



Nurses Alumni Association of the WGH/HSC



2023 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 2023 edition of our newsletter. After 4 years without them, it is great to have reports on our fabulous Homecoming events in May. I must admit I was teary eyed when I led my class of 1972 behind the piper when we belatedly celebrated our Jubilee anniversary since graduation. I consider myself so fortunate to have ongoing contact with classmates I first met over 50 years ago. I don't think that would happen if we were not members of a vibrant Alumni Association that provides yearly opportunities for us to get together. I hope this newsletter informs you about our association and reinforces your relationships with one another. I appreciate any and all feedback. Thank you to archivist Emma Prescott, committee members Cathy Rippen-Sisler, Esther McKenty and Carol Galbraith, and others who contributed to this newsletter.

Submitted by Cheryl Chesney, Newsletter Convener

How to Contact the Association and the Executive

You can contact us by writing, calling, or emailing. **Please** advise us of address/email changes!

Write to: The Nurses' Alumni Association of the WGH/HSC

NA 138 – 700 McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3E 0T2

Phone: 1-204-787-1170 & leave a message

Email: wghhsc.nursingalumni@gmail.com (Note the period between wghhsc & nursing)

Web Address: <http://wghhscnursingalumni.com>. **NOTE:** future Executive meeting dates are posted on this site.

HOMECOMING 2024

We are celebrating all our Alumni Members and recognizing the 50th year Anniversary for the class of 1974 in 2024.

Please come to hear about Alumni initiatives, activities, and events while renewing friendships and “catching up” with classmates.

Alumni Members are encouraged to bring guests with them to the Luncheon and Dinner! This has been successful in the past years. The cost for all guests will be the same as for the Alumni Members.

All 2024 Homecoming events take place at CanadInns Destination Centre Polo Park, 1405 St. Matthews Ave., Winnipeg, MB. Phone #204-775-8791.

Thursday May 30th, 2024

10:30 am **Annual General Meeting.** No cost
12:00 Noon **Luncheon** Cost: **\$50/person**
13:15-2:00 pm **Jubilee Memorial Lecture.** No cost

Speaker: To be announced

Friday, May 31st, 2024

5:00-6:00 pm **Cocktails**
6:30 pm **Dinner** Cost: **\$75/person**

**Please be seated by 6:10 pm. The 50th anniversary 1974 class will be piped in @6:15 pm.*

Details for Luncheon and Dinner ticket purchases will be shared on the Alumni Website. Tickets may be purchased in advance after March 1, 2024. Both electronic and paper ticket purchase systems will be available. Please refer to the website, <http://wghhscnursingalumni.com> for specific information.

When purchasing tickets, you will be asked to provide information about dietary restrictions for you or your guest as well as specific seating requirements. Advance notice of a special meal is required to be sure the hotel can accommodate the request.

The Alumni recognizes that members can become ill and unable to attend the events but please be aware that there are no refunds for lunch or dinner if you do not attend the events.

If you have **any tidbits of information or class pictures** you'd like to share about the good old days, please send them to Kathy Hamelin, Alumni Secretary by e-mail at hamelin@mymts.net.

Future Homecoming dates:

The dates for 2024 and future Luncheons and Annual Homecoming dinners are:

May 30, 31, 2024
May 29, 30, 2025
May 28, 29, 2026

Alumni Support

If you know of a classmate who is shut in, ill, or could benefit from a special contact; please contact our Friendship Convener Marion Ulyatt (1968) nulyatt@shaw.ca or notify any member of the Alumni Executive.

Moving? Change of address?

Please forward your new address, phone number, and/or email to the Alumni address, NA 138 – 700 McDermot Ave. Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0T2. Include your name at graduation and your graduation year. Help us keep in touch!

Alumni Executive 2023-2024

Honorary Presidents:

Esther McKenty, 1961A
Carol Galbraith, 1967



Esther McKenty

Past President:

Bev Laurila, 1977



Bev Laurila

President:

Gillian Toth, 1983



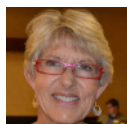
Kathy Doerksen

Vice President:

Kathy Doerksen, 1982

Secretary:

Kathy Hamelin, 1971



Kathy Hamelin

Treasurer:

Fraser Barnett, 1985



Fraser Barnett

Archivist:

Pat Girardin, 1975



Pat Girardin

Archivist Emeritus:

Anne Crossin, 1957



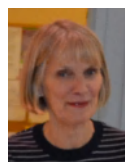
Gail Hazlitt

Membership Convener:

Gail Hazlitt, 1973

Friendship Convener:

Marian Ulyatt, 1968



Marian Ulyatt

Newsletter Convener:

Cheryl Chesney, 1972



Cheryl Chesney

Education Convener:

Marilyn Muir, 1991



Marilyn Muir

Chapter Correspondent:

Margaret Ogonowski, 1969



Marg. Ogonowski

Jubilee Memorial Fund Treasurer:

Terry Parkinson, 1970



Terry Parkinson

Jubilee Memorial Lecture:

Bev Laurila, 1977

Homecoming Convener:

Vacant

Endowment Fund Convener:

Shellie Anderson, 1984



Shellie Anderson

Nominating Committee:

Bev Laurila, 1977

Margaret Steele, 1961B;



Margaret Steele

Web Site Co-Chairs:

Karen Rodgers, 1990

Kathy Hamelin, 1971



Karen Rodgers

Chapter Representatives:

Valerie MacLean, 1979 - Okanagan Chapter
Danielle Swerhone, 1979 - Calgary Chapter
Darlene Smith, 1968 - Edmonton Chapter

**Greetings from Gillian Toth, 1983
Alumni President**



After COVID caused a three year hiatus from Homecoming celebrations, the Alumni Executive weren't sure what to expect coming back. Had it been too long away? Would people come back? Were the two days of events too much? It turned out our concerns were needless. We had over 100 attendees for a very interactive AGM and 250 people for lunch, most of whom stayed on for an inspirational lecture from our own Lanette Siragusa, CEO, Shared Health Manitoba. As I looked out over a sea of nearly 600 guests at the Homecoming dinner and the venue filled with the noise of laughter and friendship, I felt very proud to be part of our association and appreciative of the honour to serve in the President role for the next two years.

The WGH/HSC nurses training program is celebrating 120 years in 2024. While we've had no new graduates for some time, the Alumni Association remains strong and active. We continue to focus on our goals of friendship and support, maintaining documentation of our history at the Archives at HSC, and providing bursaries for nurses' education. This past year, during a time when nursing retention is critical, we extended our bursary opportunities to all HSC nurses. We are actively working to update our Memorandum of Understanding with the HSC to ensure agreements related to the Archives are current and relevant. And of course we continue to focus on being together and celebrating at Homecoming events.

The Executive of the Alumni Association is a dedicated group who give generously of their time and talents. It is an excellent way to keep connected with current issues in nursing and maintain friendships. Please consider joining us. There are volunteer opportunities available and we'd love to welcome you to the committee.

I am looking forward to the year ahead and continuing the good work of the many who have served in this role before me.

Sincerely, Gillian Toth class of 1983

***The Alumni Association Gratefully Acknowledges
All Donations made in 2023***

Kathleen Harrison (in memory of Elizabeth Crawford)
Esther McKenty (in memory of Dayle Beaulieu, 1961A)
Marlene Herman & class of 1958 B, 65th reunion
Cheryl Jackson From, 1979
Edith A.T. Brooks Foundation
Joyce Doherty through Charitable Impact
Deborah J. Cliffe Ricki Stayer
Corolyn Brockman Linda Faye Chapman
Patricia Guyda Margaret Steele
E. Finlay Patricia and Eugene Kalenchuk

Thank you

***Archives / Museum Endowment Fund
Convener's Report***

The following amounts are for the year end – March 2023 as submitted by the HSC Foundation Financial Lead on June 30th.

A summary of the fund's recent transactions:

• **Fund Balance** March 31, 2023 - **\$509,441**

• **Funds for disbursement** to date - **\$59,891**

based on a 4.5% rate of investment return.

(The 2022 disbursement amount reported in the previous newsletter is corrected to \$50,450.)

This is an accumulation of all monies available that have not been distributed since the inception of the fund in 2009. The fund distributes monies to the Archive/Museum for projects and assists in operational costs as needed.

The renovations of the Art Storage Room, located at HSC (MS291D) to preserve the collection of art located at HSC is presently in process. The estimated cost approved by the Alumni Executive is \$7,200.

The project to renovate the Display Case at HSC (MS2) has been tentatively put on hold as this location may be impacted by plans to build a new Medicine Tower.

Lastly, but most important, ***thank you*** to all the Alumni for their ongoing support and donations to the fund. **Between March 2022 & 2023 there were donations totalling \$1,520.** I would also like to acknowledge the **Class of 1970 who donated \$500** (May 2023) to the Archives Endowment Fund in appreciation of the medallions Jackie and Rick MacKenzie made for their 50+3 year anniversary.

