

# Addressing the Burden of Burn Injury Utilizing a Comprehensive Holistic Innovative Approach

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# Objectives and Disclosures

## Objectives:

1. Describe the importance of providing a holistic approach to address the needs of burn patients worldwide.
2. Identify strategies that nurses can utilize to address burn education and support in their local and regional communities.

## Disclosures:

Jamie Heffernan and Odette Comeau have no conflicts of interest; no sponsorship or commercial support has been provided.

# University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas



# Blocker Burn Unit (BBU)

1947 Texas City Disaster, 560 casualties & 2300 injuries



<http://www.local1259iaff.org/disaster.html>

# Blocker Burn Unit (BBU)



Dr. Truman Blocker



Dr. Virginia Blocker

# Blocker Burn Unit (BBU)



# Background

*“I woke up and all I could see was smoke. I could hardly breathe. Then it dawned on me- the house was on fire. All I could think about is.....please get my family out of this home alive....”*



<http://yrret.freehosting.net/photo.html>

# Global Burden of Burns

- 300,000 deaths each year
- Majority in low and middle income countries
- Survivors often disabled and disfigured – social stigmas and rejections.

World Health Organization, 2014





# Burns are preventable

# American Burn Association

The screenshot shows the American Burn Association website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, About ABA, Advocacy, Prevention, IAC, Verification, Member Center, Resources, and Contact. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- ABLS (Advanced Burn Life Support Courses):** A blue box with a flame icon and a "Learn more" link.
- ABA National Scald Prevention Campaign:** A white box with a link to [www.flashsplash.org](http://www.flashsplash.org).
- Revised Verification Criterion Deficiencies Effective 1/1/2015:** A green box.
- Burn Center Referral Criteria:** A yellow box.
- Burn Care & Disaster Resource Directory:** A white box with a description: "A resource page of burn center and disaster related information" and links to "View the ABA U.S. Regional Map" and "Fire & Burn Prevention Newsletter" (Fall 2014, Spring 2015) and "ABA Membership Newsletter 2015".
- ABA Research Activities:** A blue box at the bottom left.
- ABA CENTRAL OFFICE:** 311 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 4150, Chicago, IL 60606. TEL: (312) 642-9260, FAX: (312) 642-9130.
- Meeting Information:** A list of links: ABA 47th Annual Meeting (April 21-24, 2015 | Chicago, Illinois Meeting Evaluation and CEU Information), Regional Burn Conference Information, Archived Links to Past ABA Meetings, Future ABA and Other Organization Meetings, and Committee Volunteer Application.
- ABLS Course Information:** A list of links: ABLS Program General Information, ABLS Live Course Schedule, ABLS Now® Online Course, and ABLS Handbook® Reference Guide.
- Announcements & Resources:** A yellow box for "News Release DOD Military Burn Research Program Funding for Fiscal Year 2015" with a link to "Click here to submit applications". Below it are links for "FY 2014-15 Disclosure Form (7/1/14 - 6/30/15) or Click Here To Search Current Disclosures", "ABA Statement Regarding 'Fire Challenge' Click here to view the recent Media Release.", and "Burn Care Instructional Video Links".
- National Burn Repository:** A red and white logo with a "National Burn Repository" title and a green "ABA Member Center" button.
- Join The ABA:** A white box with the text "And Help Shape The Future of Burn Care" and a "Learn more" link.
- The ABA Movie:** A white box with a film strip icon, the text "Find out what the ABA is about", and a "Watch it Now" link.

