

PEOPLE & EVENTS

Patricia F. Jassak, MS, RN, AOCN®
Associate Editor

Gullatte Named 2004 Georgia Nurse of the Year



Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Mary Magee Gullatte, RN, MN, ANP, AOCN®, FAAMA, director of nursing for inpatient oncology and transplant services at Emory Hospitals and the Winship Cancer Institute in Atlanta,

GA, has been awarded one of the state's top nursing honors—the Georgia Nursing Association's 2004 Nurse of the Year.

Gullatte, a 26-year employee of Emory University Hospital, has served in various roles, ranging from staff nurse to multiple management positions. She also has served on the boards of the American Cancer Society and ONS and as a volunteer for countless organizations, such as the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, and Georgia Special Olympics.

During her career at Emory, Gullatte completed her master's of nursing degree and her credential as an advanced practice nurse practitioner from Emory's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. She currently is pursuing doctoral studies in cancer nursing research supported, in part, by a National Cancer Institute training grant from the University of Utah School of Nursing.

Emory Healthcare Chief Nursing Officer Alice Vautier, RN, EdD, nominated Gullatte for the award. Vautier cited Gullatte's many contributions to the nursing profession, including her promotion of the image of nursing; impact on local, regional, national, and international nursing and health care; mentoring; and advocating for access to affordable, safe patient care.

"Mary is a consummate professional who has a way of inspiring others to act and brings out the best in their professional achievement," Vautier said. "She is a tireless worker as she strives to make a difference in the profession for patients and nurses and within the communities she serves."

Gullatte's experience has allowed her to make many contributions to health care in Georgia. She educates nurses and consumers about health promotion and disease prevention throughout metro Atlanta. She formed a

nurses' guild and a cancer survivor support group in her church community, taught AIDS classes at Morris Brown College, conducted cancer prevention and early-detection programs throughout the state, and conducts a health promotion seminar at the Marietta Alternative School once a year. Her work has garnered several national and local awards for her focus on health care within the community. She is a seasoned presenter and a widely published author.

"I have found nursing to be a professionally fulfilling and personally enriching career choice," Gullatte said. "I have had the opportunity to learn so much from each patient and family encounter. I feel they have touched my life perhaps as much as I have touched theirs. I have no regrets in my career choice and I encourage anyone who would like to have the opportunity to learn, to grow, and to experience the joy of making a difference in the lives of so many at such a critical time in their life to choose nursing as a career."

Murphy Awarded for Innovations in End-of-Life Care



ONS member Mary Murphy, RN, MS, AOCN®, CHPN, a palliative care nurse specialist at the Hospice of Dayton in Ohio, has received the Hospice and Palliative Care Nurses Association (HPNA) Award

for Innovations in End of Life Care. Murphy accepted the award at the National Conference of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Care Physicians and HPNA in Phoenix, AZ, on January 23.

The award is given to a nurse who has made a difference in end-of-life care by implementing a program or service to support end-of-life care for patients. Murphy provided education to more than 195 nurses at the Hospice of Dayton and gave a state and national presentation, "Palliative Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy for the Hospice Patient," for the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Murphy also implemented ongoing patient teaching materials, resource staff, and a self-learning packet to support the project.

Murphy is the immediate past president of ONS's West Central Ohio Chapter, for which she also has served as treasurer. She is an au-

thor, a lecturer, and a reviewer for the *Oncology Nursing Forum*. She also contributed chapters in *Telephone Triage Nursing for Oncology Nursing*, recently published by ONS.

Newton Receives Outstanding Alumni Award



ONS member Susan A. Newton, RN, MS, AOCN®, field manager of oncology nursing for Ortho Biotech Products, LP, recently received the Outstanding Alumni Award from Wright State University (WSU)—Miami

Valley College of Nursing and Health in Dayton, OH. A 1990 WSU graduate, Newton earned her master's of science degree in oncology nursing from the University of South Florida in 1995. Her position provides the education that oncology nurses need to help patients with cancer.

Newton is chair of the *ONCC News* Editorial Board and writes a regular column on the benefits of nursing certification. She has written a chapter for a medical-surgical textbook and is co-editor of the ONS publication *Telephone Triage Nursing for Oncology Nursing*. Newton has served as a preceptor for graduate students attending WSU in the clinical nurse specialist program. She is a past president of ONS's West Central Ohio Chapter and the current scholarship committee chair. She also is a past member of the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Task Force.

Newton has spoken in Washington, DC, for the Society's Hill Day and was the recipient of the 2001 FIRE® (Fatigue Initiative Through Research and Education) Excellence Award, which is supported through a grant to ONS from Ortho Biotech Products, LP.

Distress Management Training for Oncology Nurses Now Available

The American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) and the Individual Cancer Assistance Network (ICAN) recently launched the online continuing education accredited program, ICAN: Distress Management for