*Submitted by: Shellie Anderson,
Archives/Museum Fund Convener*

Alumni Association News 2023

• Total funding amounts per individual applicant have increased for both education funds (*see p. 10*):

Viola Leadlay - up to **\$2,000.00** per calendar year

Jane A. Malcolm:

Certificate Course/Program (e.g. ICU Course, refresher program) - **\$4,000.00**

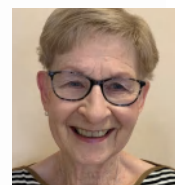
Baccalaureate Degree - **\$20,000.00**

Master's Degree - **\$30,000.00**

Doctoral Degree - **\$35,000.00**

Eligible applicants are **graduates** of the WGH/HSC School of Nursing (including the University of Manitoba/Health Science Centre Collaborative Program between the years of 1993-1997) and **any nurse employed at the Health Sciences Centre.**

• **Carol Galbraith (1967)** celebrated her 55th Nursing Reunion with her class mates at Homecoming 2023 where she was made an **Honourary President of the Alumni Association for 2023-2025.**



Carol is most deserving of this honour for her long-term participation, support and commitment to the Alumni Association. Carol has always been a faithful attendee at Executive meetings, continuously helping on special projects. In the Chapter Convener role, she instituted monthly contact with the chapters ensuring they could rely on her for support and advice. This engagement has continued and ensures that all Chapters feel like an integral part of the Alumni Association. Congratulations Carol on this well deserved honour!

• **Remembering Ann Thomas Callahan, 1958
Trailblazing Aboriginal Nurse**

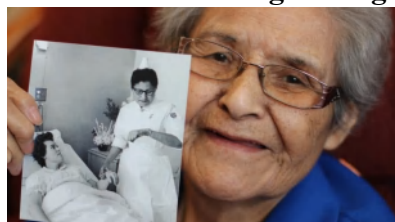


Photo credit:
Tyson Koschik/CBC

Ann passed away January 16, 2023 at the age of 87. She was one of the first Aboriginal nurses in Manitoba and a residential school survivor from Peepekisis Cree Nation in Saskatchewan. After graduating from WGH in 1958, she worked there in gynaecology where she became a head nurse. Subsequently she joined a new organization, Continuing Care for People in Need to support the health needs of those in Winnipeg's core area. Ann taught nursing at Red River College 1983-1996. She was also involved in the creation of the Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association. In honour of her accomplishments, a wing in the Critical Services Building at HSC was named after her in 2007.

**Reports from Classes Celebrating their
50th Anniversaries
at May 2023 Homecoming**

Class of 1970



Our long awaited, COVID delayed, golden reunion began with the Annual Alumni meeting followed by a delicious lunch and a memorable Jubilee Lecture by Alumnus Lanette Siragusa - a wonderful way to begin our journey. Thursday evening, classmates **Drinda Clarke** and **Susan Manson** hosted a wine, cheese and fancy sandwiches gathering at their condo. The decorations were fantastic. The display of uniforms, pins and other items was very much appreciated. There were 50 of us (some hadn't been back since graduation). What a time we had! Lots of hugs, memories shared and many "do you remember when?" smiles and giggles. We were grateful for name tags because, although most hadn't changed at all, it had been 53 years!! It was the perfect venue and all the hard work to plan, organize and set up was truly amazing. Friday started with a tour of the Leaf Botanical Garden. We loved the butterfly area the most.

Friday evening, 52 of us marched in behind the piper, proudly wearing our medallions courtesy of Jackie and Rick MacKenzie. We'd made it!! Such an amazing feeling - most had to wipe away tears. Our tables were each adorned with 14 red roses and 14 yearbook pictures, one for each classmate lost.

We are incredibly fortunate to have had our WGH nursing experience and though it's 2 years away, we're eagerly waiting for our 55th in 2025 to do it all over again.

Submitted by Jane Turner MacKeen

Class of 1971



After too long apart, forty-two classmates from the Class of 1971 reunited to belatedly celebrate our 50th (plus 2 years) nursing reunion!! Classmates from Winnipeg and Manitoba welcomed our friends to this momentous event... from Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, BC, Florida, California

and Kentucky. Special mention to **Eugene** (who braved all his female colleagues again!) and to **Noreen** (who brought her courageous husband!).

Our celebration began with an amazing gathering at the Viscount Gort on Thursday evening – where we all reconnected with long-lost classmates and remembered those who have passed! Although we look the same, those name tags were a godsend! What a wonderful informal gathering to remember good times, share pictures and stories for hours ... reminiscent of our residence life!

