Hello Alumni

Murtice Robinson Sherek ’61 & Anne Hermanson Smith ’70 Co-Presidents, Saint Marys School of Nursing Alumni Board

The Alumni Board has been involved in very interesting projects since the SMSN reunion and banquet in September 2015. Representatives from Methodist-Kahler School of Nursing, the Saint Marys School of Practical Nursing and our board have had discussions regarding the archiving of the histories of our schools and the memorabilia that has been collected. Topics included ideas for celebrating the final Reunions of our schools in 2020 and how the future may look...stay tuned.

The special class celebrations are now down to just 3 years (50, 55 and 60), as we no longer have a class celebrating 45 years since graduation. That leaves a strange emotion after so many years of class celebrations...maybe Anne’70 will comment on her class and some of the different training methods used with her class (the babies).

I wish you well and know you will have a great time if you are able to come to Rochester in September!

Murt ’61

As Murt said, it seems very strange not to have as many Milestone classes being honored as in the past, but the reunions continue to be great celebrations. In the spring of 1967, as I awaited high school graduation and looked forward to attending SMSN in the fall, a letter arrived from the school. It informed the future class of 1970 that ours would be the last to graduate from Saint Marys, and explained the difficult and momentous decision to close the school. I remember that it said the school hoped we would still want to attend and pledged to continue to uphold the highest standards through-out those final three years. SMSN and the good Sisters were true to their word. We were the beneficiaries of an excellent nursing education and I’m sure I speak for all my classmates in saying that we were (and still are) very proud to be Saint Marys grads!

Because one of the main reasons for closing the school was the “handwriting on the wall” regarding the move toward collegiate programs, our days at Saint Marys included taking basic liberal arts classes and all of our science classes at what was then called Rochester Junior College. Most of our time the first year and some of it the following years were spent at the college, initially making the trek (in all kinds of weather!) to an office building near downtown, and then later riding a bus out to the new RSJ campus. College credits were earned, which certainly were of help to those classmates who went on to get their degrees. It was a unique blend of being “college students” as well as nursing school students, and was further evidence that SMSN was always committed to being in step with the times. Hope to see you in September!

Anne ’70

2015 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Saint Marys School of Nursing Alumni Association Annual Meeting was held September 12, 2015. The meeting was called to order by President Murtice Sherek.

A short speech was given by Sandra Fstrom Hayes, President of the Class of ’65 on the occasion of their 50th reunion. The Secretary’s report, by Barbara Leland Rasmussen, of the Alumni meeting of September 2014 was read and approved. Treasurer’s Report by Marilyn Ricard Sheehan was read and approved.

Murtice Sherek ’61, President, remarked that the present Board had volunteered to remain in their positions until the final reunions in 2020. Anne Hermanson Smith ’70 will become president in September 2017. A motion was made and carried to approve the transition.

Anne Smith and Murtice Sherek met with the Methodist-Kahler Alumni regarding organizing a group to work on preserving the archive for both Schools within the Mayo system. In appreciation for past service to the Alumni Association, Brenda Rossmann, Monica Van Kirk Melham, Mary Price and Virginia Wentzel were presented with an oil painting of the Saint Marys Cap and Pin by Marlyn Boyd.

Wanda Olson Sannamoe, class of ’68 was introduced and acknowledged for her hard work in producing the newsletter. Angela Ridge Skaal presented quilts made for the 10 members of the class of 1965 who served in the Vietnam War. The Saint Marys School Song was sung and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Leland Rasmussen ’68, Secretary


Wells Fargo:
Checking: 5,613.13
Savings: 25,506.86
Total: $31,119.99

Vanguard:
Balance: $11,429.26
Summary:
Wells Fargo: $31,119.99
Vanguard: $11,429.26
Total: $42,549.25

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Ricard Sheehan ’68, Treasurer
GREETINGS CLASSMATES! We meet and greet on Friday evening, Sept 9 at the Rochester Golf and Country Club from 6:30 to 10pm. Hors d’œuvres will be served with a cash bar. There will be a $15 to $20 per person charge depending on attendance. The luncheon is on Saturday room at Victorias, the banquet in the evening and Sunday morning Mass and Coffee. Lots of time to reminisce and remember. Please call me for any questions, 507-269-6238. Hope to see you all there.

