



St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Newsletter 2024

Message from the Editor

Greetings to all my fellow Alumni! We are embarking on a bitter sweet time in the life of St. Paul's Alumni as 2024 will be the start of downsizing the formal format of our association. It is hoped that we can continue with one or two get togethers per year, and that the newsletter can continue. The newsletter provides an ongoing form of communication between us, especially since we are all aging and our ability to see one another physically is diminished. We look forward to your suggestions and ideas on how this should be accomplished. You can contact any one of us on the executive with your suggestions and thoughts on this downsizing process.

Congratulations to the class of 1964, on your 60th anniversary!

Lyn Swenson (Edwards '69)

Prayer

*As long as we have memories, **yesterday remains.***

*As long as we have hope, **tomorrow awaits.***

*As long as we have love, **today is beautiful.***

*As long as you have GOD, **anything and everything is possible.***



Greetings from the Executive

Welcome to 2024! If we thought at Christmas time we were in for a warm winter, the New Year gave us a reality check - giving us a huge dump of snow followed by very frigid temperatures!

St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni is in a period of transition. The Finance Committee had a meeting this fall and drafted future options for the organization. They were presented to the Executive Committee, then circulated to the Alumni at the Christmas gathering for discussion and feedback.

The next step is to distribute the plan to all Alumni members for discernment. The Executive are asking for your comments and suggestions that you may have so that we can finalize the direction the Alumni will take in the future. Your input is appreciated, and we want to proceed accordingly. The changes will be voted on at our AGM in May 2024.

Thank you for your support.

Recommendations:

- Keep \$5000.00 as operating funds
- Disperse the remaining funds (approx- \$13,000) over two years to scholarships and to SPH foundation
- Drop annual membership fees to \$10.00 to keep addresses and connections up to date
- Two social events per year - Spring and either Christmas or Fall
- Changes to Executive - to be reviewed in 2 years
- Two co-chairs, who will take on additional duties i.e.- phoning, scholarships, honour guard

- Secretary - if no formal meetings, could do cards and flowers, program planning, and communicate notices via a page at gatherings or through a phoning tree
- Treasurer to add memberships to duties
- No formal meetings
- Annual reports available on request to members
- Committees to be reduced in number
- Newsletter to continue
- Visiting - as the numbers of those getting visits are increasing, perhaps we could increase those who do visits, and visit more than once per year
- In two years possibly disperse the remaining funds to the hospital Foundation
- Social gatherings - stop the formal organization and meetings, but continue to do an informal lunch/brunch 1 or 2 times per year

Your thoughts and input on these suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

The Christmas luncheon at Western Development Museum was enjoyed by 54 members this year. The Christmas dinner cost is subsidized by the Alumni and will remain at \$20 for the members.

It was great to see everyone and enjoy a visit.

We wish you a healthy, and happy 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
SPH Alumni Executive

"All you need is love,
but a little chocolate now and then
doesn't hurt."

- Charles M. Schultz

"You only live once,
but if you do it correctly,
once is enough."

- Mae West

St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association

Officers and Conveners, 2024

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	Sharon McCallion
Visiting	Rose Normand Margo Bussiere Trudy Payton
Welcoming/Membership	Diane Neufeld Elaine Uhryniw Bernadette Steckler
Phoning	Carol Smandych
Scholarship	Joyce Lenz Lily Krause
Archives	Kay Turner Marlene Davis
Honor Guard	Elaine Uhryniw

"When you can't control what is happening,
challenge yourself to control the way you respond.
That's where your power is."

- *Dreamsquote*

Welcome/Memberships

Our Saskatoon Chapter of St. Paul's School of Nursing Alumni is beginning to show signs of wear and tear! With all of us now having reached 75 years and beyond, it is more important than ever to keep track of changes. Many of us are downsizing or already have, and moving to different locations. Notifying us via your membership form, a phone call or an email keeps us all informed as to where the Alumni members are and a way to keep in touch. I often get calls asking for the whereabouts of classmates, and I am always happy if I can give that information. Thank you for all the information you have communicated to me regarding addresses, phone numbers, and announcements of the passing of our members.

