

May 2006

Hello

May brings lots of endings and many new beginnings. This year Eta Tau chapter of Sigma Theta Tau inducted 74 new members. It was wonderful to be part of the pride and hope seen on the faces of the inductees, their friends and family and the faculty. It was a lively evening and I think I am beginning to get comfortable speaking in formal ceremonies.

May brings lots of nervous jitters for many reasons. For some of you it is that graduation is finally here, for others it is all the Nurses Week festivities and the annual Salem State College Nursing Recognition Ceremonies, for others it is the budding of spring and all the hope and promise that brings. This month always focuses a lot of energy and publicity on nurses. As nurses we are generally more “behind the scenes” type of people. We will do anything in our power to help meet a patient's needs and to help them improve their health. But we blush or get uncomfortable when those deeds are publicized.

How do we spotlight nursing and make nurses more comfortable with recognition? How do we encourage our youth to choose a life's profession and not just a job? With the growing shortage of nurses, the need for increasing enrollment into nursing school is crucial, how do we help make this happen?

I'll close and leave you to ponder these questions. I also encourage you to locate and view a copy Johnson & Johnson's second annual celebration of nurses “Unsung hero's” video. It is a wonderful reminder of why we do all we do. Finally I encourage you to get involved. As Eta Tau members you are the best and brightest nursing has to offer. You have earned the right to be at the table as decisions about the nursing profession are debated.

I Believe in You

Happy Nurses Week

Patti-Ann Collins  
President Eta Tau Chapter