



Oostomy Association of the Houston Area

November 2006

PO Box 25164
Houston, TX 77265-5164
www.oostomyhouston.org

"We help ourselves by helping others to help themselves."

"We are a volunteer-based organization dedicated to providing education, information, support and advocacy for people who have had or will have intestinal or urinary diversions."

Monthly support and information meetings are held in three locations for member convenience.

Central Group

Monthly: Third Monday
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: American Cancer Society Building
6301 Richmond Avenue, Houston
Contact: Ed Wood 281-493-5015
(ewood6@houston.rr.com)

Meeting: November 20th, Monday evening

Program: Hollister Representative

Spencer Jackson, Hollister's new rep, will present our November program.

Northwest Group

Monthly: Tuesday following the third Monday
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: NW Medical Professional Bldg. (The Cali Bldg.)
17117 Cali Drive, Houston (This location is just off of 1960 and west of I-45. Turn north on Cali Drive from 1960. At the stop sign turn left on Judiwood and left again to park behind the Cali Building.)

Contact: Tony Romeo 281-537-0681 (sa1tmr@sbcglobal.net)

Meeting: November 21st, Tuesday evening

Program: Fall Picnic

Bring a dish and join us for our annual fall picnic. We will meet at our regular time and place. See you there!!



Give Thanks!!

Baytown Group

Monthly: Fourth Monday
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Cancer Center Community Room
4021 Garth Road, Baytown
Contact: Cindy Barefield 281-420-8671

Meeting: November 27th, Monday evening

Program: ConvaTec Representative

Tabatha Schroeder is scheduled to present our October program. See you on the 24th!!

J-Pouch Group

Monthly: Third Monday
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: American Cancer Society Building
6301 Richmond Avenue, Houston
Contact: Ron Meisinger 281-491-8220

**Meeting: November 20th, Monday evening . . .
Reservation required. No obligation. Please
call 281-491-8220 for reservation.**

Program: Round Table Discussion

Join us for a discussion about ulcerative colitis and the J-Pouch connection.

Patient Visiting and Support Services

Doctors and ET Nurses please note: Upon request from a doctor or nurse, a specially trained visitor will be sent to visit an ostomy patient before and/or after surgery. The visitor will be matched as nearly as possible according to sex, age, and type of ostomy. There is no charge for this service. The visitor does not give medical advice.

Please contact our Visitor Coordinator, Dorothy Andrews at 713-789-4049.

We are a health support group, a non-profit, tax-exempt, organization of volunteers whose purpose is to provide mutual aid and education to persons who have ostomies and to their families. We are a Texas non-profit corporation. Membership fees and donations are tax deductible.

Central Group News

Because of the unpredictable weather on that day, we were forced to cancel the October 16th meeting of the Central group. Spencer Jackson, the Hollister representative, will be able to present at the November 20th meeting. We are sorry for the inconvenience that this may have caused. We will have to wait to the next meeting to unveil our permanent name tags that we hope will add to our meetings. We can all make this effort a success by remembering to take the name tags off when we leave the meeting.

At the next meeting of the Board of Directors, we will be discussing our project that will involve communicating with the home health care workers in the Houston area. As you may know, the numbers of days that ostomates stay in hospitals have been greatly shortened from the number in prior years. This is one reason the number of requests for hospital visits from our support group has decreased. Many patients may go to rehab or may be seen by home health care workers. The former national organization before it ceased to exist had recommended that this will be the time to make contact with patients who may need the services of our support group. We now have a list to work from and we are preparing a letter to send to these workers to see how we can best serve them and their patients.

In December, a nominating committee will be formed to nominate people for permanent board of director positions. At this time, there are two positions that will need to be filled. The election of directors will be by members at the various meetings in May of 2007. In June 2007, the board of directors will meet and elect the officers for the next few years. We hope that you will consider serving if you are contacted by the committee.

The board of directors has been busy working on the next few months' meetings. The next few months are outlined below:

November 20 – Spencer Jackson from Hollister Products

December 5 - Holiday Dinner Party – You can find more information later in this column and on page 4 of the newsletter.

January 15 – Patricia Carroll will talk to us concerning insurance claim denials. She received great reviews from some of our members who attended a CCFA conference in which she gave a similar talk.

February 19 – Will be a roundtable and a chance to look at the possible topics for the remainder of the year.

March 6 – 51st Anniversary Dinner

April 16 – Dr Cali will talk to us.

Sometime later in the year, we hope to have someone to talk to us about home health care. The Coloplast representative hopes to see us during the year.