There were 230 paid memberships this past year. In discussions during this last year regarding bringing changes to our association, I am pleased to announce that the membership fee for 2024 and onward **will now be \$10** per year. The membership fund will be sufficient to ensure the continuation of the newsletter which helps us to stay connected.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Neufled (Rowein '66)

Archives Final Report

This has been a busy and exciting final year for the SPH School of Nursing archives. Our entire collection has been given to the Saskatoon Archives. A few capes and some office furniture remained. The furniture was given to the hospital, and the capes went to the hospital archives. An original copy of our school song was framed and hung in the display case at the hospital.

We have given up our room at the residence, so we no longer have storage space. If you have any articles to donate, please call the Saskatoon Archives at (306) 975-7811 or (306) 657-8725.

The address is 224 Cardinal Crescent, Saskatoon.

Home Visiting

Our Alumni Visiting Committee had the privilege to visit 23 SPH graduates residing in longterm care facilities and assisted living and care facilities. A small care package was given to all and was very much appreciated.

Margo and I had the opportunity to visit 8 RN's who reside at Trinity Manor. We were treated with a great cup of coffee and delicious cookies. Such a spirited group of ladies conversing about their days in residence as well as the "good old days" in nursing. Mary Stang put on display the doll in SPH dress attire, a reminder of the good old days at SPH.



Several of our Alumni visits were more difficult as well as emotional...communication meant holding a hand and letting them know we were thinking of them, and have not forgotten them. Our presence was rewarded by gentle hand squeezes, or vague eye contact. I could sense a feeling of loneliness in some cases.

This year we are recommending the visiting program expand with more people volunteering, and encompass visits throughout the year. Please contact me if you might be interested in volunteering in this way. There are more and more of our alumni who would benefit with a visit and continued contact.

Just for your interest...the total number of SPH graduates from 1912 to 1969 is 2057.

Thank you to Margot Bussiere (Fournier '63) for all your help!

Gratefully submitted,
Rosemarie Normand (Kiefer '67)

Scholarships

There were a total of three enquiries and one application received for the St. Paul's Hospital Nurses Alumni Scholarship for the year 2023. The monies available to be awarded are:

- \$1500.00 - SPH Nurses Alumni Scholarship
- \$200.00 - Family Memorial gift - Gertrude Lofstrum (Peterson '57B)
- \$300.00 - Anonymous gift to the SPH Scholarship fund

The Scholarship was awarded to:

Isabella Cooper, granddaughter to Louise McLeod (Quintal '66). She receives a scholarship in the amount of \$2000.00. Isabella is in her third year of nursing with the Collaborative Bachelor of Science Nursing Program with both the University of Regina and Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

Congratulations to Isabella Cooper. We wish her the best in her chosen profession!

Respectfully submitted,

SPH Alumni Scholarship Committee
Joyce Lenz (Greve '59B)
Agnes Valade (Kirchgenser '60A)
Lily Krause (Baergen '58B)



Honour Guard

The Honour Guard was privileged to attend services for the following deceased members:

- Mercedes Montgomery (Cheveldayoff '53)
- Gertrude Lofstrom (Peterson '57)
- Joan Keeler (Davis '59)
- Reta Taylor (Watton '62)

Attendance for the Honour Guard varied this year. Some families have chosen to wait until spring while others have chosen to have private services.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Uhryniw (Madson '61)

Cards and Flowers

For those in the long list of Alumni members in the "In Memoriam" (32), 18 sympathy cards were sent to families where the addresses were known, and we were informed. Unfortunately, there are always some where addresses could not be located, and we are notified a couple of years later.



Seven sympathy cards were sent to the Alumni members whose husbands or children passed away. Again there was difficulty getting the accurate addresses. Other cards sent were get well and thinking of you cards.

Flowers were sent to one Alumni member, and to the chapel at St. Paul's Hospital for Easter and Christmas.

It is difficult to know about all of those who pass away, are experiencing health related issues and those that could use some encouragement or acknowledgement. The help of all our members in keeping us informed is very much needed and appreciated!

