



# Notes From GREENLEAF

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing  
511 NE Greenleaf, Peoria, Illinois 61603



# Notes From GREENLEAF

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing Alumni Association

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### Save the Date

Homecoming 2013  
Saturday, Sept. 21st, 2013.

Any alumni wishing to celebrate please contact Helene Batzek 309-624-9933 or [helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org)

## Class of 1962 Attending Homecoming 2012



Bonnie (Bielefeld) Stark



Patricia (Callahan) Wren



Ona (Komater) Rehn



Sharon (Mankle) Sipp



Judith (Meuser) Pomatto



Geralyn (Pauli) Andrews



Judith (Richards) Steed



Bonita (Robbins) Brailey



Therese (Rozman) Hathway



Barbara (Rubocki) Svestka



Patricia (Ryan) Sutton



Sandra (Tebben) Buffington



Frances (Vachon) Johnson



Delores (Videtch) Welsh



Mary Ann (Welsh) Bohne



Mary (Zelenda) Gebhardt

### 1962 Graduates Not Attending:

Cecelia (Benvenuti) Kruse, Sue Ann (Bishoff) Bishop Howard, Carole (Caresio) Haas, Janice (Cvelbar) Skaggs, Linda (DeFord) Scott, Linda (Dinneen) Kenigsberg, Diane (Dougherty) McMahon, Barbara (DuPage) Payne, Janice (Fassino) Siemers, Jill (Gregorich) Andrews, Dorthy (Jakubek) Tassoni, Elaine (Jury) Cinnamon, Brigitte (Kibler) Helzer, Judith (Lee) Blair, Susan (Mannschott) Weigel, Mary (McDonald) Grimes, Susan (McDonough) Carson, Sandra (Millard) Guest, Diane (Nagle) Stevenson, Karen (Savio) Mack, Kay (Shay) Marshall, Mary Francis (Veach) Noe

**Deceased:** Marcella (Collins) Peulecke, Dixie (Ohlman-Mitchell) Kingsley, Judith (Riley) Catron

### Inside this edition:

2012 Homecoming Recap

New Alumni Association Members

Outstanding Alumni Awards

Alumni Update

Help us find these Alumni

## 2013 Calendar of Events

May 16	12:00 pm	Senior Sendoff	Spalding Pastoral Center, Peoria
May 16	5:30 pm	Alumni Meeting	Weaver Ridge Golf Club, Peoria Last meeting of the year
May 18	9:00 am	Graduation	Peoria Civic Center

No Alumni Meetings June & July



## Message from the President

Patricia A. Stockert, RN, PhD

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope that this issue of Notes from Greenleaf finds you doing well. This issue will highlight the 2012 Homecoming events. Many alumni came back to the College for the Alumni Members Brunch and the Dinner Celebration. A number of classes were celebrating milestone anniversaries. I enjoyed meeting and talking with you.

The 2012-2013 academic year is off to a busy but great start. I will provide you some highlights below. Here is a brief summary:

- :: We experienced a record enrollment of 638 students for fall in all programs. There were 400 in the BSN program and 238 in the graduate program.
- :: We received over 200 applications for the BSN program for fall 2013.
- :: We continued our simulation clinical pilot project using Illinois Board of Higher Education Expansion Grant funds. In this pilot, students spend time in both the simulation lab and on the clinical site as a component of their clinical rotation through the 327 Child and Family Nursing course. This option for clinical experience has received positive feedback from students.
- :: The Doctor of Nursing Practice Program was granted accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The next visit is scheduled for 2017. Program accreditation is a voluntary

process that validates nursing programs meet or exceed established standards and criteria indicating educational quality. As part of the process, completion of the accreditation self-study report helps institutions identify strengths and areas for improvement related to resources, processes and results.

- :: We received a \$17,900 grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education which is being used to purchase laptop computers for student use in testing and in the classroom.
- :: Thanks to all our alumni and friends, we awarded approximately \$101,000 in scholarships to 105 students for the 2012-2013 year. It is through your generosity that this is possible and I send a heartfelt thank you to you.

As economic times continue to be challenging, we remain focused on increasing endowments and scholarships for our students. The continued decrease in federal and state funding for student financial aid presents challenges to the students. The annual appeal letter will again focus on monies for scholarships. I hope that you will consider making a gift this year when your Annual Appeal letter arrives.