In December, we will have our annual Holiday Dinner at Pine Forest Country Club. To reserve your seat at this enjoyable event, please send your check, made payable to Ostomy Association of the Houston Area, to Chuck Bouse, 12427 Millbanks, and Houston, TX 77031. Your check is your reservation. **One change this year will be that Pine Forest Country Club would like to know your choice of entrée before that night. Please call Ed Wood at 281-493-5015 to make your choice.** You can find more information about the dinner on page 4. **The deadline for reservations is November 30, 2006.**

Spencer Jackson with Hollister Products will talk to us at the November meeting. So if God is willing and, literally, if the bayous do not rise, I hope to see you at the meeting.

Ed Wood
President

Don't be afraid that your life will end, be afraid that it will never begin.

- anonymous

OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS...

Anniversary Gift: As you celebrate the anniversary of your ostomy surgery each year, consider making a monetary gift to the Ostomy Association. Checks should be made payable and sent to: **Ostomy Association of the Houston Area**
Attn: Chuck Bouse, Treasurer
P.O. Box 25164
Houston, TX 77265-5164

Memorial Fund: Donations can be made to our Memorial Fund to memorialize or honor individuals. Checks should be made payable and sent to: **Ostomy Association of the Houston Area**
Attn: Mary Harle
9643 Winsome Lane
Houston, TX 77063-3725

(When sending a donation, be sure to include the name of the person being honored so that appropriate acknowledgement can be sent.)

Donation of Supplies: We are contacted on a regular basis by individuals who are in need of donated supplies of all kinds. Consider donating ostomy supplies that you no longer use to assist your fellow ostomates in the Houston area. Please contact Terry Marriott at 713-668-8433 with any questions.

Consultation with ET: Clarice E. Kennedy, Certified Enterostomal Therapist, is available for consultations. Clarice is an ostomate with over 30 years of knowledge and experience to share with anyone who has questions about, or needs assistance with, the care of an ostomy both prior to and following surgery. Contact cekenney@ev1.net or call 713-647-8029 for an appointment.

Sponsorship: You can sponsor a member of our ostomy support group with a tax-deductible donation to cover the cost of their membership. Send your check in the amount of \$25.00 to:
Ostomy Association of the Houston Area
Chuck Bouse, Treasurer
P.O. Box 25164
Houston, TX 77265-5164

Use Those Shopping Cards: Krogers and Randalls return a percentage of your purchases to the Ostomy Association on a quarterly basis. For card applications, contact Ed Wood at 281-493-5015.

Moving??: Our newsletter is sent by bulk mail, which the Post Office will not forward even if you fill out a forwarding request. To continue receiving the newsletter after a move, contact Chuck Bouse, Treasurer, at 281-495-1840 (dewitt@houston.rr.com) or send your request to the Ostomy Association of the Houston Area, P.O. Box 25164, Houston, TX 77265-5164.

We encourage you to bring your spouse or significant other and members of your immediate family to our meetings.

Disclaimer: The information contained within this newsletter is presented expressly for informational purposes only and may not be applicable to everyone. It should not be substituted for professional medical care or attention by a qualified practitioner. Always check with your doctor if you have any questions or concerns about your condition.

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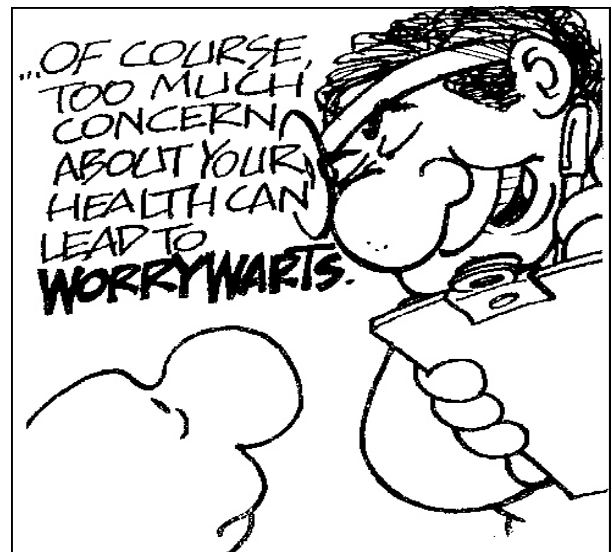
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Holiday Dinner Party



Date: Tuesday, December 5
Time: 6:30 p.m. - Hors d'oeuvres and Cash Bar
7:30 p.m. - Dinner
Place: Pine Forest Country Club
18003 Clay Road
Houston, Texas 77084
Menu: Entrée Choices: (Includes salad, dessert, coffee or tea)

**Deadline for
reservations is
November 30th!!**

1. Chicken Chasseur (Chicken in rich wine sauce with tomatoes, mushrooms and herbs. Served with rice blended with cranberries and pecans and seasoned asparagus.
2. 6 Oz. Filet Mignon with Bernaise (Chargrilled). Served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes and seasoned asparagus.
3. Herbed Seared Salmon with light, lemon butter sauce. Served with rice blended with cranberries and pecans and seasoned asparagus.

