



St. Paul's Hospital *School of Nursing Alumni Newsletter 2021*

Message from the Editor

Greetings! This has been such a difficult year for many of us. The pandemic, reduced contact with our loved ones, travel restrictions, and so many issues for those in the healthcare field and those on the receiving end of health care! We can only hope and pray that the vaccination process will restore some form of "normal" to our lives. Our newsletter won't contain as much information as in the past. Should you have any information you would like to share, please try and forward it to me by Dec. 31, 2021. The prayer that was used last year seems more appropriate than ever, so I have repeated it this year!

Lyn Swenson (Edwards '69)

Prayer

*God didn't promise days without pain,
Laughter without sorrow,
Or sun without rain...
But He did promise strength for the day,
Comfort for the tears,
And light for the way.
If God brings you to it,
He will bring you through it.*

Amen.

Message from the President

Greetings fellow alumni members! 2021 is now upon us and it appears there may be a light at the end of the rainbow. Seniors may soon be able to be vaccinated against Covid-19. I am sure many of you have been forced to alter family plans in 2020 due to all the restrictions. The Alumni extends get well greetings to Alumni and family members who may be coping with ill health at this time.

Our Alumni meetings and socialization have taken a leave for the year. The executive group was compelled to look at options to allow certain activities to be carried out in 2020 and make decisions in the finance portfolio. We are including the minutes of a meeting held in June so you are aware of what was done. The committee reports will outline the activities of the Alumni. We are hopeful that we can organize a general meeting for September 2021 and continue to serve all the Alumni members near and far.

I wish to thank all the committee members for the excellent work they have done to continue to reach out to our fellow members. The Executive wish you good health and hopefully you will be able to enjoy the company of family and friends in the coming months. Let's continue to journey taking small steps and by taking life one day at a time.

Monica Beavis (Cey '66)

*The most valuable gift you can receive,
is that of an honest friend.*

Executive Committee Meeting - June 15, 2020

Meeting occurred at the home of Diane Neufeld, Treasurer
Monica Beavis - President
Diane Hergott - Vice President, and past president
Diane Neufeld - Treasurer
Via face time - Sharon McCallion, Secretary / past president
Meeting was called to order @10:30 AM

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alumni was held to discuss Alumni activities during the COVID 19 pandemic. The auditor's report was shared, with all accounting practices approved. Diane Neufeld moved, seconded by Sharon McCallion, that B. Shebelski be appointed as auditor for 2021. Carried.

Decisions and guidance need to be in place now. Diane Neufeld moved that the financial decisions regarding scholarships and donations voted on and passed in Dec. 2016 be continued for 1 year. Seconded by Sharon McCallion. Carried.

Each committee was considered in the light of the vulnerability of all of our members.

1. Program Planning - Due to the public health limit of gatherings the September Executive and General Meetings are cancelled. The situation will be reassessed by the Executive Committee in October 2021, date TBA., with the hope that the Christmas meeting may be held. Mary Humen to be informed.

2. Welcoming/Membership - Duties can be continued.
3. Newsletter - Duties can be continued.
4. Cards and Flowers - Duties can be continued.
5. Phoning - Duties can be continued.
6. Archives - Access to Archives room restricted.
7. Honour Guard - Activities restricted.
8. Scholarships. For 1 year only \$4000.00 scholarships will be extended as per vote of 2016.
9. Visiting Activities restricted.

Other Business:

For 1 year only the donation of \$5000.00 will be extended to St. Paul's Foundation. The original motion was voted on in Dec. 2016. The areas of highest need are Critical Care Monitor, the Hospice and Continuing Education.

Diane Hergott moved, seconded by Sharon McCallion, that the funds be put towards the Critical care monitor. Carried.

All motions to be voted on at the next possible General Meeting, for discussion and a vote.

Committees and Members are encouraged to keep in touch with each other and the Executive.

This portion of the meeting was adjourned @11:30 AM. The financial committee meeting followed.

St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association

Officers and Conveners, 2021

President	Monica Beavis
Past President	Sharon McCallion
Vice President	Diane Hergott
Secretary	Sharon McCallion
Treasurer	Diane Neufeld
Committees	
Program/Social	Mary Humen
	Louise MacLeod
	Bernie Steckler
Newsletter	Lyn Swenson
	Lily Krause
Cards/Flowers	Cecilia Gursky
Visiting	Rose Normand
	Margo Bussiere
Welcoming/Membership	Reta Taylor
	Bernadette Steckler
Phoning	Carol Smandych
Scholarship	Joyce Lenz
	Agnes Valade
Archives	Marlene Davis
	Kay Turner
Honor Guard	Elaine Uhryniw

Welcoming and Membership

2020 has been a year like no other, a year we will never forget. Keeping in touch is more important than ever during this COVID 19 Pandemic.

