

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING

Alumnae Association Newsletter

Volume 57 Number 3 - FALL 2016

On May 24, 2016, three St. Vincent Hospital School of Nursing alumnae, Therese Hamilton Petrie '64, Maureen Garrett McElhinney '68, and Ann Sullivan Whalen '80, along with friend Mary Alice Kozak, an avid Adriana Trigiani reader, had the honor of meeting the author, Adriana Trigiani, over lunch. Ms. Trigiani is an award winning playwright, television writer, and documentary filmmaker. She is the author of sixteen books, including the New York Times bestseller **The Shoemaker's Wife**, a fictional account of her own grandparents lives after their immigration from Italy to the US, the **Big Stone Gap** Series, set in her Virginia home town, and **Very Valentine and Brava Valentine**, the tale of a woman working to save the family's shoe company in Greenwich Village.



In addition, Ms. Trigiani has authored **Lucia, Lucia**, another novel that takes place in Greenwich Village, her best selling memoir **Don't Sing at the Table**, and her most recent book, **All the Stars in the Heaven**. Ms. Trigiani wrote and directed the film adaptation of her debut novel **Big Stone Gap**, set and filmed in her hometown of **Big Stone Gap**, Virginia.

Ms. Trigiani arrived in NYC in 1985 after graduating from St. Mary's College in Indiana and made her off Broadway debut as a playwright that same year. From 1988-1998, she wrote for TV sitcoms.

Ms. Trigiani is the co-founder of the Origins Project, an educational program that seeks to inspire students to find their voices through the craft of writing, located in Stone Gap, Virginia.

Since 2012 Adriana Trigiani Tours and AT Escapes have offered travel tours to Italy, Scotland, Spain, and Gibraltar, all locations that inspired her novels.

Ms. Trigiani lives Greenwich Village with her husband and daughter.



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, in color or metallic bronze, are available for \$25.00 plus shipping and handling of \$15.00. Please order from:

**Sr. Kathleen Aucoin, SC
Seton Arts Studio
6703 Riverdale Avenue
Bronx, NY 10471
Phone: 917-697-6370**

**Email: setonarts@gmail.com
www.Kathleenaucoin.com**



EDITOR'S NOTE

It is with regret that I write to let you know that I am moving on from my position as Co-Editor of the SVH Alumnae Association Newsletter. Since taking over for the eminently qualified Joan Caruana, it has been my privilege to work with my classmates and life-long SVH sisters, Bernadette Fleming Hemmer and Maureen Garrett McElhinney to bring you some news and put together a few memories a few times a year. But new professional challenges are competing with the time I have to devote to my editorial responsibilities, so I am passing my baton to the able hands of Bernadette and Maureen, with the promise that I will serve as a Cub Reporter on occasion as needed.

It has been my pleasure to serve you and I wish you all the best!

Susan L. Faggiani '68

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:

Sweatshirts, hats, and other memorabilia are still available at the SVH Shop. Please visit the site for review of Class Notes, Photo Gallery, SVH Shop, and more.

stvincentschoolofnursingalums.org

TRANSCRIPTS:

Save for future reference!

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

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

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Change of Address, Correspondence and Annual Dues of \$35.00

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Warwick, New York 10990
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BOARD OF THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Board of the Alumnae Association is looking for new members who are willing to attend 3 board meetings and 3 general alumnae meetings each year. If you have the time to volunteer to keep our association active, please contact Board President Joanne Billot at auntjen16@verizon.net.

SISTERS OF CHARITY PREPARE TO CELEBRATE 200TH ANNIVERSARY

Parties in 2017! The Sisters of Charity will celebrate their 200th anniversary in 2017 and are busy making plans to commemorate this wonderful occasion. We have a sneak peek at 2 events: A luncheon will be held at LiGrechi's Staaten, Staten Island, NY on April 29, 2017 from 11:30-2PM. Tickets will be \$150.

A 200th Anniversary Gala Cocktail Reception will be held at the Lighthouse Pier 61, Chelsea Piers, NYC on May 18, 2017 from 6-9PM. Tickets will be \$350

SPRING GENERAL ALUMNAE MEETING

At the General Alumnae meeting held in May 2016, Shelly Menolascino MD, a psychiatrist who is in private practice in Greenwich Village, gave a presentation on stress reduction. Dr. Menolascino completed a psychiatric residency at Saint Vincent's Hospital and works with Siobhan Dolan RN as Co-founder and medical supervisor at the Stress Reduction Clinic at Saint Vincent's World Trade Center Healing Services.