# International Society for Burn Injuries

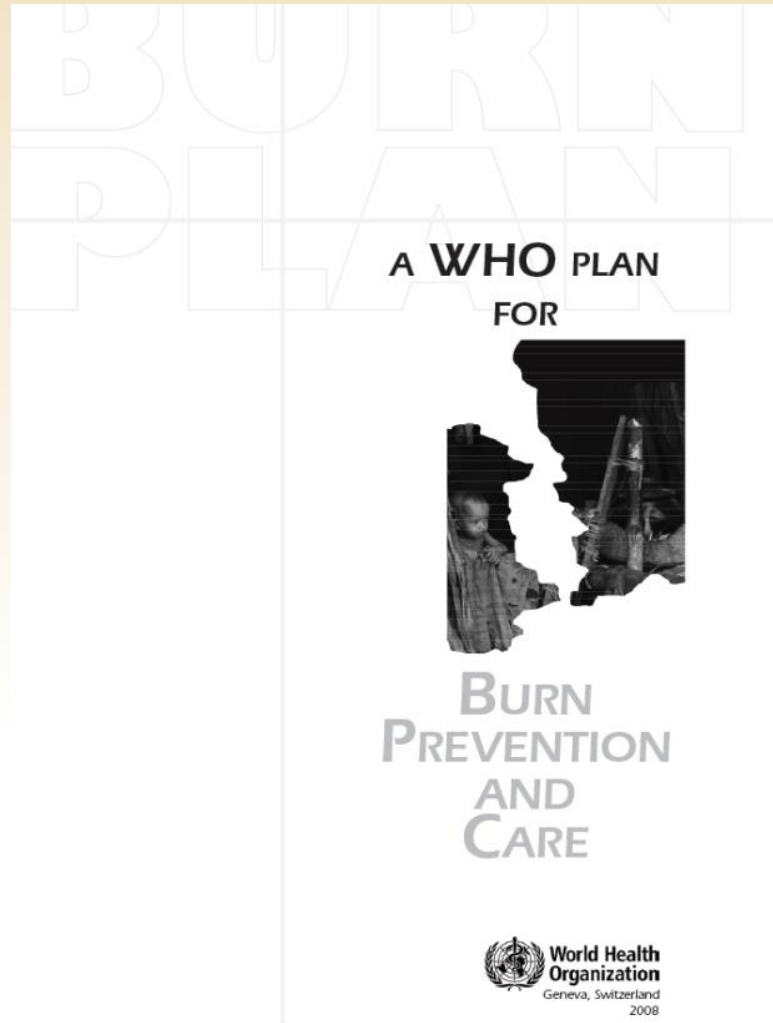


Mission Statement: Disseminate knowledge and stimulate prevention in the field of burns.

## Activities:

- Endorse regional and national meetings
- Grants for education
- International financial support for education
- Collaborate with World Health Organization (WHO)
- Reduced registration fees for members at biennial conference
- Complimentary *Burns* journal for members

# Global Burn Prevention





# Strategies

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1. Prevention and Education
2. The Phoenix Society's Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery (SOAR) program
3. Blocker Burn Champions (BBC)
4. The Doctor Sally Abston Memorial Fund for Burn Survivors

