

May 2026

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Mideast Chapter
Wound, Ostomy, and
Continence Nurses Society®

UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendar of Events:

Partners in Practice Webinar 7pm-8 pm

Using Professional Growth Points (PGP) for Recertification

Monday, May 18th, 2026 @ 7:00 pm ET

Kathy Khandaker, MSN, APRN, CWOCN

WOCNext® 2026 Conference May 31st – June 2, 2026

Mideast Chapter Membership Meeting May 31st 7:30 am – 8:45 am

Location: JW Marriott Indianapolis, Rooms: 201 and 202

Breakfast Provided please RSVP

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello MEC Members!

It's hard to believe that it's May and WOCNext® 2026 is just weeks away. Whether you are attending the conference live, virtual or if you are unable to attend conference this year, you are invited to join the Mideast Chapter for our Membership Meeting on May 31st at 7:30 am.

For those joining virtually or unable to attend conference, you can join the meeting on Google Meet:

<https://meet.google.com/ero-mbuw-owu>

For those attending conference in person, please make sure to RSVP to the Membership Meeting, so that the National Office has the correct numbers for ordering breakfast.

To RSVP, please use the following steps:

You must log in to wocn.org and follow the steps below to RSVP:

1. **Login to wocn.org**
2. **Click on Communities**

3. **Click on the Mideast Chapter Community**
4. **At the top of the community page is Threads, Library, Events**
5. **Click on Events**
6. **Scroll down and click on Mideast Membership Meeting**
7. **On the right-hand side of the page click on RSVP.**

You are now registered for the breakfast!

The Board is looking forward to seeing everyone in person and virtually in Indianapolis!

Patti Burke

Please Participate in a Certification Survey!

The WOC Certification Board is supporting a survey on certification by the American Board of Nursing Specialties. You do not need to be certified to participate. The survey pertains to what motivates people to seek certification or why you have not sought certification. The survey takes less than 5 minutes, so please participate in the survey by cutting and pasting the link below:

https://8szti9abb.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001MQjZ0ySVA0HY_PR8Y0nsU9rjroQdb2jlbtQ_6F5v38vkyxgtJOprJOfXjMpmAxPFGjTd8dEzogrdl2G1wlYmNk7N9L07wrsV7A9oP2gJuGYHG6xoEOnYUCx89JOiYUIDsAkZVzUL21v7brlknopSUb6PQNZcx6QJuhmTrBHbCYpTgi1uJRGKJQ==&c=oStjmBsD7x2kO1nfCA1bF7qqHL0sZPcPzpXQGu7Y_S-RN7KiPEvYw==&ch=rj-tW5534xKZ8swCt4rorgo5mPmrUyQnxGMELb6WkaT1JE8WStAtvA==

The information obtained from the survey will help guide certifying organizations, employers and the nursing community in strengthening support for nurses.

PRESIDENT ELECT UPDATE

Welcome to 2026. Check out the Mideast Chapter Community page on the WOCN Society website and to check out our new YouTube page. We have the previous Partners in Practice presentations for your viewing pleasure!

Please check it out. <https://www.youtube.com/@mideastchapterofthewocn>.

The Chapter will meet in **Room 201-202 (Floor 2)** in the JW Marriott on **May 31st at 7:30 am** during the WOC Next conference in Indianapolis. Here is a map.

JW Marriott Indianapolis 2026 Chapter Breakfast Room Assignments - FLOOR 2



We look forward to seeing you in Indy!

Tracy Swift

DIRECTOR #1 UPDATE



Membership Minute with Betsy Kulling, Director #1

- **Partners in Practice** - Join us!
 - Using Professional Growth Points (PGP) for Recertification
 - **May 18th, 2026, 7pm-8pm EST**
 - Kathy Khandaker, MSN, APRN, CWOCN
 - Join Here: <https://meet.google.com/ero-mbuw-owu>
- Don't forget to follow us on social media! Look for the MEC on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!
- See you in Indy!

Betsy Kulling

DIRECTOR #2 UPDATE

Thank you for the 2026 nominations for the following awards:

- WOC Nurse of the Year
- Poster Awards
- Jeff Bish Scholarship
- Advanced Practice Scholarship
- Professional Educator of the Year

We still have several scholarships and awards that remain unclaimed, so please begin thinking about individuals you would like to nominate for 2027. You can even nominate yourself.

The submission deadline is August 15, 2027. Nominations for next year may be submitted at any time starting now.

Deadline for poster Abstracts to present at WOCNext 2027 is November 1, 2026. Present your research!

For your review

<https://www.wocn.org/chapters/mideast-chapter-scholarships/>

<https://www.wocn.org/chapters/mideast-chapter-awards/>

Michele Kessie

DIRECTOR #3 UPDATE



The 2027 Conference planning committee (CPC) is hard at work planning your 2027 conference.

Thank you to Jena Gourley for Chairing the 2027 CPC and all the CPC members for your hard work and dedication!

Lisa Berning

DIRECTOR #4 UPDATE

Elections

Considering becoming more active in the MEC board? Elections are open and we need you!

Current open positions: Secretary, Treasurer, Director #2, Director #4. If you are interested in running for any of the open board positions:

Go to <https://www.wocn.org/chapters/location/mideast-chapter/> and scroll down to Elections and click. Then scroll down to Application for Board Member and complete the application and hit submit.

Looking for the latest update on Public Policy: Check it out at

<https://www.wocn.org/podcasts/zeroing-in-on-quality-how-the-hospital-harm-pressure-injury-ecqm/>

Ashley Begarly