



These UOAA UPDATES are our way of communicating what is happening to you, our members. It is our hope that this information is being passed on to your members, either by including some of the news in your newsletters or by discussing it at your local support group meetings. People continue to ask, what is UOAA doing for me, and this is our way of answering this time old question.

We continue to look forward to working with you and to being an active resource to ensure your success.

September 2006

UPDATES:

- ❖ **Happy Birthday to UOAA ... we are now officially one year old!!**
- ❖ **Fall 2006 Election of UOAA Management Board of Directors.**

In the very near future all ASG contacts will be receiving, via the postal service, a letter from the UOAA Office containing your election ballot and instructions regarding its completion and submission back to UOAA. The deadline for submission of these election ballots is November 15, 2006.

The following people have agreed to stand for Office: Ken Aukett, President; Kristin Knipp, President Elect; Bob Baker, Vice President; Dave Rudzin, Treasurer; Mary Jane Wolfe, Secretary. These candidates are running unopposed. For the 4 Director seats we have 6 candidates. They are: LeeAnn Barcus, Charlie Grotevant, Tillie Horak,, Lynne Kramer, Sherry Lessard and Steve Strizic.

The 2 candidates receiving the highest number of votes will serve 2-year terms; the candidates receiving the 3rd and 4th highest number of votes will serve one year terms. There will be an election in the Fall of 2007 to elect 2 Directors whose terms will be expiring. These Directors will serve a 2-year term. Every year thereafter 2 Directors will be elected to replace those whose terms are expiring.

Ginnie Kasten, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee thanks those volunteers who allowed their name to be placed into consideration for the Management Board of Directors positions that this election will fill. It is her hope, and this is shared by those presently serving as UOAA leaders, that more candidates will agree to stand for office in future elections.

Information about the candidates and their qualifications can be found on the UOAA website at <http://www.uoaa.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=10> .

This is a Discussion Board, so please ask questions of the candidates, then vote your group's preference.

The Office of President Elect is a new concept included by UOAA in its Constitution. The person elected to this Office will automatically succeed to the Office of President on January 1st, 2010. With this provision in place, the transition from one

administration to another will be seamless. The new President will have served on the MBoD for the 3 previous years, and will have had an opportunity to develop and Influence policies, activities and planning schemes that will be their responsibility to implement. The Office of Immediate Past President has been eliminated.

- ❖ **Affiliated Support Groups** – Since our last UPDATE in July, 16 more groups have affiliated. If you add in the 15 Outreach Support Groups (OSGs, formerly known as Satellites) associated with the ASGs, UOAA now represents **236 ostomy patient support groups!**

You can see the entire list at this link:

<http://www.uoaa.org/supportgroups.shtml>

Reminder: In order to refer people to your group we need to keep the information on this list current.

Please remember to let us know if and when your contact person, telephone number and/or e-mail address changes. **Send changes to Joan McGorry at oa@uoaa.org . Thanks!**

- ❖ **Newsletter Editor Directory**

From time to time there is information that needs to be communicated to the ASG Newsletter Editors: information such as National, Network and Regional Conference Flyers, Advocacy alerts, **The PHOENIX** subscription advertising and articles of general interest. To expedite the dissemination of this information, UOAA is compiling a Directory of ASG Newsletter Editors. This Directory will be available in the UOAA Office and will be made available only to those entities deemed appropriate by the UOAA MBoD, such as other Newsletter Editors who want to share information. Please e-mail contact information about your ASG Newsletter Editor to Joan McGorry at oa@uoaa.org

Again as a service to the ASG Newsletter Editors, 9 articles are attached to this UPDATE for use by the Editors as they see fit. At some time in the not-too-distant-future the 20 articles that were sent with the July UPDATE will be posted on the UOAA website on an educational article page open to all viewers who visit the site.