# Burn Prevention

Smoke detector use and maintenance

Avoiding scald burns

Protective wear for industries



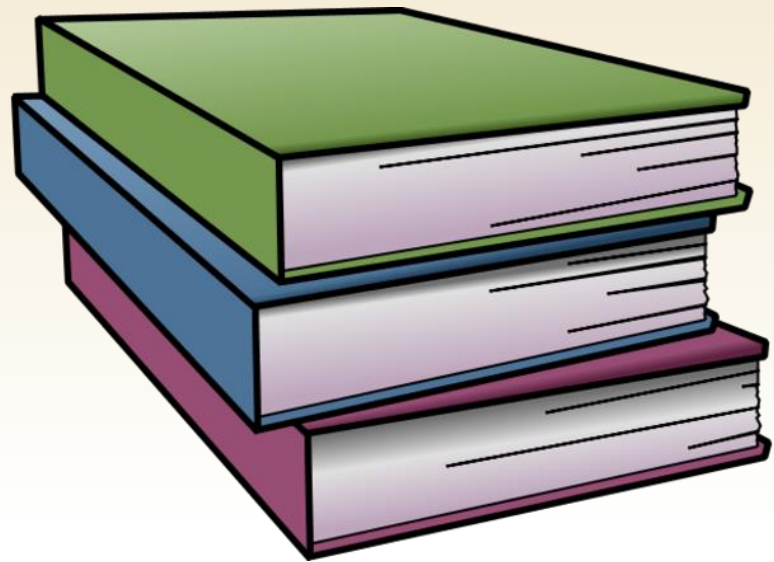
# Healthcare Professional Education

## Advanced Burn Life Support Pre-Hospital Burn Life Support





# Nursing Education





# Strategies

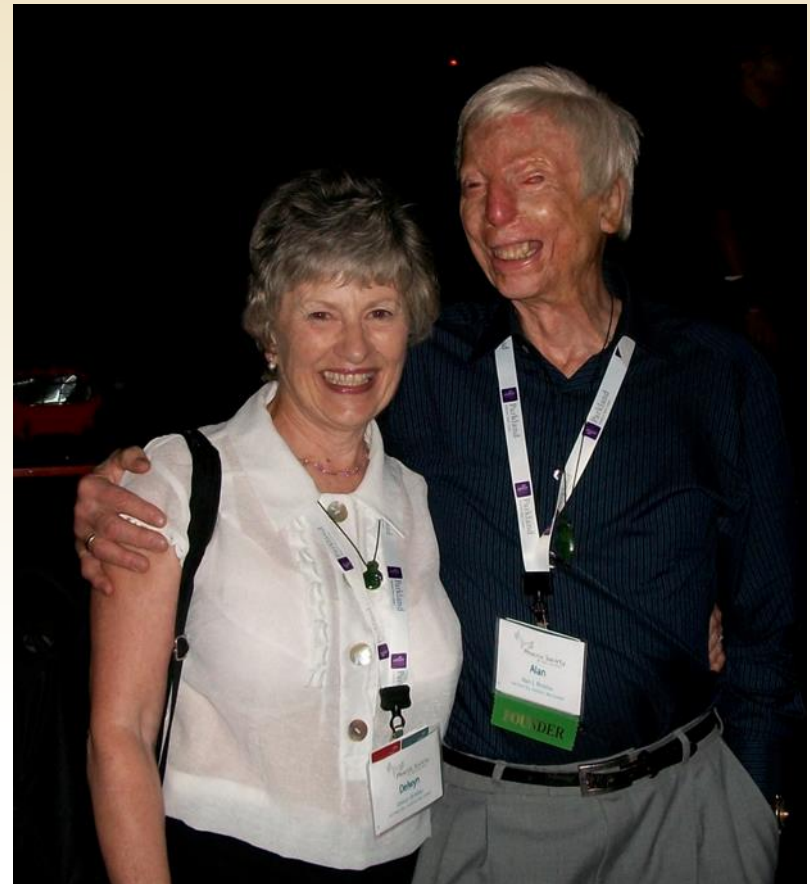
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# Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery



Established the first international burn survivor support network in 1977.

<http://www.phoenix-society.org>



Alan and Delwyn Breslau  
World Burn Congress  
Galveston, TX 2010

# BBU SOAR Coordinators



# Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery



# Outcomes

- Program implemented 2010
- 4 Coordinators trained
- 15 peer supporters screened and trained
- Patients and families may request a visit
- Staff can refer visits
- Coordinator matches patient/family to supporter
- Patients and families LOVE their visits

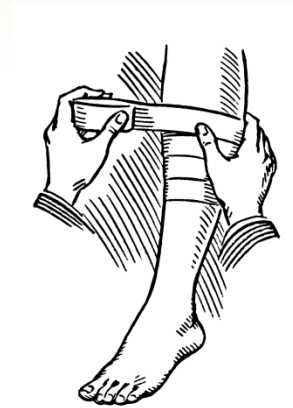
# Strategies

1. Prevention and Education
2. The Phoenix Society's Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery (SOAR) program
3. **Blocker Burn Champions (BBC)**
4. The Doctor Sally Abston Memorial Fund for Burn Survivors



# Blocker Burn Champions

- Charitable staff led organization
- Board members: Interdisciplinary burn team
- Free financial support
- Patients who meet specific financial criteria
- Examples: Medications, clothing, transportation, medical equipment and supplies, and personal needs.