Mary Price

Class of 1966

Eveline Kromebush ‘34, Victoria Frances Flannigan ‘34
Genevieve Harriet Gardiner Wall ‘34
Olga Held Moen ’35
Dorothy Irvin Krapp ’39
Margaret Donovan Aua ’39
Jeanette Marie DuRocher Wick ’39
Mary Grace Wick Steinmann ’40
Geraldine Bernford Hageden ’43
Winifred Coyne Hedahl ’46
June Yoshiko Momoda ’46
Jeannette Colwell Heimer Feb ’47
Helen Haggerty Sell ’48
Druilla “Sally” Johnson ’48
Delores Jermeneck Wegeren ’48
Mary Jane Carlson Sunderson ’48
Ruth Merrick Thomas ’48
Geraldine Sullivan Nehotte ’50
Rosemarie Kaiser Gaines ’51
Beverly Mac Koopman ’51
Patricia G. Smith ’52
Agnes Boyle Splittsloesser ’51
Veronica Bertsch Cech ’59
Rose McCarron DeAmicos ’59
Juanita June Collet Earnhardt ’65

CORRECTIONS:
Eda “Julie” Giuliano Hanson class of Feb ’46 reported to us that she is alive and well. We made this error in the 2015 Newsletter. It was a pleasure to visit with Julie. Our sincere apologies.

Irene Sweeney Michels was in the class of ‘51, not ‘47 as we had printed

Mary Price

Class of 1967

Attention Class of 1967. Our 50th year celebration will be in September of 2017. It is not too early to begin planning for this special weekend. We will be having a planning session August 2, 2016, at House of Coates on Hwy 52 at Coates, MN. We hope that you will come with ideas. We would also like to update our email list. Please send your emails to Pam Laplace at plapolice001@outlook.com or Brenda Rizzo Rossman at bjrussman123@gmail.com And Wanda Sameuelson, editor, was2497@hotmail.com Looking forward to our reunion!

IN MEMORIUM

Evda Kromebush ‘34, Victoria Frances Flannigan ‘34
Genevieve Harriet Gardiner Wall ‘34
Olga Held Moen ’35
Dorothy Irvin Krapp ’39
Margaret Donovan Aua ’39
Jeanette Marie DuRocher Wick ’39
Mary Grace Wick Steinmann ’40
Geraldine Bernford Hageden ’43
Winifred Coyne Hedahl ’46
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Ruth Merrick Thomas ’48
Geraldine Sullivan Nehotte ’50
Rosemarie Kaiser Gaines ’51
Beverly Mac Koopman ’51
Patricia G. Smith ’52
Agnes Boyle Splittsloesser ’51
Veronica Bertsch Cech ’59
Rose McCarron DeAmicos ’59
Juanita June Collet Earnhardt ’65

Thank you seems like a small word of my appreciation for our 50th Class 1965 Grand Reunion! It was a truly amazing, great reunion. 64 of us were there to show our love of our Saint Marys School of Nursing. I thank all of you for carrying on the torch gracefully. Monica and Brenda had done the huge job for so long. Our Alumni Room is a gracious and well organized tribute by Virge and so many of you who contributed on-going ideas for years. Thank you for all your hard work for those not mentioned but there always. Great Job! Many Blessings, Judy Adams Stancl, Class of ’65
Schaack Kaminski, Joan Chudars Smith, Rosemary McKenney Kucewicz, Penny Williams Klein, Bonnie Jensen Wolfe

Mary Hart, Judy Wegner Collopy, Sue Coleman Chilson, Sandra Forstrom Hayes, Jeannine Killian Ladd, Angela Horan, Celia Earhart Wright, Ann Koester Ashley, Peggy Girnau Benson

Sara Murphy Ihrke, Sharon Hincheski Whelan, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Judy Tieskoetter Collins, Janet Prom Ryan, Carol McDermott Schmitt Sadler


Class of 1965: (Row 1 L to R) Toni Colbrese Hebert, Susan Schuh Miller, Mary Broom Ferdon, Judith Oberhelman Rial, Mary Jane Mertz-Wirges, Helen Mary Anderson Nagel, Kathleen Sheehan Lambert, Carol Selheim Johnston

Class of 1966: (Row 2 L to R) Sheryl Wilson Kennedy, Susie Gazetta Davis, Janet Melzark Pilloid, Angie Garry Broich, Barb Mocco Burnikel, Mary Vosler Walters, Daniee Fochtmann Seleny, Lynn Fye Johnson, Joan Brodersg Royman, Judy Massery Carter, Judy Schnitt Sadler

Class of 1967: (Row 3 L to R) Judy Colbyt Tornlins, Sue Frantz Schmidt, Amy Doyle Garcia, Sandra Smith Assmann, Edie McCoy Meek, Sara Murphy Ibrahim, Sharon Hincheshe Whealan, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Judy Taeskeott Collins, Janet Prom Ryan, Carol McDermott Howell, Terry Bergbeld Darlap.

Class of 1968: (Row 4 L to R) Janis Wallest McKeegin, Sheryl Wach Cisloko, Judy Adams Stanc, Barbara Zep Soderquist, Jean Anne Boyle Lee, Sharon Poisson Hanson, Marilyn Genders Mussleumall, Charlotte Abbott O’Connor, Joan Quadlay Wilson, Sherry Reinhart Wohl. 


