis, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, CNML –**

I have been fortunate to work and have leadership roles in Magnet and Pathway to Excellence hospitals, The Methodist Hospital, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and presently Methodist Sugar Land Hospital in Sugar Land. I have a passion for healthy work environments which led me to complete my dissertation from Texas Woman's University Houston campus on Workplace Incivility and the Impact on the Staff Nurse including the cost of lost productivity. I have been fortunate to be able to publish and speak at local, national, and international conferences on this subject. I try to mentor nurses and future nurses in the area of continuing their education and certification.

**Robert L. Massey, PhD, RN, NEA-BC –**

Completed PhD in Nursing 2010. Presented dissertation research at 2008 Council for the Advancement of Nursing Research 2008. Co-Creator of Good Catch Program that has led to reporting of over 85,000 near miss patient safety reports since inception in 2005. Recently became one of four doctorally prepared nurses to gain faculty status at MD Anderson Cancer Center in the new academic Department of Nursing. Director of Clinical Nursing at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Continuing research using rocking chair motion to reduce duration of postoperative ileus per R2ININR grant submitted October 2009.



**Robin Toms, PhD, RN, NEA-BC –**

I am privileged to have been recognized as an outstanding nurse in Texas. The recognition has become an important part of my career as I have progressed from Director of Nursing Professional Development and Education at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston to Corporate Chief Learning Officer for Mountain States Health Alliance in Johnson City, Tennessee to my current position as Assistant Professor of Nursing at Texas Woman's University where I coordinate the Nursing Health Systems Management program and advise graduate students entering careers in nursing administration. In addition to teaching, I own and operate Leadership Coaching and Consulting, Toms & Associates. I am proud to be first and foremost a nurse.

**2005**

**Jane Mahoney, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC –**

I had the privilege of being recognized as an Outstanding Nurse in 2005 by the Texas Nurses Association District 9. Since that time, I have assumed new positions as Director of Nursing Practice and Research at The Menninger Clinic and Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine. In these positions I have applied principles of Appreciative Inquiry to design innovations to impact nursing care such as shared governance, an Evidence-based Practice Scholars program, and TeamSTEPS, a patient safety initiative. Since 2005, I have presented locally, regionally and nationally on the topics of nursing research, evidence-based practice, patient safety, optimal healing environments, interdisciplinary practice, therapeutic relationships, nursing leadership, health promotion, pain assessment, exercise and mood, and complexity science and nursing. My publications in the last 5 years have addressed stigma, narrative ethics, spasticity in persons with spinal cord injury, cultural competence, psychiatric patient outcomes, evidence-based practice, and the therapeutic milieu. I have served as co-chair of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) Research Council for the past 3 years and now serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas State Chapter of the APNA. Most recently, I successfully led the Menninger initiative for Pathway to Excellence re-designation

**2007**

**Brenda I. Schiavone, MSN, RN, PMHCNS, NEA-BC -**

Since a recipient of the TNA Nursing Excellence Award in 2007, my career in nursing has continued to evolve. This great and privileged profession has allowed me to pursue numerous opportunities for professional growth. I have continued to contribute to the profession in my work with future nurses as an educator. I completed my second certification in nursing; as a Psychiatric Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist. I now work at Family Psychiatry of The Woodlands as a practitioner. Working with patients who face mental health needs and helping them meet these challenges has been incredibly rewarding. I continue to be a nurse reviewer for the ANCC Pathway to Excellence Program. I am involved with TNA and have worked on committees that support the Nursing Excellence Awards Celebration. I served as Vice-President/Community Leader for the Eta Phi Chapter/Houston Baptist University. Most importantly, I give back to the nursing profession that has been so immensely rewarding by mentoring and supporting new nurses as they enter their career. They are the future of nursing.