You are a very important part of the College family and it is our goal to stay connected with you.

*Patricia A. Stockert, RN, PhD*

### Alumni Association Annual Workshop Cancelled

How to Debrief while using good judgement feedback and effective communication tools.

The workshop has been cancelled due to a change in the process of securing CEU credits for Education Programs. The program we had planned was valuable, however we realize the importance of CEU's and feel not having them would impact the workshop. Therefore we will reschedule at a later date.



The Alumni Association will be selling

**Palmetto Pewter pendants of the College logo for \$10.00**  
— and —  
**6" x 6" clear static cling vinyl decals for \$5.00.**

If interested, please contact Helene Batzek at 309-624-9933 or [helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org)

## CLASS OF 1963



Mark your calendar for **Friday September 20-21, 2013**. Plans are in the making for an opportunity to get this very special group together again to celebrate their **50th anniversary**.

More information to follow. For more information immediately:

Julie Kirchgessner at 309-685-1575 or [julkirch@gmail.com](mailto:julkirch@gmail.com)  
Ginger Jacocks at 309-689-1158 or [mikginja@mtco.com](mailto:mikginja@mtco.com)

The Alumni Association is still looking for Kathy Martin Morgan, Sister Rose Sharon (Sandra Quinn), and Joan Locali Wolff. If you know their whereabouts, please contact Helene Batzek.

## We'd like to hear from you!

Is there any professional or personal news you'd like to share with your colleagues? New job? Promotion? Advanced certification? Honors/awards? Professional activities? Marriage? New baby? Move? What would you like to see included in *Notes from Greenleaf*? Send us the details.

Last Name		First	Surname	
Home Address				Telephone
City		State	Zip Code	
Occupation		E-mail	Yr. Graduated	
SFMCCON/SFHSON Degree(s)			Year(s) Received	
Other Degree(s)	Year(s) Received	Institution	Major	

For further information contact Helene Batzek, Alumni Relations Representative.  
Phone: (309) 624-9933 E-mail: [helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org)

Please help keep our alumni files current by sending us your e-mail address and phone number.

### Interested in Joining the Alumni Association?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond to Paulette Archer '70 at (309) 655-4132, [paulette.m.archer@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:paulette.m.archer@osfhealthcare.org), or mail your \$10 membership fee (\$250 for Lifetime Membership) to 511 NE Greenleaf St., Peoria, Illinois 61603. Make checks payable to SFMCCON Alumni Association



# Please Help Us Find These Alumni

We have 1,021 graduates whose addresses are unknown.

## 1946

Mildred Vucson Bartol  
 Mary Power Bauschelt  
 Evelyn Sommer Bentley  
 Frances Casassa Blanco  
 Betty Gustafson Brooks  
 Geraldine Doering Brown  
 Shirley Shriffler Brown  
 Margaret Doud Campbell  
 Margaret Carroll  
 Joan Smith Cunningham  
 Marylee Burrows Dickson  
 Helen Ryan Dorf  
 Josephine Dwyer Ducanson  
 Rosemary Miller  
 Helen Harrington Ford  
 Helen Cannon Genseal  
 Patricia Sylvester Johnson  
 Dorothy Killian  
 Gertrude Fagot Larson  
 Pauline Thielbar McKeon  
 Georgia Hamrick Muriekas  
 Luella King Rebuffoni  
 Betty Raley Schutz  
 Ann Heffernan Spierling  
 Ann St. Louis

Virginia Denman Stumbor  
 Dolores Turchi Tolene  
 Florence Fortune Wimber  
 Grace Abel Wood  
 Vera Filz Zinner

## 1947

Jeanette Weygand Anson  
 Beth Johnson Bohrns  
 Vera Hoobler Brady  
 Patricia Hiatt-Williams Bye  
 Naomi Hammill Christ  
 Pauline Slagle Chumbley  
 Bette Moran Darnell  
 Stella Maslach Donahue  
 Mary Rita Novak Dy  
 Wilma Billings Erickson  
 Mary O'Connor Farley  
 Mary Jane Gress Flaig  
 Marjorie Hockstatter Gardner  
 Patricia Kunz Gutos