Restrictions to assist in controlling the spread of the virus have resulted in no in person meetings of our alumni local chapter. Many of you have, in previous years, paid your annual membership in person at a meeting. This year is different so I encourage you to send your membership to Diane Neufeld. Each year the number of paid memberships declines and this year is no exception. Only 200 memberships have been received.

You have indicated, from a previous survey, that keeping in touch with each other is your top priority, thus a yearly newsletter is most important. Presently our only source of income is our memberships. Your financial support pays for the newsletter.

Thank you all once again for informing me of address changes and the announcements of the passings of our nurses.

"We isolate now so that when we gather again no one is missing." Stay Safe. Stay Well.

Respectfully submitted,
Reta Taylor (Watton '63)

Scholarship

There were a total of nine enquiries and four applications received for the St. Paul's Hospital Nurses Alumni Scholarship for the year 2020. The monies available to be given out were:

- \$4000.00 SPH Nurses Alumni Scholarship

Scholarships were awarded to the following:

- **Brittany Fleury**, granddaughter of Helen (Toews '56). Brittany receives a St. Paul's Nurses Alumni Scholarship of \$2000.00. She is in her 4th year SCBScN (Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science Nursing) at Saskatchewan Polytechnic in Saskatoon.
- **Caitlyn Spurr**, granddaughter of Monica (Cey '66). She receives a St. Paul's Nurses Alumni Scholarship of \$2000.00. Caitlyn is in her 3rd year of Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at University of Regina, SK.

Congratulations to these young people. We wish them the best in their chosen profession!

I respectfully submit this report.

Alumni Scholarship Committee

Joyce Lenz (Greve '59) Chairperson
Agnes Valade (Kirchgesner '60)
Lily Krause (Baergen '58B)

Home Visiting

This has been a very unusual year with the Covid-19 pandemic. We were unable to visit Alumni members in care facilities. A personalized Christmas card along with a note and a photo of our SPH nurses pin was sent to 19 Alumni members who reside in long term care facilities, personal care homes and assisted living facilities.

The following is the note that was attached with the message of hope.

"We wish you a Merry and Blessed Christmas. During this Covid-19 time, we want you to know that we cannot visit you, but St. Paul's Nursing Alumni want to assure you that we are thinking of you and we have not forgotten you. Many things have been cancelled during this time, but there is hope."

Message of Hope

LOVE is not cancelled.

KINDNESS is not cancelled.

HOPE is not cancelled.

And GOD'S LOVE for you is never cancelled.

We ask you to say a prayer and thank all the Health Care workers who are caring for you.

Remember, when you cannot find the Sunshine, Be the Sunshine!

Gratefully submitted,
RoseMarie Normand (Kiefer '67)

Honor Guard

Sadly, due to the pandemic and Covid-19 restrictions, the Honour Guard was not offered for deceased Alumni Members. We regret being unable to show our respect and camaraderie for our fellow nurses who passed away in 2020.

- Nine were in attendance for the Celebration of life of Dr. Ed Nykiforuk, on January 15, 2020.
- At the family's request, and following the restrictions, two attended the funeral liturgy for MaryBelle Pshebylo on Oct. 24, 2020.

Although MaryBelle was not a Member of our Alumni, many will remember the warmth and kindness of Sister Quintal's Secretary. The lady who always remembered our names.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Uhryniw (Madson '61)

Cards and Flowers

Sympathy cards were sent to the family or friends of the St. Paul's Nurses who passed away this year. Five sympathy cards were also sent to those Alumni that experienced the loss of a family member. No flowers were sent to the hospital chapel at Easter or Christmas as the chapel is closed due to Covid-19.



Submitted,
Cecilia Gursky (Scherman '66)

Newsletter

You will notice in this issue of the newsletter there are no chapter submissions. For the last three years it has become increasingly difficult to contact the chapters, and receive any information. It has been decided to drop this area entirely, however should there be any information any member wants included...please do not hesitate to contact me or another member of the Executive, hopefully by December 31 so it can be included in the next issue.



Costs for 2020 Newsletter:

Stamps.....	\$ 450.00
Layout/Design + Printing 400 copies	\$ 960.45
Total	\$1410.45

The newsletter is one of the significant costs to the Alumni each year and is paid for by your Membership Renewals. Please be sure to send in your fees for 2020 and 2021. Thank you.

The form is attached to the last page of the newsletter.

Lyn Swenson (Edwards '69)
Lily Krause (Baergen '58B)

"The surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe, is that it has never tried to contact us."