# Blocker Burn Champions

## Mission:

To provide support for burn survivors and/or their families

## Vision:

Work together and collaborate with others to improve the health, knowledge and well-being of burn survivors and their families



# Fundraising

## Blocker Burn Champions

By Odette Comeau, MS, RN

The Blocker Burn Champions (BBC) is an organization that is committed to supporting burn survivors. Their first fund-raising event in February of this year was the *Stop-Drop-and-Roll* 5K run/walk which attracted 268 participants and raised \$14,000 from sponsors, donations and registrations!

Recently, the board members, representing multidis-



ciplinary staff who work with the burn unit (Amy Barrera-Kovach, Odette Comeau, Jim Bozeman, Sheila Ott, Jennifer Haglund, Jamie Heffernan and

Daralyn Johnson) received word that an abstract describing the early success of the organization has been accepted as a poster presentation at the Southern Region Burn Conference in Tampa, Florida.

To read more about the BBC and/or the Blocker Burn Unit, log onto <http://www.utmbhealth.com/oth/Page.asp?PageID=OTH000837>.



# Outcomes

- 2 Fun Runs
- Each attended by >200 walkers and joggers
- Many volunteers donated their time in support of burn survivors



# Strategies

1. Prevention and Education
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# The Sally Abston Memorial Fund



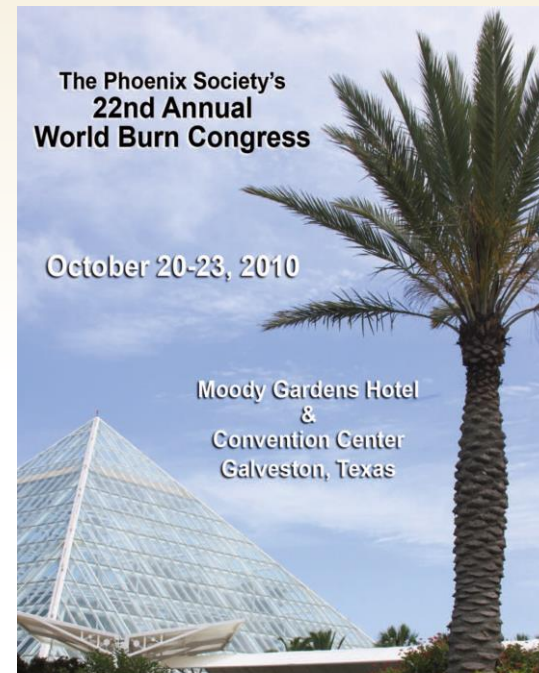
- Graduate of UTMB Medical School
- Career in pediatric and adult burns
- Noted for advancements in nutritional support and compression garments to reduce scarring

# History of the fund

- Account opened with funds donated from former patient
- World Burn Congress: one survivor and one staff member



<http://www.phoenix-society.org/wbc/location-registration>



# Phoenix World Burn Congress





# Outcomes

## quote from a burn nurse

“This conference, where all burn survivors come together is so inspiring. Patients and families see that they are not alone. I left World Burn Congress knowing that what I do is so rewarding!!”

## quote from a burn survivor

“We both cried and laughed together. Burn Survivors develop a special bond. This brought back memories for me but it feels good to help someone.”

# Return on Investment



# Summary and Conclusions

1. Prevention and Education
2. The Phoenix Society's Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery (SOAR) program
3. Blocker Burn Champions (BBC)
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# References & Resources

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