Patricia Duddy Howard  
 Geraldine Krug Keitto  
 Irene Kimoshita  
 Virginia Starkey Larson  
 Doris Spilman Maguire  
 Mary Frederick Maupin  
 Katherine Pfister McCall  
 Mary Rosalie Brown McCormick  
 Irene Palko McIntosh  
 Thelma Snaadt Miller  
 Marion Moore  
 Ethyl Paris Olson  
 Betty Hotop Phillips  
 Genevieve Shemeliski Pogioli  
 Margaret Suits Polillo  
 Madelyn Ruffatto  
 Rose Negoro Sakai  
 Elsie Shiohara  
 Joan Srout Sorber  
 Ruth Clauss Stamler  
 Juanita Stringham  
 Rosina McCoy Sullivan  
 Olive Williams Watterson  
 Dorothy Nance Webster  
 Lois Kauffman Willoughby

## 1948

Marian Grace Bell  
 Barbara Tuffentsamer Birthesel  
 Doris Perkins DePoy  
 Virginia Maslanka Eitzen  
 Avis Doubek Fazier  
 Kathleen Cody Ford  
 Patricia Kuder-Buell Handley  
 Marquerite Shirk Hirner  
 Ruth Lohnes Johnson  
 Mary Rice Knutson  
 Barbara Wright Licota  
 Nadine Heimeshoff Loveridge  
 Helen Milos  
 Ruth Forney Rogers  
 Sabas Veil

## 1949

Lucy Hopping Halterman  
 Christine Stankiewicz

## In Sympathy

The faculty and administration of Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing extend their sympathy to the families of the following Alumni.

- Ruth Herbst Smith '41
- Edith Perry Crook '43
- Mary Celestine Barnes Mayr '43
- Delphene Doss Mikkelson '44
- Emma Woerner Taylor '44
- Lois Arnold Martin '45
- Mary Zerfas '45
- Elaine Bowden Polanovsky '55
- Joanne Talbot Plouffe '57
- Sally Wood, Sister M. Geraldine '57
- Joanne Van DeKeere Jenrath '57
- Sharon Musell Vallis '63
- Patricia Doherty Resutko '67
- Susan Devlin Noth '74
- Patricia Morr '84

### Una English Leitner '40



Helene Batzek, Alumni Relations Representative, received a call from Una's son, Dr. Edward Albrecht, informing her that his mom had passed away in 2012

at the age of 93. Because she loved being a nurse and most of all loved St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing and the education she received, Dr. Albrecht and his wife, Melody, honored their mother by purchasing an Alumni Association lifetime membership in her name. She will be remembered on both the lifetime and memorial plaques hanging in the College lobby.

College of Nursing

# 2012 Homecoming Celebration



It is so important to honor our many alumni who have graduated from the School and College of Nursing, many who have gone on to become nurses at our own facility.

This year's celebration started with our free Alumni Association Members Only Brunch. Dr. Patti Stockert, President of the College, gave a presentation on the present and future of the College. Tours of the College were also given.

At the annual Homecoming dinner at the Four Points by Sheraton, the Alumni Association celebrated the class of

1957's 55th anniversary, 1962's 50th anniversary, 1972's 40th anniversary and 1982's 30th anniversary. An anniversary cake was provided and framed graduation pictures were presented to the Class of 1962. The graduating classes who attended the celebration ranged in graduation years from 1940 to 1995.

Alumni Awards were presented by Dr. Jan Boundy at the end of the evening. The college's centennial history books were raffled as prizes. Other prizes that were raffled include framed composites of the class of 1962 and 1972.

## Class of 1962 Celebrating 50th Anniversary



## Alumni Association Brunch



## Class of 1957 Celebrating 55 Years



Pictured left to right: Marilyn (Harler) Wilken, Carlene (Galassi) Hebel, Roberta (Guditis) Phares, Mildred (Landers) Biederbeck, Peg (Mowbray) Thomas

To all 1957 graduates: Five of us celebrated at Four Points Sheraton in downtown Peoria. Peoria and St. Francis do not look like what we left in 1957 in case you have not been back. The anniversaries of the 30th, 40th, and 50th were also celebrated. We have lost more of our friends than at our 50th. We wish all of you well or improved health with possibility of seeing you at our 60th.