The Homecoming Dinner was the highlight for us all, as we were proudly piped in as one of the 50-year celebrant classes! We followed **Cindy** (who proudly wore our traditional "bibs and aprons") to commemorate our history as the last class to wear this student uniform! We left promising to return in 3 years for our 55th reunion!

Submitted by Kathy Hamelin

Class of 1972



We celebrated our long awaited 50th reunion with 63 in attendance which is >60% of our graduating class of 148. Classmates travelled from many states and provinces, some coming to a reunion for the first time in a long time. We started with a Wine & Cheese party Thursday night where classmate **Carol** provided each of us with a Mary Kay gift bag. We reminisced about residence days and renewed old friendships and made new ones. Being from such a large class, most don't know every classmate but when we were together, there was that common bond from our 2 1/2 years together.

Thank you to **Yvonne & Karen** for their work on our much needed name tags as well as our sparkly "50" tiaras and "50 & Fabulous" sashes which we proudly wore as we were piped into the Homecoming dinner. It was a special night! We gathered together again Saturday at Analyn's lovely home for a great luncheon. **Analyn** wanted to repeat what her mom had done for her WGH classmates for their 50th reunion and she outdid herself. As **Marsha** said in her email message to all of us: "our memories of our nursing days will live on forever - those were the best of times"!

Submitted by Cheryl Chesney

Class of 1972B



After a 1 year delay the Class of 1972B was able to celebrate a significant milestone in our lives – the 50 + 1 year reunion of our graduation from the Winnipeg General Hospital School of Nursing.

Our celebrations included the Alumni lunch, an amazing class dinner and the truly wonderful Alumni dinner. **Dean Care** and **Myrna Driedger** proudly carried our class banner during our piping in.

Thanks to our classmate **Linda Pastetnik** for her hard work arranging such delightful Alumni events. It may sound surprising but many of us agreed the delay that resulted from COVID made this event even more special - 5 classes in one room, with so many in attendance because of the 50 years, that overlapped during our time at the General. More inter-class visiting resulted - that doesn't always happen in a "normal" year.

Classmates from Canada and the US spent a special evening for our traditional class dinner on Thursday evening. Fort Gibraltar provided the most perfect venue to renew old friendships, share many stories and updates and touch base with some classmates who have not been at a reunion in a long time. We also remembered our 10 classmates we have lost since graduation. We all agreed time has flown by but the time we spent at WGH provided us bonds that are strong and have lasted a lifetime.

Submitted by Linda Newton

Class of 1973



This year marked the 50th year reunion for our class of 1973. How lucky we were to not have to deal with a pandemic to postpone our plans. Thursday, the 25th, saw 42 classmates attend the annual meeting and luncheon. Once again it was like no time had passed since our last reunion, and the "catching up" began! On Thursday evening, we held a cocktail/appetizer party with 66 in attendance. This was a perfect evening, and always the favourite, to focus on reconnecting, getting caught up on everyone's life, and seeing those not at the luncheon. Time

passed far too quickly, with good food and conversation in abundance. Friday, the day we had waited for, saw 72 classmates piped into the banquet hall with 9 classmates carrying white roses to remember those we have lost over the years. A brunch on Saturday morning finished off our celebration for those who could make it. A wonderful 50th reunion for us all, and we are now looking forward to our 55th! A big thank you to **Glenda DeGrave** for stepping in to manage all the functions. *Submitted by Jan Westmacott*

P.S. I must apologize to the **Class of '74** for saying in the last newsletter we were the last class to graduate from WGH. The class of 1974 has that honour! *J.W.*

Classes Celebrating Other Special Anniversaries at May 2023 Homecoming

Class of '53A - 70 years



"70 years of great memories."
Dorothy Thorne, Marnie Karlberg, and Bernice Gregory are the names of these ladies.

Class of '58A - 65 years



Five of us were able to attend the luncheon or the reunion banquet. The occasions gave us the opportunity to reminisce together and to reach out to our remaining classmates to share past and

present stories. It was a happy occasion and we were thankful to the Alumni for implementing activities. Till next time....

Class of 60 B - 60+3 years



We missed our 60th Reunion so we were glad to get together as soon as possible. At our Wednesday Kitchenette night there were 11 of us, 3 from out of town! Most of us went to

the dinner as well. We all appreciate the Alumni Executive for bringing the alumni through the pandemic! A good time was had by all!

Class of 68 - 55 years



Twenty-three gathered from the Class of '68 to renew old friendships and celebrate our 55th Reunion at the Alumni



It was with enthusiasm and warm hugs of welcome that the members of 61A greeted each other to celebrate not only 62 years since graduation but also 60 and 61 years thanks to cancellations due to COVID.

