



Tina Somers,

BSN, RN, CWCN, CFCN, CBRN, WCC, DWC, FACCWS

A Lifelong Learner Dedicated to Excellence in Wound and Burn Care

Leonardo da Vinci once said, *"Learning never exhausts the mind."* This month's Outstanding WCC, Tina Somers, embodies that philosophy perfectly. Throughout her remarkable career, Tina has continually sought new knowledge, skills, and certifications, all in pursuit of providing the best possible care for her patients.

Tina is a Wound Care Nurse at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center in San Antonio, Texas—the only American Burn Association-verified burn center in South Texas and the only one within the Department of Defense. For more than 20 years, she has been an essential part of the Burn Center team, treating both military personnel and civilian patients with compassion, expertise, and innovation.

A U.S. Air Force veteran, Tina began her medical career after completing her nursing education at Howard College, where she earned her LVN, and later obtained her BSN from the University of Phoenix in 2005. She started out as an OR Technician, where the surgeons she worked with immediately recognized her potential—a spark that would eventually ignite a career defined by leadership and learning.

Tina's commitment to continuing education is unmatched. She earned her WCC in 2019, followed by her DWC in 2022, and holds multiple other credentials

including Certified Foot Care Nurse (CFCN), Certified Burn Registered Nurse (CBRN), and Certified Wound Care Nurse (CWCN). She is also a Fellow of the American College of Clinical Wound Specialists (FACCWS) and serves as a preceptor for foot care, guiding and mentoring her peers.

Always looking for creative ways to educate, Tina even designed an escape room for her hospital as a fun, hands-on training tool for nurses—an inventive approach to improving problem-solving, teamwork, and clinical decision-making.

Among her many patients, one stands out in her memory: a burn survivor who had sustained burns over 40% of his body and underwent a partial arm amputation. Tina made it her mission to lift his spirits during recovery, bringing humor and positivity to each visit. Through her compassion, she helped him see beyond his injuries and focus on healing—both physically and emotionally.

In addition to her clinical work, Tina is also pursuing research on the use of thermal imaging for lower limb wounds and burns, exploring how emerging technology can enhance early detection and treatment. She is also in the early stages of launching a mobile foot care consulting business, with the goal of helping homebound patients regain mobility and comfort.

NAWCO is proud to recognize Tina Somers as this month's Outstanding WCC. Her tireless pursuit of knowledge, creative approach to education, and unwavering dedication to patient care exemplify the very best in the wound care community.

Please join us in congratulating Tina on her incredible accomplishments and lifelong commitment to learning and healing.

If you know someone who is a NAWCO credential holder and is making an impact in the wound care community, we would love to hear their story. Click the link below to share it with us.

<https://www.nawccb.org/excellence-in-wound-care-nominees/>