

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING



Alumnae Association Newsletter

Volume 56 Number 2 - Spring 2014



30 SVH Alumnae from march in 253rd St. Patrick's Day Parade

"...demonstrating that the spirit of St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing lives on!"



Patience, Fortitude, Perseverance Faith, Hope and Charity



St. Patrick's Day Parade

St. Patrick's Day 2014 was another blustery day but that did not deter approximately 30 SVH Alumnae from marching up Fifth Avenue in the 253rd St. Patrick's Day parade. Spirits were high as they braved the very cold but sunny day. Alumnae from Florida to Plattsburg N.Y. came to celebrate the wearing of the green, demonstrating that the spirit of St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing lives on! As the alumnae marched proudly behind the SVH banner, they were greeted from the sidelines by other alum and old friends.

While waiting on 45th Street before marching, the SVH alum ran into Dr. Bill Duggan and his wife, Dr. Betty Lell, both former members of the attending staff at SVH, who were marching with the Irish Medical Society. It was good to see old friends!



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General Alumnae Meeting

Pat O'Neill and Ginny Kolnache Wilson '76 were our guest speakers on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at the General Alumnae meeting. Pat is a Clinical Documentation Specialist at Brooklyn Hospital and Ginny works in the same capacity at St. Barnabas Hospital in New Jersey.

Pat and Ginny presented an interesting discussion of the need for appropriate clinical documentation to support justification for a hospitalization, ensure continuity of quality care, improve the treatment plan, including the discharge plan, and to meet compliance requirements of various regulatory agencies such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). They work closely with physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners to ensure that the treatment plan for a patient supports all the diagnoses for that patient. Once a patient is discharged, they work closely with the hospital coders to ensure all key information is extracted from the medical record for billing purposes, including all diagnoses, co-morbidities, procedures and treatments rendered, and medications received. They also ensure documentation is complete, concise, timely, and legible, for those institutions without electronic health records.

Victor Keyloun, MD

Many of you probably remember working with Dr. Victor Keyloun, an internist at SVH for many years. Dr. Keyloun has authored several books, but two in particular about St. Vincent's. "Dr. Good is Gone: Recollections of a Greenwich Village Physician" and "Murder, Madness, & St. Vincent's" can be ordered through Dr. Keyloun's website at www.victorkeyloun.com.

Dr. Keyloun will be invited to discuss his books at the next General Alumnae meeting. Look for the notification about the meeting.

Alumnae Association Dues

A sincere thanks to all who have paid their Alumnae Association dues and especially to those who have donated so generously to our organization.

Class Notes:

Please keep in touch with us by sending us your class year and email address to SVHalum@gmail.com. Alum frequently request information about their classmates, particularly to reconnect for reunions.

WEBSITE

Have you seen the new and improved SVH Alumnae website?

Pat Caffrey has done an OUTSTANDING job with the site! Kudos Patty!!

Please visit the site for review of Class Notes, Photo Gallery, SVH Shop, and more.

stvincentsschoolofnursingalums.org

TRANSCRIPTS:

Save for future reference!

For those looking for transcripts or diplomas, you may write to:

Sr. Constance Brennan, SC
or Sr. Mary Ellen Blumlein, SC
C/O Archives: Boyle Hall
College of Mount Saint Vincent's
6301 Riverdale Avenue
Bronx, New York 10471

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No alum shall be denied active membership because of inability to pay dues.

If you are notifying us of the death of an alum or relative please include the name and address of those to whom the Mass Card should be sent. Send this information to Pat Holland Costello or SVHalum@gmail.com

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CLASS NOTES

Class of 1943

Norma Perry Pyn, a truly remarkable woman from the class of 1943, attended a recent St. Vincent's Alumnae Association meeting accompanied by her daughter Jennifer. Norma, who is 90 years old, tries to come to at least one meeting a year and also attends the Annual Luncheon.

Norma arrived at St. Vincent's from Malone, New York in 1941 and reminisced about her days in school. She was in the first class to graduate from St. Patrick's Cathedral and her class was the largest at that time, with 75 women receiving their diplomas on Tuesday, August 31, 1943. Thirty-five of these women were recruited into the Armed Services and served during World War II. Norma was one of those women, serving in the Navy. She was assigned to a Navy Hospital in California where she cared for the men injured at Pearl Harbor. She served three years and was discharged as a Lieutenant JG.