Our reunion began with a kitchenette night on Wednesday with 17 of us (12 classmates and 5 husbands) chatting and laughing as we reminisced over photo albums and yearbooks. The friendships begun long ago seem to deepen with the passing of years.

We were happy to have 5 out-of-towners attend. Regretfully, health issues prevented several from attending. Many enjoyed the lunch and dinner.

Kudos to the executive for organizing an outstanding, well attended and much enjoyed reunion.

Class of 61B - 60+2 years



Our class of 72 extraordinary nurses has shrunk to 50; 12 have "passed" since our last gathering in 2016. Of the 20 who were able to attend, 11 travelled "from away". We kept it simple having experienced "reunion fatigue" in past years.

We attended the Homecoming luncheon & dinner and then had a relaxed, comfortable lunch together on Saturday where we "zoomed" with 11 more classmates who could not attend. We plan to have another zoom meeting in the fall.

Our thanks to the Alumni for continuing to enable these wonderful reunions.

Class of 63 - 60 years



Forty eight excited classmates gathered together to share memories and have fun. We were so thankful for the gift of just being together.

Several of us were able to attend the Alumni lecture

and AGM where our classmates, **Evelyn Labun & Sonia Lundstrom** spoke about a bursary fund in memory of **Mabel Pokiak Lumsden**. (see p.8 for more details)

On Wednesday evening we held our "kitchenette" night and enjoyed pizza and salads. Our special guest was **Sheila Lumsden**, the daughter of Mabel Pokiak Lumsden, who came all the way from Iqaluit, Nunavut.

Friday we had a wonderful wine and cheese party followed by the Homecoming dinner where we were thrilled to be piped into the dinner. We had made a special request to our Alumni Association to enable this to occur, as we had not been piped in for our 50th reunion.

Saturday morning we held a remembering and farewell brunch, where we shared our thoughts and memories of much loved classmates who have passed away.

Over the past three years we have experienced daily reports reflecting the status of the pandemic and the seemingly unending circumstances and often tragic contingencies it has wrought.

Concurrent has been reporting of the various responses within the healthcare system and resultant stressors on individuals within that system, not the least of whom are the nurses, a traditionally female-dominated profession which is often overlooked and, in some opinions, undervalued. Through their commitment and dedication throughout this period the critical roles of nurses have become front and centre.

This week, over 600 nurses from across North America, members of the Nurses' Alumni of the Winnipeg General Hospital/ Health Sciences Centre School of Nursing, will attend their annual general meeting and homecoming here in Winnipeg.

They will be updated on the alumni's ongoing business, philanthropic efforts, support to nursing education, and the preservation of nursing and medical history through the world renowned archives housed at the HSC. Equally important, they will also celebrate the 130 year history of the WGH/HSC School of Nursing as it was, and the collegiality and enduring friendships formed during their training.

Whether their careers were in providing primary, emergency, or intensive care, as clinicians, public health nurses, educators, researchers, nurse practitioners, or administrators, whether they have achieved academic success beyond their Registered Nurse diplomas, or success in unrelated fields, one is always struck by the pride and humility they demonstrate in response to the question "What do you do". Invariably the response is simply "I'm a nurse".

Dedication, pride and humility indeed! *Ian A. Hamelin*

This editorial, written by the husband of Alumni Executive secretary, Kathy Hamelin, was published in the Winnipeg Free Press May 24, 2023.

Alumni Chapter Correspondent Report

It is a privilege and a pleasure to keep in touch with the Alumni Chapter leads, **Danielle Swerhone, Calgary, Darlene Smith, Edmonton and Valerie McLean, Okanagan**. They are to be congratulated for dedicating their time and energy. You are welcome to contact them for current information and activities in your areas via the Alumni email, wghhsc.nursingalumni@gmail.com or by contacting myself at margio@shaw.ca. Danielle, Darlene and Valerie have shared with fellow alumni, the copious information that I have received from the Alumni Executive. The Annual Newsletter* is greatly appreciated as well as Executive Meeting information. The 2023 Homecoming was a great success and showed what a great history we have ... let's keep that enthusiasm going.

Many challenges face the Alumni Chapter leaders from far and away...aging members, losing members, connecting with fellow alumni in their areas, maintaining enthusiasm to gather for social and educational events. Travel and cost are definite factors, yet the interest remains and keeps fellow alumni connected. Past members who lead the way are missed and highly respected. Volunteers are always welcome to join these generous leaders to assist in activities. As Danielle has stated – “Many hands help lighten the workload”.