Marilyn Harler Wilken took the time to call every 1957 graduate and wants to share with everyone the information she gleaned. Alum from the Class of 1957 may contact Helene Batzek, Alumni Relations Representative, at [helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org) or 309-624-9933 for this information.

## Class of 1972 Celebrating 40 Years



Pictured above (left to right): Nancy (Lind) Beyer, Vanda (Michels) Marsh, Pam (Lynch) Papp, Catherine (Schuman) Fischer, Cindy (Jakse) Stegmann, Marietta Centko, Theresa (Sullivan) Nussbaum, Deborah (Goodson) Kocsis, JoAnn (Koestner) Ehrecke, Linda (Barth) Gilbert, Margaret (Mullady) Berk, Suzanne (Forbes) Neureuther, Colleen (Graham) Malone, Patti (Page) Dini



## Alumni Association Officers

Left to right:  
 Helene Batzek, Secretary;  
 Mary Donnelly, President;  
 Paulette Archer, Treasurer;  
 Kathy Rosenbohm, Vice-President

### 1963

#### Judy Lambrecht-Dean

"Just wanted to thank you for keeping me in the loop as to what is happening at SFMC College of Nursing. I look forward to each edition of your newsletter. In addition, I thought I would give you an update of what I am up to: I am currently a Medical Hypnotherapist, received a Doctor of Science (DSc.) in Holistic Health in 2009; I am currently the President of the National Association of Nurse Massage Therapists; I was chosen as the Woman of the Year 2012 by the National Association of Professional Women based on my work within massage therapy as a Nurse Massage Therapist; I cannot believe that next year (2013) I will be celebrating 50 years in Nursing."

### 1966

#### Lois Walgrave Goudreau

"I currently work part time at Provena St. Mary's Hospital as circulating/scrub nurse in surgery. Still love my work, but enjoy spending time with my 4 children and 9 grandchildren. Would like to hear from classmates from 1966 at [legoudreau@sbcglobal.net](mailto:legoudreau@sbcglobal.net)"

### 1981

#### Sherry Schaffer Schoen

Sherry earned her diploma from St. Francis School of Nursing in 1981 and a BSN from Bradley University. She is currently working at the Center for Health Surgery Center in Peoria and prn in the Sleep Center at OSF.

### 1983

#### Jeanne Beauprez Barton

Jeanne received a diploma in 1983, earned a BSN from Missouri Southern in 1995 and an MSN from Indiana State in 2007. She lives at 140 Old Town Parkway, Unit #3103, St. Augustine, FL 32084. Her e-mail is: [Jeanne2148@yahoo.com](mailto:Jeanne2148@yahoo.com)

### 1984

#### Julie Harter VanLoo

"I finally graduated with 3.94 from University of Phoenix in Denver, Colorado with my BSN. This was on the old bucket list after surviving Stage IIIB breast cancer. Good to know chemo didn't affect the brain cells too badly. Work at University of Colorado Hospital as an RN Staff Nurse 11, floating all of the ambulatory outpatient clinics. I was inducted into International Sigma Theta Tau. Plan to take vaccines to a small village in Ecuador on a mission trip with church in 2014. Between now and the mission trip, Rosetta Stone Spanish is on the list. I will credential for AAACN next fall 2013 and become a diabetes educator and credential spring of 2014. Fall of 2013, I will credential for RN level III with a PCDA project to prevent falls in the ambulatory setting."

I continue to care for 3 kids with special needs. My husband, Rich, travels the world with his consulting job. One in college, one graduating high school, and the baby is now a freshman in high school. Time sure flies.  
[Julie.VanLoo@uch.edu](mailto:Julie.VanLoo@uch.edu)"

### 1990

#### Tamara Lewis Wilkins

Tamara received her MSN in 1996 from University of Illinois. She is currently working as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

### 1994

#### Renee Shughart Engle

Renee lives at 518 Champaign Road, Colchester, IL 62326. She received her CLNC in 2010. Renee would like to keep in touch with fellow alumni. Contact her at [engleinc@mtenow.net](mailto:engleinc@mtenow.net)

### 2008/11

#### Theresa Temborius

Theresa now resides in California. She loves it there and says California is "so warm and accessible." She attended two Giants/Cards playoff games and had lots of fun. Work is good and she loves the veterans. Theresa is hoping next year to become a lifetime alumni member.