Class of 1969: (Row 1 L to R) Toni Colbrese Hebert, Susan Schuh Miller, Mary Broom Ferdon, Judith Oberhelman Rial, Mary Jane Mertz-Wirges, Helen Mary Anderson Nagel, Kathleen Sheehan Lambert, Carol Selheim Johnston

Class of 1970: (Row 2 L to R) Sheryl Wilson Kennedy, Susie Gazetta Davis, Janet Melzark Pilloid, Angie Garry Broich, Barb Mocco Burnikel, Mary Vosler Walters, Daniee Fochtmann Seleny, Lynn Fye Johnson, Joan Brodersg Royman, Judy Massery Carter, Judy Schnitt Sadler

Class of 1971: (Row 3 L to R) Judy Colbyt Tornlins, Sue Frantz Schmidt, Amy Doyle Garcia, Sandra Smith Assmann, Edie McCoy Meek, Sara Murphy Ibrahim, Sharon Hincheshe Whealan, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Judy Taeskeott Collins, Janet Prom Ryan, Carol McDermott Howell, Terry Bergbeld Darlap.

Class of 1972: (Row 4 L to R) Janis Wallest McKeegin, Sheryl Wach Cisloko, Judy Adams Stanc, Barbara Zep Soderquist, Jean Anne Boyle Lee, Sharon Poisson Hanson, Marilyn Genders Mussleumall, Charlotte Abbott O’Connor, Joan Quadlay Wilson, Sherry Reinhart Wohl.

In September 2014, Marie was named as the outstanding nurse educator by the Minneapolis Saint Paul Magazine. She was nominated for this recognition by her nurse associates.

“It wasn’t a job when we started. It was a profession,” says Koldborg of nurses her age. “I was taught by nurses. They said, ‘You’re never going to get anywhere if you sit back and wait for someone to do it for you.’ So Marie didn’t. And that’s added up to 68 years of nursing. 24 years in pediatric emergency, and 15 year as an instructor herself, teaching courses on pediatric emergency nursing to more than 4,000 students, not counting the new nurses she’s mentored. Marie models positivity. ‘My emotional center hasn’t changed much over the years. I love children and caring for sick children, in spite of the stress.’

ALUMNI

Lt. JG. Alice Stella Giroux – there is continued interest in her story which was in the 2015 Newsletter. The article can be found at www.thekWE.org and click on C54skymasterK– pleasant.
Geraldine Berriesford Hagedorn '43, who died in 12/2015, was a proud graduate of SMSN and was instrumental in the creation of Thomas House in Rochester, a mental health services provider.

Yoshiko Momoda was born and raised in Seattle, but found herself in the Minidoka, ID, Japanese internment camp during WWII. She requested a leave from “camp” to finish her college education which led her to SMSN, graduating in '46. She was a floor nurse, then head nurse in neurosurgery, returning to Seattle at end of the war. In Seattle she married, raised her family and enjoyed the friendship of other Alumni at their local gatherings. June pass away in 12/2015…note from Carol Claude Larson '56

Ruth Murphy Haw lives in Summer, Iowa. She is thankful for the Alumni Newsletter and shares this memory: Ruth was one of the Cadet Nurses graduating in '46 after spending 6 months in the Army @ Schick General Hospital, Clinton, Iowa. While on the train to that assignment, the announce-ment came that the War was over!

Darlene Webster Holton '46 worked in Radiation Therapy and Metabolic Research at Mayo Clinic for 10 years. When the family moved to Eau Claire he worked in Pediatrics and then in various Head Nurse positions until her retirement. Died in June, 2014.

Dorothy Gilchrist Backstrom '47, who died in 2014, spent most of her nursing career in Eau Claire, of which 26 years were as an ENT operating room head nurse, until her retirement. She died in June 2014.

Dorothy Hinkel Calvert '47 who died on April 28, 2015 (from her daughter). “Mom really enjoyed her time at Saint Marys and spoke of it often. It inspired me to get my nursing degree and now my daughter is enrolling in nursing school in Los Angeles. So, Saint Marys has inspired 3 generations of nurses.”

Mary Jane Simonson '48 was once a Cadet Nurse. Her nursing career included work at St. Olaf Hospital, Austin, Marshall Clinic, Wt, Rochester Methodist Hospital. She became a gerontology certified RN and worked as the DON at Prairie Manor in Bloomington Prairie. Later Mary Jane was a nurse coordinator at Meadow Manor in Grand Meadow. Mary died 1/16.

Juliana June Collet Earnhart '65, Nita worked in a government program in Saudi Arabia for 2 years, then at UCLA. She was a head nurse in cardiology, also working in the ER, obstetrics and neonatal critical care. She also taught Lamaze and dying classes and enjoyed writing. She passed away 2/16.