Dr. Menolascino is known for her expertise in treating recurrent mood disorders and chronic post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as her more innovative work with TMS (transcranial magnetic stimulation). TMS is a non-invasive brain stimulation technique that has been FDA-approved since 2009 for medication-resistant or intolerant depression. Such treatment breakthroughs have led to TMS coverage by most insurance plans, including Medicare in our region.

The Washington Square Psychiatry and TMS Center was opened over 3 years ago with Dr. Menolascino's husband, Mitchell Belgin, MBA, RDMS, an expert echocardiographic diagnostic ultrasound specialist. Mitchell developed his technical and clinical skills while working with many prominent cardiology practices over the last 25 years. Mitchell obtained specialized training and certification at Harvard and is now the Director of TMS Services at Washington Square TMS Center, where TMS treatment and technology is evolving.

As powerful as TMS is proving to be, the illness of depression is often recurrent, and prevention must be monitored and addressed to help people stay well. TMS does not entirely replace medications for many patients, but often does allow for significantly lower dosages of maintenance medications.

A recent peer-reviewed meta-analysis done by David Dunner MD concluded that approximately 50% of treatment-resistant individuals had a full and durable recovery, lasting over one year, when TMS was added.

Both Shelly and Mitch regularly attend the annual meetings of the Clinical TMS Society and Society

Faith, Hope and Charity



for Neuroscience. They had a public radio show called "The Deciding Mind" for years on WGXC. Together they avidly learn the clinical relevance of the emerging technical approaches of non-invasive brain stimulation and neuromodulation, which includes TMS as well as TDCS and Neurofeedback.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE NURSES HOME?

Do you know about the Nurses House? Founded in 1922, Nurses House is a nurse-managed, non-profit organization dedicated to helping registered nurses in need. At its inception, the Nurses House began to offer nurses a place to rest and recuperate at a Long Island, NY beachfront mansion, donated by Emily Bourne. As times and needs changed, the property was sold and Nurses House became a national service program.

Today, a volunteer board of directors and an executive director runs Nurses House. Its mission is to provide short-term financial assistance to nurses in need as a result of illness, injury, or disability. Though it may be difficult for nurses to ask for help in their hour of need, they who live their lives giving "little unremembered acts of kindness and love" deserve extra special care.

The nurses are still known as guests, and are a very diverse group, ranging in age from their 20s to 80s. While some Nurses House guests face short-term illness or injury, others are permanently disabled. Many nurses need funds to help pay for such basics as food, a car payment, or health insurance. Some face imminent eviction.

Nurses House has helped thousands of nurses in all 50 states to regain health and productivity. Over the past three years, they've helped nearly 300 nurses, with grants totaling over \$350,000. Thought this is an admirable record, Nurses House can't keep pace with the ever-increasing demand.

Nurses House is always seeking donations from the nursing community in order to meet the needs of their guests. For more information, visit <http://www.nurseshouse.org>.

SCHOOL OF NURSING DOORS REFURBISHED

Renovations at the property formerly owned and operated by St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center, including the School of Nursing, are reaching completion. The doors of the School of Nursing were refurbished and glisten in the sunlight. How many times did you swing through those beautiful doors?



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CLASS NOTES

Class of 1954

Eileen Forsyth '54 is looking for classmates Mary Jean O'Brien, Marilyn Monahan and Mary Boger. Eileen can be reached at 5519 Navaho Drive, Perdido Bay, Pensacola, Florida 32507.

Class of 1966

The Class of 1966 will be celebrating their 50th reunion at the annual alumnae luncheon on November 12, 2016. If you still need information about the reunion and events that are planned, please contact Joan Clerkin Anderson at ibbkcm@aol.com

Class of 1968

Hey Ladies! We only have 2 years to plan for our 50th reunion. Please contact the SVH Newsletter editors at SVHalum@gmail.com to volunteer to help with planning.

Class of 1969

We are thrilled to extend our very best wishes to Rosemary DePaola, who married Al Dvorsak on May 21, 2016 in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. Ro and Al met on a 18-day trans-Atlantic cruise in October 2015. Ro was kind enough to send along some photos of the happy occasion!