## New Alumni Association Members

Lezley Sheetz Anderson	2011	CJ Kingston	2008
Rebecca Atkins	2009	Barbara DuPage Payne	1962
Margaret Mullady Berk	1972	Melanie Reeves	2011
Mary Ann Welsh Bohne	1962	Beverly Budd Reynolds	1975/1989
Leigh Ann Bonney	2007	Michelle Rolando	2003/2012
Karen Burkitt	2004	Kathleen Eppel Sager	1964
Kelly Cone	1992	Sharon Mankle Sipp	1962
Phillis Dewitt	2009/2012	Crystal Rodgers Slaughter	2004/2012
Patricia Page Dini,	1972	Bonnie DelMonte Souders	1965
Rachel Fehl	2012	Bonita Bielefeld Stark	1962
Caitlin Fitzgerald,	2006/2009		
Kelly Nimesgern Fogelmark	2007/2010		
Megan Powless Frye	1999/2010		
Amy Funk	2012		
Mary Farr Gardner	1973		
Virginia Graber	1960		
Lorri Graham	1984/1996		
Therese Rozman	1962		
Judith Dwyer Hendricks	1960		
Fran Vachon Johnson	1962		

### LIFETIME MEMBERS

Cynthia Steinhauser Colley	1979
Mary Hamilton	1958
Una Mae English Leitner,	1940 (deceased)
Toni Kull Lutz	1999
Vanda Michels Marsh	1972
Judy Meuser Pomatto	1962
Cheri Boma Throop	1974

## Keep In Touch

### 1956

#### Mary Jo Walker Weeks

Mary Jo has worked in nursing for fifty years in nursing education and head nurse and supervisor positions in Chicago and Kansas City, MO. Her greatest joy is being professed into the Secular Franciscans of the Holy Eucharist fraternity in Independence, Missouri in 2008.

### 1957

#### Marjorie Guilfoyle Morales

Marjorie has been out of touch with her classmates for years. She lives in Mexico City, and has been married to Dr. Francisco Morales for the past 55 years. He was a resident at St. Francis for 4 years in the 50's, which is where they met. They were in New York at Sloan Kettering for the first year of their marriage. She and her husband then moved to Mexico and continue to live there.

### 1958

#### Mary Legner Peiffer

Mary writes: "I cannot pass up the opportunity to say how proud I am of St. Francis Hospital as it has grown to be such a wonderful school since I graduated in 1958. You have one of my classmates, Mary Adlington, as part of your team; she knows what I'm talking about. I just have to express myself. I know our class is getting fewer. I am in a retirement home and loving the community in which I live. My nursing experience will always be part of my life as I share it with people around me. God bless Alumni Relations and the work you do."

### 1962

#### Delores Videtich Welsh

"Thanks for all you and the others did for the great Homecoming and our class's 50th reunion, including letting us see 4th floor at the residence! Blessings on you and all the staff, students, and alums!"

## Class of 1982 Celebrating 30 Years



Kim Breuer Gleichman, Charlette Mutton, Kelly Lampe

### 1957 Graduates Not Attending

Jean Dinelli Alberti, Wanda Harris Ball, Donna Cotton Barbier, Dorothy Berry (Sr. Regis), Mildred Landers Biederbeck, Nancy Meyer Boehle, Janet Loughran Cassady, Margaret Neville Chamness, Fred Clarence, Roberta Bohm Costello, Wilma (Billie) Haas Darcy, Lois Aberle Fisher, Dolores Preci Gagnon, Alice Gibbons Gruba, Patricia Rezen Haas, Carlene Galassi Hebel, Rita Fultz Hertenstein, Mary Rostetter Hobbs, Laura Carney Kenny, Mary Lucas (address unknown), Sandra Schuette Marten, Nancy Spainhower Maushard, Gloria Castelein Miller, Marjorie Guilfoyle Morales, Donna Draeger Nahas, Jean Gilmister Paulus, Roberta Guditis Phares, Anita McKenzie Pittman, Mary Strickfaden Reynolds (address unknown), Mary Schlarb Schwartz, Carol Mahoney Svendsen, James Swenson, Peg (Margaret) Mowbray Thomas, Sonja Derr Turner (address unknown), Rosemary Sell Ufheil, Mary Santana VanDerveer, Anne Burke Wallace, Marilyn Harler Wilken