After the war Norma came back to NYC. She leased an apartment in Greenwich Village and went to work at St. Vincent's Hospital, doing private duty nursing so she would have the flexibility to return to school to earn her bachelor's degree in history with a minor in sociology. She enrolled in Fordham University, which had a downtown branch in the Woolworth Building in lower Manhattan, and graduated in 1949.

While at Fordham, Norma met her husband. They married and had 5 children and settled in Queens, New York. Norma became a stay-at-home Mom and a part-time nurse, working weekends. She also organized class reunions every 5 years. Norma, along with her committee, kept track of all their classmates, and every 5 years, she put together a journal, including an update on every member of her class.

In 1968 Norma returned to work full time at the Brooklyn VA Hospital. She started as a staff nurse and ended her career as a Nursing Care Coordinator in 1995 at the age of 74.

Sadly, as this newsletter went to press, we learned that Norma passed away on April 3, 2014. Rest in peace, Norma.

Class of 1958

In the winter 2012-2013 Alumnae Newsletter, we reprinted an article from a Parish Life Newsletter, the Cathedral of St. Francis Community in Metuchen, New Jersey about Shelia Boyle Lenihan, who had visited Haiti to do mission work. Well, Shelia has not stopped! A recent letter from Sheila described her latest adventure as a surgical mission worker in Nicaragua. This is her sixth trip with the Catholic mission group called "Light of the World."

Shelia is an OR nurse that was part of two teams, a general surgery team and a plastic surgery team, sent to Nicaragua for one week. While there, the team performed forty-six cases, including laparoscopic gall bladder surgeries, a real change for Sheila who was an orthopedic OR nurse. As Sheila said, "It's a great day when we can learn something new and use it to help someone to boot!"

Great Job Shelia! Keep up your good work.

Class of 1961

Congratulations Barbara Anderson on the publication of your book, "Take Control of Your Cancer Pain."

Congratulations to Dorothy Hickey '61 who married Kathleen Mary Nokes in May 2013.

Student Nurse Statues

Interested in a statue of an SVH student nurse, right down to the bandage scissors carried in her apron and the crease in her cap. These 8.5" statues, colored in metallic bronze, are available for \$25.00 plus shipping and handling of \$15.00.

Please order from:

Sr. Kathleen Aucoin, SC

Seton Arts Studio

67 South 5th Avenue

Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Phone: 917-697-6370

Email: setonarts@gmail.com

www.Kathleenaucoin.com



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Class of 1964

Mary Jane Koch is organizing the 50th anniversary celebration for the Class of 1964. Please contact Mary Jane at mjkoch7@gmail.com.

Class of 1969

Congratulations to Harriet McGreal who was honored by the Lott Foundation for her work serving the poor and underserved in NYC. Harriet started her career at St. Vincent's Hospital, advancing in positions and responsibility to become the Associate Director of Clinical Quality Management and the Clinical Director of Nursing for the Outpatient Department. When Harriet left St. Vincent's, she became the administrator for the Developmental Disabilities Clinic at Terrence Cardinal Cook (TCC) Health Care Center. Responsible for all aspects of the on-site and off-site programs, she rose to Vice President of Resident Services at the Lott Residence of TCC where she was responsible for the daily operations of the facility.

Harriet was a Delivery Management Senior Advisor for Dell Healthcare Services and is currently the Director of Clinical Documentation Improvement and Denials Management based at The Brooklyn Hospital Center. She is a member of the Board of Directors of The Continuity Home Health Care, Inc. and serves on the Professional Advisory Committee of the Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services.

Way to go Harriet!!!

Class of 1978

Theresa McGowan Macri and her husband Stephen were honored at the 28th Annual Child of Peace Award Dinner hosted by Catholic Guardian Services on October 10, 2013 at the University Club in Manhattan. All proceeds from the gala support the mothers and newborns served in their pro-life maternity services program.