Respectfully submitted,
Cecilia Gursky (Scherman '66)

**"To make a difference in someone's life,
you do not have to be brilliant, rich, beautiful or perfect.
You just have to care."**

- Mandy Hale

Newsletter

There will be changes to the format of the Alumni association this year and next as we downsize and simplify our structure. The executive would really appreciate your thoughts and input on the process and final outcomes. We look forward to hearing your ideas!



Costs for 2023 Newsletter:

Stamps.....	\$ 257.00
Layout/Design + Printing 250 copies.....	\$ 900.00
Total	\$1157.00

Please ensure you send us any changes in address, or preferences to receiving your newsletter i.e. - email copy or mailed copy. Thank you!

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



"The bad news is time flies.
The good news is you're the pilot!"

- Michael Altshuler

In Memoriam



Mildred Maxwell (Smith '51B)
Gertrude Loftstrom (Peterson '57B)
Mercedes Montgomery (Chevaldayoff '53A)
Ruby Ronning (Anderson '53B)
Iris Anholt (Emmerson '47A)
Dorelle Brooks (Larson '62A)
Kristine Wilson (Werner '61B)
Lucy Wood (Lipka '65)
Sr. Mary Fruhstuk (Fruhstuk '54B)
Denise Cain (Blondeau '48B)
Irma Dupin (Empy '52B)
Simone Rainville (Bernard '53A)
Theresa Schmunk (Fitzgerald '49A)
Vivian Bonli (Booker '51A)
Leona Donnan (Grywacheski '61B)
Vivian Patrick (Harvey '54A)

Joan Keeler (Davis '59A)
Kathleen Pachal (Wildman '69)
Dolores Reed (Singbush '54B)
Marjorie Larkin (Brennan '52B)
Mary Toews (Toews '58B)
Lucille Cote` (Riou '53B)
Reta Taylor (Watton '63A)
Bernice England (England '54A)
Maria Degirolamo (Gauthier '53A)
Gertrude Dubetz (Sorokowski '57B)
Fay Edmonds (Hamilton '51A)
Ethel Paterson (Cline '52B)
Donalene McKinnon (McKinnon '67)
Margaret Smith (McDonald '48B)
Jena Mahoney (Chisholm '51A)
Noreen Volkmann (Weinberger '64)

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Neufeld (Rowein '66)
Elaine Uhryniw (Madson '61)

Class Reunion

June 2023 saw classmates of 1963 celebrate 60 years since graduation. Two days of reliving memories, experiences and renewing friendships was wonderful! Three years of residence life and training cemented bonds that continue. Marie opened her home to a Welcome party where the first screams of recognition occurred. Grey hair and wrinkles did not hide the familiar smiles and twinkling eyes! We had brunch at the Parktown the next morning, followed by a tour of the Western Development Museum for those that wished, and then a lovely supper at the Granary. We savoured all of it, knowing that it was likely the last gathering for most of us. A few husbands joined us for all of the events. Hazel was there but not in the pictures...? Life circumstances prevented some classmates from attending.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Hergott (Karasiuk '63B)



Tribute to Reta Taylor (Watton'63)



On November 7, 2023 St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association lost a dedicated member. Reta loved being part of the Alumni, and was actively involved from the time she graduated until the year of her death - 60 years. As long as we can remember, she was the convener of the Welcoming and Membership Committee. She kept track of our membership throughout the world. Reta was gifted with an excellent memory, which served her well on that committee. She was the contact and organized all of the membership information. She knew everyone, and they knew her. She actively participated in all business meetings, social events and the planning and organizing of reunions.

Many years as an Emergency Nurse at SPH provided her with good general historical knowledge about SPH and its staff and events. Reta's sense of humour, good memory of staff and patient experiences within the ER provided us with many a hilarious story. No one could tell a story as well as Reta. She was also active in her community and her Church. An organization dear to her heart was "Grandmothers for Grandmothers."

Devotion to family, and attention to friendships made for a happy and fulfilling life. She will be dearly missed.

Respectfully submitted by Classmates and Friends,
Diane Hergott (Karasiuk '63)
Rae Tomaschewski (DeBoice '63)

2024 Alumni Membership Renewal 2024



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 \$10.00 to:

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

Please let us know how you would prefer to receive your newsletter: Mail Email

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.

