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Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take,  
but by the moments that take our breath away – *unknown*

I look out my window at home and am amazed it is nearly time for spring. Where did the time go? There has been a busy hum going on in the Nursing Department at Boise State....OK some would say it has been a thundering roar!

The nursing schools in Idaho have collaborated to bring the GAIN grant to Idaho. In this grant, the nursing schools across the state will offer cultural competency training for practicing nurses. Faculty from the schools will offer experiences to practicing nurses through the use of technology that only a few can imagine. In addition, schools will offer this training to nursing students via an elective class. This grant goes from 2004-2007. We look forward to your participation.

Many of you joined us to meet and talk with Dr. Mavundla who joined us from Africa. Dr. Mavundla spoke at Boise State University and at North West Nazarene University and presented information on research studies as well as health trends in Africa. Our thanks to Dr. Ingrid Brudenell from Boise State University for arranging to have Dr. Mavundla speak. Thanks also to Barbara Lester from North West Nazarene for her hard work on her dissertation so Dr. Mavundla could come and visit!

Finally, we are past the elections. I invite all of you to unite together behind our political forces and help us to make positive changes for health care and for the people we serve. We are beginning a new legislative year and we have glimmers of hope that we might have money to balance the budget or even have money for a few new projects. I am sure the Idaho Nurses Association will keep us apprised of state legislation we need to monitor.

As I close, I invite you all to take a few moments to reflect on what nursing means to you. Why did you enter this noble profession? How can you better serve?

# Mu Gamma

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To the world you might be one person, but to one person,  
you just might be the world. - *John H. MacDonald Jr.*

This saying surely represents the place many nurses hold in people's hearts. Nurses are invited into people's lives in such special ways. As we observe the holiday's, let's reflect on all for which we have to be grateful!

**Luann Fife, President**  
**Mu Gamma Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau**

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The induction ceremony last spring was wonderful and uplifting. I was delighted to see the number of new members being inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, Mu Gamma chapter. Not only do we have new nurses joining our ranks, but also experienced nurses from our community.

We have been very lucky to be able to award three scholarships for 2004. Money for these scholarships are being raised through excellent programs such as the two we presented this past year.

I want to welcome the new board members that were inducted this past spring and to say hello again to the returning board members.

2005 is shaping up to be a very busy year. The criteria for the 2005 scholarship recipients will be distributed in January as well as announcements for our spring program as well as fund-raising activities.

I want to wish you all Happy Holidays and the best in the coming year!

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## Website

We have updated our website. The website contains information about upcoming events, projects, and links of interest for our members. The address is <http://mugamma.boisestate.edu>

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## Fund Raising Events

In November 2003, a fundraiser was held at the Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy, featuring Dr. David Lee. Dr. Lee's performed "Brahms, Beethoven, and Bach: Medical History and Music" \$500.00 was raised after expenses.