Submitted by Margaret Ogonowski

* Annual Newsletters are available on the WGH HSC Alumni Website, <http://wghhscnursingalumni.com>

In Memorium 2023

Deaths reported Nov. 7, 2022 to Nov. 19, 2023

The Nurses' Alumni Association extends its condolences to the family and friends of the following Alumni

- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|-------|--|
| 1945 | Murray, Mona Blanche | 1953A | Campbell, Eileen |
| 1946 | Giklkinson, Bess (King) | 1954 | Lomow, Sylvia (Fox) |
| 1946 | Perry, Ruth (Alderwood) | 1954 | Datzkiw, Myrtle (McMillan) |
| 1947 | Campbell, Laura (Rutherford) | 1955 | Sloan, Eleanor (Allison) |
| 1947 | Cornwell, Betty (Blyth) | 1957 | Lawryniuk, Helen (MacDonald) |
| 1947 | Olmstead, Nora (Moffatt) | 1957 | Wagner, Marlyn (Starr) |
| 1949 | Govan, Patricia (Fraser) | 1958B | Coward, Gail (Cruse) |
| 1949 | Willms, Frances (Klassen) | 1958B | Brown, Jill (Hatch) |
| 1950 | Beggs, Evelyn (Southgate) | 1958B | Callahan, Ann (Thomas) |
| 1951 | Campbell, Marion (Cooper) | 1960A | Doherty, Joyce (Harvey) |
| 1951 | McCoy, Shirley (Hurst) | 1961A | Beaulieu, Dayle (Hay) |
| 1951 | Brantly, Betty (Wilson) | 1962 | McCleod, Judith (Chatterley) |
| 1951 | Shields, Jean Marie (Baldner) | 1962B | Stitt, Elaine (Cleland) |
| 1951 | Codrington, Melita (Taylor) | 1963 | Holowachuk, Dorothy (Buys) |
| 1952A | MacPherson, Pearl (Williams) | 1963 | Hermansen, Sandra (Harper) |
| 1952 | Bowley, Mary Ellen (Harden) | 1963 | Moroney, Carole (Johnson) |
| 1952 | Evenden, Damonda (Godfrey) | 1965 | Symonds, Margaret Allison (nee Killen) |
| 1953A | Quest, Donna MaCaw | 1968 | Hando, Marilyn (Mableson) |
| 1953 | Johnston, Peggy (Moore) | 1969 | Duncan, Mary Ellen (Wylie) |
| 1953 | Standing, Brenda (Gauer) | 1970 | Webb, Yvonne (Lytle) |
| 1953 | Campbell, Joyce (Fleming) | 1970 | Charleson, Sharon (Jackson) |
| | | 1970 | Schmidt, Barbara (Rothwell) |
| | | 1971 | Miller, Eldene |
| | | 1971 | Hewlko, Sandra (Rowat) |
| | | 1971 | Sandalack, Linda (Armstrong) |
| | | 1972 | Willingham, Ellen (Cail) |
| | | 1972 | Ryman, Heather (McIntyre) |
| | | 1972 | Michaluk, Shirley (Johnson) |
| | | 1972 | Gray, Nancy Helen |
| | | 1973 | Murowski, Theresa |
| | | 1974 | Goritz, Marlene |
| | | 1975 | Anderson, Laurie Lou (Yurkiw) |

Margaret Mackling, class of 1946

Margaret Mackling, (nee Perfect) spent her entire 43-year career with the Victorian Order of Nursing in Manitoba. She held many positions with the VON culminating in the role of Executive Director (1961-89) concurrently held with the role of Provincial Executive Director (1970-89). At the same time, she gained a Diploma in Public Health Nursing from the University of Manitoba as well as a BSc Nursing and MA in Public Health from the University of Minnesota. In addition to her various roles with the VON she also was an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Nursing at University of Manitoba.



Submitted by Emma Prescott, Alumni Archivist

Alumni Class Rep. Meeting on November 4, 2023

Another great Class Rep meeting was held on November 14th with 35 class reps. in attendance!

Alumni President, **Gillian Toth**, '77 welcomed everyone and outlined the purpose of the meeting. This included sharing Alumni information, receiving feedback related to Alumni activities, and discussing plans for Homecoming 2024. Gillian commented that our great Alumni team was able to stay connected through the pandemic with technology and plan for the wonderful Homecoming we had this year! Priorities for the coming year include recruitment of Class Reps and Executive Members, including a Homecoming Convenor. **Linda Pastetnik**, '72B has retired after 26 years in this role. The new Convenor will be supported and work with our Executive Team!