Cost: \$25.00 per person (includes gratuity)

- **Reservations can be made by sending your check (payable to Ostomy Association of the Houston Area) to:**
Chuck Bouse, Treasurer, 12427 Millbanks, Houston, TX 77031.
- **Your check will serve as your reservation.**
- **Also, please call Ed Wood, 281-493-5015, to make your Entrée selection. (This must be done at the time of your reservation.)**

The Holiday Dinner is a wonderful way to start this joyous season.

Please join us to enjoy the beautiful surroundings, great food, good friends, and fun door prizes.



BAYTOWN SUPPORT GROUP

"Howdy Partners" from the Fort Worth area where I recently attended the South Central Regional WOCN Conference. Thanks to the great folks I work with, I had the chance to network with other WOCN professionals and attend several educational programs. In addition, I was able to meet several volunteers from the local UOAA and American Cancer Society. Sharing ideas with these folks was renewing for me.

I hope to see all of you at our meetings each month. We have invited our new ConvaTec Ostomy Specialist, Tabatha Schroeder, to join us in October. Don't miss it!! Sincerely,

Cindy Barefield, RN, WOCN
281-420-8671

NORTHWEST GROUP HAPPENINGS

Fourteen members and visitors attended our September meeting. We welcomed the new attendees and look forward to seeing them again soon.

The nutrition program presented by Byron Richards was enjoyed by everyone. "Thank you" GayNell for providing the nutritious refreshments in keeping with our program.

Our annual Fall Picnic will be held on October 17th at our usual meeting time and place. If you have not yet signed up for bringing a covered dish, call GayNell at 281-446-0444. We will be discussing whether to have a meeting in November and also taking a vote on wearing nametags.

See you at the picnic . . .

Tony Romeo
281-537-0681

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in the Ostomy Association of the Houston Area requires one easy payment. Please complete the following form and mail as directed with payment as shown.

Dues of \$25.00 per year are payable to: Ostomy Association of the Houston Area, Attention: Treasurer
P.O. Box 25164, Houston, TX 77265-5164

General Data:

Name: _____ Date: _____
Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-Mail: _____

Surgery Date: _____ Birth Date: _____

Reason for surgery: Crohn's Ulcerative Colitis Cancer Birth Defects Other _____

Procedure or Relationship:

To help us complete our records, please answer the following. Check all that apply.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Continent Ileostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of Child with procedure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ileostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Continent Urostomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Family Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urinary Diversion | <input type="checkbox"/> Pull-Through | <input type="checkbox"/> Physician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse | |

_____ I would like to attend meetings with the (please circle one):

Central Group Baytown Group Northwest Group J-Pouch Group

_____ I would like to become a member but cannot pay dues at this time. (*This will be kept confidential*)

I learned about the Ostomy Association from

_____ ET Nurse _____ Physician _____ Newsletter _____ Surgical Shop _____ Website _____ Other:

I have enclosed an additional \$ _____ as a donation to support the association's mission of helping ostomates.

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE: MONTHLY SUPPORT / INFORMATION MEETINGS,
SOCIAL EVENTS, MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

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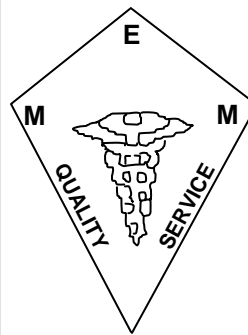
**For a Free Sample
or For More Information Contact
Clarice Kennedy, CET (713) 647-8029 or cekennedy@ev1.net**

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NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING:

Please contact the newsletter editor for sponsorship and advertising opportunities.

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you’re in the wrong lane.”**



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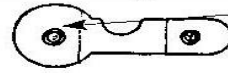


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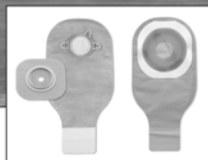
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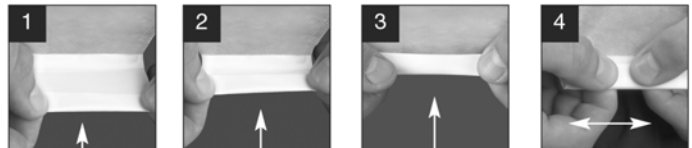


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Ostomy Association of the Houston Area

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Kathleen Duplessis	Membership Chair	(713) 467-3168 or kdup@rice.edu
Terry Marriott	Supplies Coordinator	(713) 668-8433 or marriot@rice.edu

Appointed Positions

Dorothy Andrews	Visitation Coordinator	(713) 789-4049
Judy Swinger	Newsletter Editor	(713) 562-3279 or swingcon@ev1.net
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