**Evangelina Trejo Villagomez, PhD, APRN, CDE, CS –**

*September 2010 Research Scientist, The Methodist Hospital (TMH) Research Institute Center For Diabetes Research & Cornell University, Diabetes (DM), Obesity, Lipids Division. Lead, behavioral science team incorporating basic science of inflammation in the prevention/mgmt. of diabetes & obesity, Denver Harbor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward & 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward. RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS Prevalence of Brown Fat & Risk for Metabolic Syndrome at TMH, ADA 70<sup>th</sup> Scientific Sessions, 6/2010 & Social Cohesion Model for Successful Weight Mgmt. & DM Prevention in Young Hispanic Women, Endocrine Society, 6/2010, Calif. with Hseuh & Wyne; "Spirituality & DM in African Americans (AA)Enhancing Outcomes, AADE Annual conf., Atlanta, 8/2009, With Casarez, R. & "Dev. of Culturally & Spiritually Based Self-mgmt. curriculum for AAs with Type 2 DM," So. Nsg Research Society Annual Conf., 2/ 2010, Austin, With Casarez, R.; Phys. activity friendliness of neighborhoods, weight status, & blood pressure in children, Ameri. Pub. Hlth. Assoc., 137<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Expo, 11/2009, Penn. With Meininger, Upchurch, Taylor, Selwyn, Brosnan. SPEAKER "Building a Career in DM Research", STT International Honor Society of Nsg, Annual Research Day Conf., Univ. of TX, Edinburg, 4/2010; Transformation of CNS Education: TX CNS Ed. Committee-NACNS Convention, 4/2010. "You're Sweet Enough...Don't Get Sweeter!" TX Depart. of State Hlth Services, Austin, 4/2010; PUBLICATIONS A Structured, interactive method for participation of youths in a school district-Univ. partnership to prevent obesity. Journal of Schl. Hlth. 2010, With Meininger, Upchurch, Reyes, Selwyn, Taylor. "Differentiating the CNS & CNL", Nsg Mgmt., 2010, With Foster, Clark, Wilkinson, Heye. HONORS Recognized for 20 years, CCRN certifi., 2009, AACN Certif. Corp; Featured in Minority-Nurse-Leader Magazine: Outstanding CNS, researcher, educator, clinician, 8/2009; Outstanding contribution to Diabetes, E. Lilly, 2010; Dean's Research Award, UTHSC-HOU, 2009; Bd of Dir., Hisp. Hlth Coalition, 2009.*

**Pat Varvel –**

I retired from Houston Baptist University in May of 2008. I stay busy with family and friends, helping care for my seven-year-old granddaughter, movies and mystery book club with my sister, reading, and shopping for my antiques business. Since 2009, I also teach N-CLEX Review classes for HESI/Elsevier which provides an opportunity to travel and stay active in nursing education.

**2009**

**Vi Ho –**

Established community outreach for health preventions and promotions via television programs. Contribute to the training of new nurses as faculty at Texas Woman's University. Support and enhance the Vietnamese American nurses community via serving on the board of the Vietnamese American Nurses Association.



***Former Honorees Who Support Nursing  
Celebration Extraordinaire***

Mary Holt Ashley, PhD, RN

Brenda K. Binder, PhD, RN

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*And the other four honorees who are alumni of the  
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# Congratulations

Congratulations to Dana and Julie on being honored as one of  
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Thank you for your dedication and commitment to improving the health of our community.  
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**Dana Bjarnason,**  
PhD, RN, NE-BC  
Assistant Administrator  
& Case Manager Office  
Baylor Texas General Hospital  
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Thank God for the wonderful opportunity to care for others; it is only through God's Grace that nursing is a gift that He has given. I would like to say thank you to my mother for all of the many sacrifices; teaching me the importance of God, family, and education. Thank you to my husband for caring and being supportive, my family for your love and guidance, and friends for sharing. I applaud St. Luke's for supporting me, helping me grow, and allowing me the opportunity to share the joy of nursing. Thank you to TNA for your commitment to excellence in nursing. I salute nursing for a wonderful 25 years!

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