Planning for Homecoming 2024 is ongoing; available information has been distributed to all. After Gillian's welcome and information sharing, all our Class Reps shared their Homecoming 2023 experiences and their plans for Homecoming 2024. The stories told were heartfelt and indicative of the strong and lasting bond that classmates develop during training... and re-establish during Class Reunions! Everyone is looking forward to another reunion with treasured classmates in 2024.

Submitted by Kathy Hamelin

Did you know we have Alumni from **69 different graduation classes** as far back as 1948! Several years had 2 graduating classes. We have active class representatives for 53 of those classes. These reps. play a vital role in updating contact information on their classmates, communicating Alumni news, organizing reunions and other class get togethers, etc.

Mabel Pokiak Lumsden Forever Remembered Fund

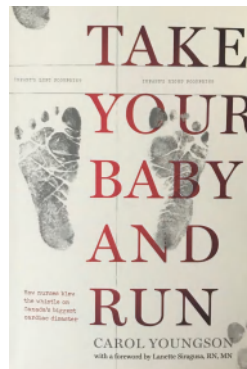
The class of 1963 has established this fund through the Winnipeg Foundation to honour Mabel for her sacrifices and contributions to her classmates, as well as to the nursing needs in the far north. Mabel left her home in Tuktoyaktuk, NWT, in 1960 to pursue her dream of providing nursing care with a special interest in Pediatrics and Obstetrics. She then went on to work in far northern communities.



Her class are inviting members of our Alumni and others to join them in developing this fund to assist Inuit and Inuvialuit students to gain a bachelors degree in nursing and to serve in far northern regions.

For further information, contact Dr. Evelyn Labun, 1963, at 204-478-5350, elabun@mymts.net. To make a donation via the Winnipeg Foundation, 1350 One Lombard Pl., Winnipeg, MB R3B 0X3; phone 204-944-9474, 1-877-974-3631; website wpgfdn.org.

Congratulations to Carol Youngson, Class of 1969



Congratulations to **Carol** on her recently released book *Take Your Baby and Run*. This is a moving first-hand account of the unfolding tragedy of 12 babies who died undergoing cardiac surgery in 1994 at Health Sciences Centre and the subsequent 5 year inquiry into those deaths.

Did you know our Alumni data base has a total of **7,256 members** and 2,178 of these are Life Members which means they have paid for a life membership and/or have graduated 50 or more years ago.



Student Uniforms at WGH HSC over the Years

*an example of our archive displays
done by our archivist & volunteers
at HSC, 2nd floor 820 Sherbrook*

Highlights from Lanette Siragusa's Homecoming Lecture, COVID: Looking Back & Moving Forward

Lanette discussed how becoming a nurse changed her whole life, giving her a profound purpose and great passion. She compared COVID with the Spanish Flu pandemic noting our advantages of better science, faster communication and a miraculous, expedited vaccine. In her lead role with provincial Incident Command, she said she felt like she was thrown into a living learning lab where many lessons were learned:



1. The ability of teams to progress innovation without bureaucratic barriers.
2. The importance of meaningful engagement with community partners
3. The focus on the community to help prevent the spread of the virus and promote health.
4. The power of working in true collaboration together as one integrated provincial network.

Lanette credited the important lessons she learned in nursing school as still relevant to her today. These include the Nursing Process, Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and Kubler Ross' Stages of Grief. She noted that Florence Nightingale was the pioneer of public health, an epidemiologist, an infection control practitioner, lobbyist, writer, educator and the first nursing hero.

Submitted by Bev Laurila

Susie Starkey Kelsey, Class of 1923 Missionary Nurse.

Did you ever think of doing missionary work when you graduated?

These were the opening words in an article about Missionary Work for Nurses in the first Blue and White Yearbook of the Winnipeg General Hospital (WGH) School of Nursing published in 1923. Whilst WGH always acknowledged it was non-denominational, there was an element of Christianity in the student body at various times and as such, some of the graduates did go on to follow the missionary nurse calling. Susie Kelsey was one of them. Born in England in 1894 to Edwin and Sarah Kelsey (nee Starkey), Susie Starkey Kelsey was one of four children.



She emigrated to Canada with her family at the age of 12, attained a bachelors degree from University of Manitoba and a teaching qualification so that by 1916 she was teaching in Winnipeg. In 1920 she entered the Training School of Nurses at Winnipeg General Hospital. Graduating in 1923, she applied to the Women's Auxiliary of the Church of England in Canada and, after training in Toronto, she was appointed to St. Paul's Hospital, Kweiteh, Honan Province, North China, arriving in the fall of 1924.