❖ **Website – www.uoaa.org**

On October 1st the UOA website “blinked out” ... gone the way of all good things! However, all was not lost! For those wishing to gain the information contained within the unique UOA **Ostomy Care Guides** published by the UOA, copies of these Guidebooks, Reference Cards, Brochures and Fact Sheets, in both English and Spanish, were saved on the [Oklahoma Support Group website](http://www.oklahomastomysupportgroup.com), maintained by UOAA’s webmaster, Bob Baumel, and are now also available directly on the UOAA website at http://www.uoaa.org/ostomy_info/. In addition, because many websites still include links to the old UOA site, a “redirection” was set up, so any attempt to access www.uoa.org sends you to the UOAA site at www.uoaa.org.

Does your group have a website? If not, UOAA is prepared to offer you space on its site where you can post contact and, any generic meeting information you wish for your group. This will be a no-frills page, but it will provide information about your existence to folks surfing the web. It will also give you an Internet address that you can include on your brochure, business cards or newsletter. For more information contact Joan McGorry oa@uoaa.org.

❖ **Professional Ostomates**

Disclaimer: UOAA recognizes that some people do not choose to consider their ostomy as a disability, but for those that do, the following information may be of interest.

Are you a scientist, engineer, IT professional, or mathematician with a sensory, mobility, learning, or other disability? American Association for the Advancement of Science invites you to participate in the *Resource Directory of Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities*. This *Directory* is used by the National Science Foundation, Government agencies, universities, newspapers, and individuals to recruit advisors, speakers, mentors, and peer-reviewers. Find out more and how to participate by going to <http://ehrweb.aaas.org/resource> or email Tesa Leon at tleon@aaas.org

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS:

❖ **World Ostomy Day – October 7th, 2006**

Don’t look now, but next Saturday is World Ostomy Day. WOD’06 will be observed by the IOA’s 76 National Ostomy Association members, world wide. WOD’06 provides an excellent opportunity to generate public awareness about ostomy surgery, the diseases that result in ostomy surgery and the local support groups that are organized to assist ostomy patients, their families and caregivers. I hope that you have utilized some of the suggestions forwarded by UOAA’s WOD coordinator, Joan McGorry.

We are most interested in knowing what your ASG did to participate in this global event. Please send an e-mail to Joan describing your activities ... something that can be shared with the other ASGs when WOD rolls around again in October, 2009.



As part of Hollister’s participation in WOD’06 it coordinated a world-wide photo contest. The winning photo submissions have just been announced. Out of 115 entries, we are fortunate indeed that ten of these 20 winning photos depict ostomates from the US, taking part in active everyday life. You can [see them - click here](#). Celebrity appearances can be arranged.

❖ **Board and Conference Planning Meeting**

The UOAA Management Board of Directors and 2007 Conference Planners will meet at the Lincolnshire Marriott Resort on November 9th through the 11th. ASG leaders in the Chicago area will be invited to participate in the conference planning discussions on Saturday, November 11th. If you have not been contacted directly, but are interested in attending the Conference Planning session on Saturday, November 11th, contact me at kenaukett@uoaa.org

❖ **Inaugural UOAA National Conference**

Yes I know that it is just the first week of Autumn, but it is not too early to start planning to attend UOAA’s 1st National Conference next August in Chicago. On **Wednesday, August 15th through Saturday, August 18th, 2007**, UOAA will convene its first National Conference at the Lincolnshire Marriott Resort situated 18 miles northeast of Chicago’s O’Hare airport. **The room rate is only \$ 109 s/d/night + tax.** The hotel is located on a 170 acre site that features a golf course, in-door and out-door swimming pools, a health club, indoor racquet center, basketball and sand volleyball courts, bike rentals for riding on paths that will take you to Wisconsin and a playground for the kids.

The 3 story hotel has 384 well-equipped rooms featuring all of the Marriott amenities, 20 of which are wheelchair accessible; wireless internet in all of the public space; a Kings Wharf themed restaurant; a sports bar; and an award winning live musical theatre in the round, featuring the best of Broadway.

For you sports enthusiasts a **Golf Outing will be held on Wednesday, August 15th**, at Cranes Landing Golf Club right on the Marriott property. The first foursome will be teeing off around noon. We are working on a special event for Wednesday evening for all golfers and early conference arrivers. Our programming will begin Thursday morning. In addition to the general workshops, a room will be

dedicated to each of our networks, where group-specific programming will be presented. And, to those who have attended a UOA Annual Conference and know what a good time is, ConvaTec has promised to carry on its tradition of a sponsored, themed social evening.