- Bill Waterson

In Memoriam



1965	Nadinger, Elaine (Hobman)	1953A	Bienvenue, Rita
1964	McGrath, Jeanette (Blais)	1953A	Fulton, Norma (Evans)
1962B	Culbertson, Agnes (Kuttai)	1953A	Stauch, Kathy (Lipka)
1962B	Ducharme, Ann (Passler)	1953A	Reis, Bernadette (Walsh)
1959B	Motycka, Doreen (Maier)	1951A	Currie, Pat (Kouri)
1958A	Swartz, Melita (Westgard)	1951A	Ryckman, Ethel (Watson)
1957A	Kozak, Kathy	1951A	Noble, Marion (McKay)
1957B	Harach, Jean (McKerrow)	1951A	Cavanaugh, Pauline (Tomashewski)
1957B	Lefebvre, Marlene (Martin)	1950A	Knowles, Angela (Ulsifer)
1956A	Eden, Aurore Gabrielle (Chalifour)	1949B	Hopkins/McCune, Rose (Tumbach)
1956A)	Schmidt, Lillian	1947A	Dryell, Barbara (Kendry)
1955B	Molle, Alice (Schulte)	1946A	Soldan, Alice (Brant)
1954B	Styranka, Zona (Lensen)	1946B	Kot, Alice "Bunny" (Condon)
1954B	Till, Dorothy (McPhail)	1946B	Herrick, Juan (Johnson)
1954B	Wiemken, Geraldine (Kleiner)	1943	Larmour, Lois (McLaren)

Submitted by:
Reta Taylor (Watton '63A)

Hospice at Glengarda

The Hospice at Glengarda has finally opened to take patients! The opening occurred in January, 2021. This beautiful facility will give people near death a place of solace to spend the remainder of their days. It is considered a "freestanding" facility because it is not attached to another facility (healthcare or otherwise). It offers a homelike environment to the broadest possible population. It lets patients be close to both family and medical care. The Hospice is meant for those patients in their final 30 days of life that have medical needs that cannot be met at home.

It was built on the site of the former Ursuline Sister's Residence. The founder of this Order was Angela Merici whose home was at Lake Glengarda in Northern Italy. This site is on Treaty Six territory which is the traditional homeland of the Metis in Saskatchewan.

The hospice is a 15-bed residential facility and is a first for the community of Saskatoon. It is located at 301 Hilliard Street in a quiet residential area, near a church and mature park setting. It will provide a nurturing, welcoming and comforting environment for end of life care. The rooms are spacious, comfortable and filled with light. There are fireplaces in each room, bathroom facilities and TV's. There are also community spaces including kitchens, coffee nooks, dining rooms and welcoming hearths. There is easy access to outdoors with garden areas on each floor.

St. Paul's Foundation started the "Close to Home Campaign" to assist with the financing of the facility. It has been wildly successful, raising more than \$20 million towards the completion of the Hospice.

Two significant donations came from two of our nurses! One was made by the family of Betty Porter (Puype '64) to honour her life that was dedicated to her family, her community and her work.

The other was made by Maxine MacSymetz (McConnell '63). She is dedicating her gift to honour the three sons that predeceased her, Kevin, Blair and Mark McSymetz.

The generosity of all to the Close to Home Campaign will have a deep and lasting impact on our community for generations to come!



Honourable Mentions

Lola Holmes (Pearsall '43) was named as the "world's oldest curler". She is currently 102, and residing in Vancouver. She curled her last game in March 2020, and stopped curling due to Covid-19 restrictions! Apparently Lola enjoys good health, plays bridge twice a week and is looking forward to the next time she can hit the ice! We all wish you well and good curling!

On a sadder note, MaryBell Pshebylo passed away at the age of 90 in October 2020. Although MaryBelle was not a graduate of St. Paul's, she was Sr. Quintal's secretary for many years and was like a mother to many nursing students. She was famous for remembering everyone's name. She has a warm spot in many hearts. Reta Taylor and Mary Stang attended her funeral in uniform as an honour to her.

We, at the newsletter desk, would like to extend a big thank you to all who have sent such positive comments about the newsletter! It is a labor of love. We are praying that we can soon return to socializing and hugging our families! Please take care, get your immunization and wear a mask!!



2021 Alumni Membership Renewal 2021



As Alumni of S.P.H. School of Nursing, we encourage you to be in good standing by maintaining your membership in our Alumni Association. Please complete the form and mail a cheque for \$20.00 to:

St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association
c/o Diane Neufeld
734 Wilkinson Way
Saskatoon SK S7N 3L5

Name.....

Maiden Name Graduation Year.....

Address

..... Postal Code.....

Phone Number..... E-mail.....

All cancelled cheques will be your only receipt as our mailing costs are becoming prohibitive.