**Deceased:** Elizabeth Huchtons Jenkins, Joanne VanDeKeere Jenrath, Margaret Moore Masterson, Joanne Talbot Plouffe, Barbara Oswald Rasmussen, Rita Sears, Sally Wood

### 1972 Graduates Not Attending

Judith (Grusy) Berman, Susan (Olson) Brady, Sandra (Roth-Boyle) Cahill, Nancy (Duckwiler) Clark (address unknown), Phyllis (Pulliam) Crotzer (address unknown), Pamela (Bury) Dangler, Sheila (Schaefer) Decker, Bonnie (Thomas) Gipe, Kathleen (Brown) Greske (address unknown), Kathleen (Krischel) Haig, Ginger (Frank) Hermann, Theresa (McLaughlin) Huffman (address unknown), Carol (Gallagher) Ladd, Tamara Lockett, Connie (Strayer) Malcolm (address unknown), Constance (Ryan) McConnell, Cheryl (Wiegand) Messner, Jean (Roeschley) Miller, Mary (Hansford) Neureuther, Susan (Santos) Pieranton (address unknown), Deborah (Scudder) Richardson, Lynda (Flexsenhar) Riekema, Linda (Lehman) Roeschley, Patricia (Ferrare) Small, Rosetta (Pleasants) Spence (address unknown), Kristine (Zimmerman) Taufer, Sosamma Thomas (address unknown), Pamela (Pollitt) Tolson (address unknown), Patricia (Bruno) Vicek, Debra (Mooney-Koenig) Wilson, Andrea (Lee-Rentschler) Witt

**Deceased:** Gertrude (Heitz) Rallo, Hope (Knecht-Stoneburner) Saunders

## Homecoming 2012 Raffle Winners

### Christmas Wreath, Red Barn, Morton

Marilyn Wilken 1957

### \$20 gift certificate, Prospect Florist, Peoria

Mary Adlington 1958

### \$25 gift certificate, Avanti's Ristorante, Peoria

Kathy Rosenbahr 1965

### \$80 dinner cert., Boyd's Steak House, East Peoria

Pat Sutton 1962

### Weaver Ridge Golf Club, Peoria, One round of golf and 2 Sunday Brunch certificates

Millie Biederbeck 1957

### Surprise gift, Sterling Flower Shoppe, Peoria

Carlene Hebel 1957

### Palmetto Pewter Medallions, Tom Whitworth

Love – Maggie Berk 1972

Virgin Mary – Sondra McEnroe 1960

Leaf – Mary Jo Paine 1961

Plain Cross – Sue Cornish 1970

Irish Cross – Patti Dini 1972

Fairy Pendant - Bonnie Stark 1962

### Framed Composites – Class of 1972 and Class of 1962, Alumni Association

1972 composite – Suzanne Neureuther 1972

1962 composite – Therese Hathway 1962

## Donations for Alumni Scholarships

### Burklund Distributors, East Peoria

Gina and John Wetzel

Mary Rose Kelly '40

Marilyn Palm '53

Rosemary Ufheil '57

All donations go directly to the Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing Alumni Association



## Alumni Award Winners

Four alumni received awards for their outstanding performance in the nursing profession. Information provided by their nominators is included below.



Left to right: Vanda Marsh, Paulette Archer, Cristin Rassi, Patti O'Connor

### Vanda Michels Marsh: Outstanding Alumni – Excellence in Leadership Award

Vanda Michels Marsh “has been a registered nurse for 40 years, and a pediatric nurse practitioner for thirteen years. For the majority of these years she has worked within the pediatric arena, first as a charge/supervisor of nursing at Children’s Memorial in Chicago, then helping a fledgling pediatrician start a new practice (which is one of the premiere practices in the area today) where she currently practices as a PNP. She is a certified asthma educator who developed an asthma clinic within their practice and is working on a grant to provide asthma education to local schools. In addition to all she does locally and regionally, she is one of the founders of Little-by-Little, a non-profit group which provides medical services to people living in Haiti.