Class of 1987

David Rabinowitsch is the Holistic Nursing Program Director for the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine. For information about this program, visit www.PacificCollege.edu/BSNursing.

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD

Carolyn Smith McMahon '37

Norma Perry Pyn '43

Margaret Phillips '44

Margaret Wightwick '52

Marian O'Sullivan '55

Eileen Crowley Barry '56

Kathleen McManus Kehoe '57

Ruth Bronnekant Degnon Richters, '58

Marilyn Buysee Wendoff '58

Margaret M. Kiernan Wightwick '62

Margaret O'Shea Freeman '62

Erin Ann Redmond and John Redmond, daughter and son of Helen Cantwell Burton '52

Robert Hillebrecht, husband of Mary Early Hillebrecht '56

Thomas Gunning, brother of Mary Gunning Schneider, '66

Mary M. Muehleck, mother of Mary M. Muehleck '71

John Glavin Quirk, husband of Karen Egenes '76

Michael P. DeMato, father of Francene DeMato Lanigan '77

John Luskin, father of Catherine Luskin Winters '89

Jennifer McCusker, sister of Theresa McCusker '97

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Dr. D'Angelo said. Among other areas of expertise, the HealthPlex will also include sexual assault nurse examiners who have received special training to perform sexual assault evidentiary exams for rape victims.

The emergency center anchoring this neighborhood medical complex is based on a successful model for emergency care being implemented across the country. "The approach is designed to reduce waiting times and enhance customer convenience for emergency care that is efficient, accessible and linked to a continuum of care available to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay," Dr. D'Angelo said.

To ensure success, Lenox Hill HealthPlex is drawing on the collective knowledge of North Shore-LIJ emergency physicians, more than 300 paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and approximately 2,000 ED staff that have gained their experience operating 14 EDs that treated nearly 665,000 people and transported more than 102,000 patients in 2013. Even though the HealthPlex will not open until June, we are already hiring nursing staff, who will undergo intensive training in the coming months," said Carleigh Gustafson, RN, the health system vice president of emergency services and a long-time Lenox Hill nurse.

The HealthPlex is housed in the historic National Maritime Union Building, which was known for the past four decades as the O'Toole Building. North Shore-LIJ is investing more than \$150 million to redevelop the interior of the 50-year-old ship-like building, while maintaining all of the exterior nautical features designed by New Orleans architect Albert C. Ledner, including scalloped overhangs, a porthole facade and a rooftop bulkhead that looks like a steamship smokestack. We took great pains to respect the architecture of this landmarked building, recognizing the distinctive character of the West Village," said John Gupta, executive director of the Lenox Hill HealthPlex. In addition to filling a health care void on the West Side, this new medical complex will bring hundreds of new jobs to the neighborhood, helping to revitalize small businesses." Among its many close ties to local organizations, Lenox Hill HealthPlex has created a partnership with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Community Center. In 2013, Lenox Hill Hospital was recognized as a leader in LGBT Healthcare Equality" in an annual survey conducted by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, the educational arm of the country's largest LGBT organization. Also in 2013, Lenox Hill donated \$100,000 to the New York City AIDS Memorial that will be erected in St. Vincent's Hospital Park, located in the triangle across from the HealthPlex at the intersections of 7th Avenue, W. 12th Street and Greenwich Avenue.

As part of a new model of care that North Shore-LIJ is developing for the communities, it serves across the metropolitan area, the HealthPlex's vast emergency capabilities will be complemented by imaging services, surgery, rehabilitation, health/wellness, home care and other comprehensive medical programs that will be rolled out in future years.

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Meeting Notice

Date: May 15, 2014

Place: Convent of the Sisters Charity

20 Washington Square North

(Going from East from 6th Ave it is between 5th Ave and MacDoughal Street)

NY, NY 10011

Time: 6pm

Topic: Dr. Victor Keyloun will discuss 2 books he authored related to St. Vincent's:

"Murder, Madness and St. Vincents's" and "Dr. Good Has Gone"

Speakers: Dr. Victor Keyloun

A light meal will be served.

RSVP to Pat Costello @ 718-439-8418 or pcostellosvh@gmail.com