❖ **2008 Regional Conferences**

If your ASG is planning, or even thinking about planning a Regional Conference for 2008, please contact me at kenaukett@uoaa.org There is logistical support that UOAA can provide which will ensure that your event is a success.

REACHING OUT:

❖ **Membership in the International Ostomy Association**

I am pleased to advise that our application to IOA has been approved by the Executive Committee of the North and Central America and Caribbean Ostomy Association, a Region of IOA. UOAA is a "provisional" member. Until the NCACOA House of Delegates meets next August in Puerto Rico and ratifies our membership application, UOAA will be accorded the rights of a "full member" in IOA, without the right to vote.

Did you know? Former UOA President Ann Favreau is the appointed Secretary to the Executive Council of the IOA.

❖ **Lance Armstrong Foundation**

UOAA will be listed on the "Lance Armstrong Foundation" website as a resource for people with ostomies recovering from cancer. Check out http://www.livestrong.org/site/c.jvKZLbMRIsG/b.670353/k.EB2B/Ostomies_Detailed_Information.htm

UOAA will be listed under the subheadings "Suggestions" and "Additional Information". The info presently listed, which refers to UOA, will be replaced with data I supplied for UOAA.

OSTOMATE – A BOXER - IN AWARD-WINNING FILM:

Yes, you heard right - a boxer. In 2002, independent film-maker John Sullivan produced a documentary about an American lawyer, living in Thailand, who took up amateur boxing in his 30's to improve his overall health. Lawyer & boxer Craig Wilson later learned that his long-standing ulcerative colitis had developed into colon cancer, and he underwent ileostomy surgery. Then he returned to the boxing ring, where it is not unknown for him to defeat someone half his age! The film, "*Farang Ba*", tells his story and goes through one day of preparing for a

bout, complete with the routine care of his ostomy. Also included is an interview with his surgeon, Bruce Orkin MD (former UOA Medical Advisory Committee Chair). "*Farang Ba*" is literally translated as "Crazy Foreigner", an affectionate name Craig was given by his trainer, and one he wears with pride.

The film has been screened at film festivals all over the world, and won the 2003 Banff Rockie Award for best sports documentary (on par with an International Emmy). Audiences have loved the warm, human story of Craig's triumph over illness.

Look for more information from us about this, and in the meantime see more details for yourself here:

<http://www.buyindies.com/listings/1/0/1091054311859.html> and <http://www.newenglandfilm.com/news/archives/03october/sullivan.htm>

ADVOCACY:

Our advocacy software has been enhanced to:

- allow voter registration;
- follow the coming Congressional elections; and
- communicate with your state elected officials, in addition to federal ones.

At <http://capwiz.com/uoaa/dbq/officials/> check out the interactive map or enter your zipcode.

At <http://capwiz.com/uoaa/dbq/media/> send news of your groups activities to local media outlets.

At <http://capwiz.com/uoaa/home/> you can see all the functions of this multi-purpose advocacy tool.

❖ **Remember ... UOAA Contact Information**

UOAA's "contact address" is:

UOAA.P.O. Box 66

Fairview, Tennessee 37062

and Joan McGorry can be reached by telephone at:

800-826-0826 (the UOAA Help Line)

or by e-mail at oa@uoaa.org

Requests for visitors received on

ostomyvisitor@uoaa.org will be forwarded by

Joan to the nearest ASG.

Note: Comments about *The PHOENIX* or subscription questions should be forwarded directly to Ian Settlemire at publisher@uoaa.org .

- ❖ **IN CONCLUSION ...** Well, that puts a wrap on things for today. Tomorrow Linda and I leave for China. We will tour in Hong Kong for three days, then off to Guangzhou (formerly Canton) where we have been invited to present a lecture to the International Symposium of Stoma Therapy and Rehabilitation, on "Intimacy and the Ostomate". We will take time to check out the sights at Beijing before returning home. (Rest easy, this is not at UOAA expense.)

Ken Aukett, President, UOAA