She is participating in a research project with Children’s Memorial Hospital implementing a Cardiac Risk Reduction in Pediatrics program for patients. She is an amazing leader whose knowledge, skill, compassion, grace and faith run very deep and always serve as her guide and direction as she serves...” “This nurse has re-written the story of the lives of many people by simply who she is and what she does with the gifts given to her.”

### Dr. Paulette Archer: Ruby Cealey Distinguished Alumni Award

Dr.Archer “is a 1970 graduate of the Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing with 25 years’ experience as a nurse educator. She is known to be a strong student advocate and has a passion to help students learn, especially those who have difficulty with course material and tests.

She has been an advisor to junior and senior students. She has also been the advisor for Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing Student Senate for several years. In this role, she assists students to be effective and responsible student leaders.”

### Cristin Rassi: Outstanding Alumni-Excellence in Practice Award

Cristin Rassi “has enjoyed a 16 year nursing career at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center which began in 1995 as a nurse extern on acute neurology. Throughout the years, she has been an outstanding and valuable RN on acute neurology, neuroscience critical care, surgical intensive care unit, and also worked as Trauma Services Manager which has contributed greatly to her becoming an advanced practice nurse.

In 2004, she graduated from the College of Nursing with a master’s degree in nursing and became certified as an APN, CNS. She is currently a provider of care for Illinois Neurological Institute (INI), Neurosurgery, serving patients across the continuum of care and currently serves as the alumni representative on the College Board at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing.”

### Patricia O’Connor: Outstanding Alumni – Excellence in Education Award

Patti O’Connor “first entered the nursing profession in 1978 and completed her MSN at the College of Nursing in 2007.

She is a remarkable teacher who continually strives for teaching excellence by exploring and implementing numerous active learning strategies in her courses, most recently adopting Prezi for presentations and making orientation available via Skype to students who live a distance from the College.

She has willingly and consistently served as a preceptor for Graduate Program Educator students and always receives “rave reviews” from these students.

She has been extremely supportive of the College’s efforts toward revision of the BSN curriculum, and already employs a student-centered approach in her teaching methods.

She has a “can do” attitude and commitment to her students as well as a willingness to function as a change agent for the College. She is an inspiration and a role model to our faculty and the graduate program Nurse Educator students who have the incredible opportunity to have her as a preceptor.”

## Alumni Let Their Presence be Known at the College of Nursing



Cookies for National Student Nurses Day in May



Candy for Halloween in October



Candy for Christmas in December



New benches purchased by the Alumni Association for front of College, August 2012. Plaques for benches read “Donated by the Saint Francis Medical Center Alumni Association 2012”



## Alumni Update

Mary Donnelly, '79

President of the Alumni Association

When you receive this newsletter we will be well into the New Year. I hope everyone had a Blessed and peace filled holiday season. As 2013 moves forward, we can take pride in an Alumni Association that continues to grow and give back to the college through our gifts and supportive presence. The pictures and sharing within these pages will evidence the fun and work we have shared since our last newsletter.

We continue to invite suggestions on how this association can be strengthened. Some members suggested changing the format of our meetings to allow for an increased opportunity to socialize. While we do have business to conduct, a major incentive is getting together to share our lives and have fun. We have already taken our meetings off campus and combined them with dinner. Since then, we have seen an increase in attendance.

For the March meeting, we will trial reversing our meeting format. We will have social time first with our meal beginning at 5:30. After dinner, we will have a short business meeting. We hope this reversal will: 1) allow more time for socialization; 2) provide an opportunity to discuss any agenda items planned for the business part of the meeting; and 3) allow those who cannot stay for the meeting, the opportunity to express views on any issues.

Also at the March meeting we will be bringing in a speaker from Pampered Chef who will have product samples and information. Paulette Archer has offered her home and the Alumni Association will provide the meal as a change of pace for gathering.

Finally, I would like to point out the beautiful pewter pendants we will be selling through the Alumni Association. A picture with description is in another section of this newsletter. Currently, the same company is working on an ornament that will include an image of the college’s 6th floor bridge.

In the New Year, let us be thankful for each other, our growing association and the support we continue to give each other and the college.