Sister Vera Klinkhammer
Happy Birthday!
Sister Vera has celebrated her 104th birthday!! She is the oldest living member of the Rochester Franciscan communi-ty… was born November 26, 1911… grew up in Adrian, MN, and spent more than 70 years living and working at Saint Marys Hospital. She worked as a nurse and served as the oper-ating room supervisor for four surgical suites. At age 101, she was still volunteering at the hospital walking upwards of 10 miles a day while helping patients and their families. A couple of years ago, she retired and moved to Assisi Heights… She still gets up at 6am and remains tough to keep up with…

(Didn’t find picture)

From Adam Holland, MS, RN, NE-BC Mayo department of Nursing: As there have been many books written about the physicians of Mayo, it was a great honor to be involved in a book about Mayo nurses. Virge Wentzel was a great help, content reviewer, and answered many questions. The book is available online through the Mayo Store: http://store.mayo-clinic.com/products/bookDetails.cfm?mpid=162 or at gift shops and the Mayo Store.

Saint Marys Hospital Carpenter leaves Unforgettable gift

ROCHESTER, Minn. (KTTC) – On a typical day back in 1917, a humble man from Wisconsin, down on his luck, ap-peared on the steps of Saint Marys Hospital looking for shelter and a fresh start at life.
The man called himself Joseph Howlett, and was quickly recognized for his handyman skills. His life before Saint Marys remains to be a mystery, but he roamed the halls of the hospital, doing carpentry work and performing other odd jobs for the rest of his years in exchange for a small salary, food, a home and a family.
“After he retired he even helped the sisters peel the vegetables and section grapefruit for the diabetic patients and he had a great love,” said Sister Lauren Weinandi, who knew Joseph when she began working at Saint Marys in 1956.
He quickly earned the title “Joseph the Carpenter” for all of his hard work.
“Of course we know how holy St. Joseph was, but it’s kind of a little parallel,” said Sister Lauren.
She said Joseph could often be found in the chapel, where one of his handiworks is displayed year after year during the holiday season: the manger for the nativity scene.
Joseph gave plenty to Saint Marys Hospital while he was there, but it was after his death in 1960, when the sisters dis-covered his extraordinary gift.
Behind a picture in his room were a note and the collec-tions of his meager salary and bond investments, which totaled to $10,000. He wished his money to be put into the Saint Joseph Endowment Fund, which provides financial aid for nursing students.
To this day, Joseph remains one of the largest donors to that fund, and has a special mention in the fund’s mission.
2016 SAINT MARYS SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNI REUNION
September 10 and 11, 2016

DATE    EVENT       TIME       LOCATION
September 10, 2016 Brunch for class of ’66 11:00 to 1:00   Victoria’s Restaurant
(Saturday)
Victoria’s Restaurant: 7 1st Ave SW - in Kahler Hotel block so park in the Hotel Ramp

Banquet for all Alumni & Guests September 10, 2016
Social Hour  5:30 to 6:30  Kahler Elizabethan Room
Dinner  6:30 to 9:00  Kahler Elizabethan Room

Photo Sessions for celebrating classes ’56, ’61, ’66 following banquet

September 11, 2016  Mass for Alumni & guests 8:30 am   Saint Marys Chapel
(Sunday)
Farewell Coffee following Mass  Sisters Dining Room

Parking for Mass in the flat lot East of the Chapel on 2nd Street. Handicapped parking available in any of the hospital parking ramps (cut here and mail registration form below)

REGISTRATION FORM
NAME___________________________________________________________________________
(first)   (maiden)   (current)
ADDRESS______________________________________________________________________________________
EMAIL/PHONE_________________________________________________________________________________

THE BRUNCH AND BANQUET ARE COMPLIMENTARY FOR THE CLASS OF 1966
50 Year CLASS OF ’66 ONLY:

BRUNCH___ I will attend Brunch (No guests)
Banquet: ___ I will attend ($0) ___ Number of guests ($35 ea) ___ Guests
All Other Classes:
Banquet: ___ I will attend ($35) ___ Guests ($35 ea) Sunday Coffee: ___ I will attend ___ Guests

PHOTO FOR CLASSES ’56, ’61, ’66: $10.00 ___ enclosing $ 10.00/Photo (mailed to you)
MAIL RESERVATION: no later than AUGUST 10, 2016, to: SMSN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, MAYO CLINIC ALUMNI CENTER, 533 SEIBENS BUILDING, 200 FIRST STREET SW, ROCHESTER MN 55903 CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SMSN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION and ENCLOSE WITH YOUR RESERVATIONS (Kahler Hotel information: 507-280-6200 @ 20 2nd Ave SW)