Classmates (from left to right) Mary Ann Gallagher Baumann, Barbara Harvey McGowan, (center) Ro DePaolo Dvorsak, Judy Dunlop, and Mary Farrell O'Shea attended the wedding to share in Ro's happiness.

Class of 1972

Edythe Garvey is looking ahead to arrange a 45th reunion for her class at the 2017 luncheon. Her classmates should contact her at: egarvey@srclinics.org or edyegarvey@gmail.com

Class of 1997

Reprinted from *The Island Now.Com* By Stephen Romano



Donna Bruno said her love for art inspired her to go into plastic surgery and cosmetics, and after working as a nurse practitioner for 20 years, she has decided she's ready to branch out and open her own business.

Bruno recently opened db Rejuvenation, a facial and cosmetic treatment facility that specializes in fillers and injectables, specifically Botox. "It was a big move, and I had to do it at the perfect time," Bruno said. "When I felt I could go out and make a difference, I was ready to fly. I felt secure about my decision, too."

Bruno, a Port Washington resident, received her nursing degree from Saint Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing in New York, and later received her Master of Science in Nursing at the College of Mount Saint Vincent.

Bruno said that her father, an artist who retouched photographs, inspired her to work in cosmetics and showed her that every single detail matters. "I want everyone to feel beautiful when they leave my office," Bruno said. "As we age, we feel strong inside. And then we look in the mirror, and we don't look as strong as we're feeling. So my job is to replace what we have lost and make people feel and look strong again."

Bruno works mainly with Botox and fillers, she said, softening lines on people's faces and strengthening places that have lost volume using Allergan products. "I don't think a 50-year-old person should try to look like a 20-year-old," she said. "I think a 50-year-old should try to look like an amazing 50-year-old. I want my patients to embrace who they are and be happy with it."

Db Rejuvenation is located at 1 Expressway Plaza, Suite 100 in Roslyn Heights.

Faith, Hope and Charity



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD

Jolanthe Cordes '36
Emmy Dahlhaus Gebhardt '40
Eileen Sullivan Cooney '42
Catherine Maney Cooney '42
Mary Dolan Murphy '44, sister of Virginia Dolan Clabby '46, mother of Virginia
Murphy Vasil '71
Mary Murphy Collivet '45
Mary Louise Polatar Gardner '46
Sally Heenan Reynolds '47
Catherine Tessitore Mulholland '47
Mary E. Hinchey Quirk '48
Margaret O'Donnell O'Neil '49
Patricia Healy Gibney '51
Marie P. Quin O'Grady '52
Mildred Theresa McGriskin Washington '53
Catherine Sullivan Knebel '55
Elizabeth Kozmar Koepsel '56
Roberta Herzog Sedam '56
Patricia Wurm Dougherty '58
Eileen Langan Sequist '58
Shirley Teboe Waters '58
Mary Elizabeth Dwiney-Brogan '59
Mary Ann Wolff Clark '66
Sheila Conboy Livelli '67
Bronwyn Gray Blue '75
Donna Odom Finnerty '82

Robert Forsyth, husband of Eileen Nummey Forsyth '54
Frank Hackett, husband of Eileen Costello Hackett '56
Thomas J. McElhinney, husband of Maureen Garrett McElhinney '68
Susan Zukovsky, mother of Francis Zukovsky '73
John F. Caffrey, father of Patricia Caffrey '79

SISTER ANNE MARY REGAN SC, OLDEST ALUMNA, DIES AT 104 NOVEMBER 3, 1911 - MAY 25, 2016



Sr. Anne Mary Regan, the oldest member of the Sisters of Charity and our oldest alumna, died on May 25, 2016 at the age of 104. A member of the Class of 1932, Sr. Anne Mary entered the Sisters of Charity in 1936 and served in many capacities at St. Vincent's Hospital over the years, including Pediatric Supervisor, Assistant Director of the School of Nursing, and Associate Director of Nursing Services. She also worked at St. Vincent's in Harrison as an Assistant Administrator, Director of Purchasing and Community Relations.

Described as quiet and demure, she was a kind and compassionate nurse. Her warm smile and genuine concern were gifts to all fortunate to know her. She was also known as a great dancer and even did the Charleston on her 100th birthday!

God Bless, Sister Anne Mary, for all you did for us over the years and rest in peace.

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