Civil war broke out in the region in 1927 and she was evacuated to Kangra, India for twelve months. The following year she returned to Kweiteh. The Japanese had been in control of the region for a number of years but with the outbreak of war in the Pacific in 1941 Susie became an enemy alien and was taken into protective custody and then put under house arrest for a year. In March 1943 she was moved to the Japanese internment camp at Wei Hsien, Shantung with 1,800 other people. The Japanese provided the accommodation and the food but the internees undertook the organization of the camp including cooking, educating the children and adults, entertainment and also a camp hospital. In July 1944 she submitted an article to *The Canadian Nurse* detailing her experience in the camp including how they sourced supplies and drugs, how patients had to bring their own bedding, and how "almost all the nurses had held executive positions in Chinese hospitals and [...] now enjoyed the chance to do humble practical nursing." During the summer months the sanitary conditions were unsatisfactory but luckily the camp did not experience much in the way of serious contagious or malnutrition diseases.

In September 1943 she was repatriated to Canada aboard the MS Gripsholm with other American and Canadian civilians. Immediately after VJ Day she requested permission from both the Anglican Church and the Canadian Government to return to her hospital in Kweiteh. She was permitted to return to China first to the Church Missionary Hospital at Hangchow and then in 1946 she was able to go back to the Kweiteh hospital. She stayed there until 1949, when the Communist invasion forced her back to Canada.

She was appointed Matron and General Supervisor at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in Lytton BC until her untimely death by drowning in September 1953. She was buried in Hatzic cemetery and a plaque in her honour was commissioned for the Anglican Church of All Saints in Mission BC shortly after her death.

Sources: HSC Archives/Museum biographical files, Library and Archives Canada Canadian Census, BC Vital Statistics, Laurel Parson - Archivist, Anglican Church of Canada. Statistics, Laurel Parson - Archivist, Anglican Church of Canada.

Submitted by Emma Prescott, Alumni Archivist

Your Association Needs Your Support

◆Volunteer Time

Volunteers are always welcome to serve on our Executive. Each position is a 2 year term with 4 meetings a year. Help keep our Association and Homecomings alive. Contact us now.

*No Time? Donate money to help the Association.

There are many options for individual, class and family donations to honour alumni members and/or special occasions. As membership fees decline the Association's General Fund and the Jubilee Memorial Fund both need assistance.

◆The **General Fund** uses monies for Association work – the website, meetings, the newsletter, to keep in touch with the chapters and to plan ahead for the Homecoming. You will receive a receipt and our thanks.

◆The **Jubilee Memorial Fund** BN # 890598964RR0001 was established so alumni members and others could honour alumni members and/or celebrate special class events and reunions. It is a registered charitable fund with Canada Revenue. It supports both the annual Jubilee Memorial Lecture at the Homecoming and the HSC Archives/Museum. You will receive a Revenue Canada Charitable receipt.

◆The **Archives/Museum Collection Endowment Fund**, with a balance of over \$400,000.00, is now generating annual grant monies for the Archives/Museum. The Fund still needs to grow if we wish to reach our goal of sustaining the Archives/Museum in perpetuity. You will receive a charitable receipt from the HSCF and our thanks.

For further information on making donations, please refer to the next column.

Are You Eligible for a Continuing Education Bursary?

The Winnipeg General Hospital and Health Sciences Centre Nursing Alumni supports the ongoing education of active Alumni members through two funds – The Jane A. Malcolm Bursary Fund and the Viola Leadlay Continuing Education Fund.

Graduates from WGH/HSC School of Nursing and from WGH/HSC University of Manitoba nursing collaborative program from 1993 to 1997 who are paid annual or life members of the Alumni are eligible for funding assistance. **NEW in 2022: Nurses currently employed at HSC are also eligible.**

The Jane A. Malcolm Bursary Fund can provide funds if you are studying for a degree, diploma or certificate.

The Viola Leadlay Continuing Education Fund can provide funds for workshops, seminars and conferences. Funds are distributed based on the number of applicants and amount of funds available each year.

Deadline dates for application are: September 30 for Jane A. Malcolm Bursary and March 31st & September 30th for Viola Leadlay Continuing Education.

Information and application forms for either fund may be obtained by contacting the Convener, Education Committee, Nurses' Alumni Association of the WGH & HSC: by mail: c/o NA 138-700 McDermot Ave.

Winnipeg Manitoba R3E 0T2

or

For employees, click on "Funding Opportunities" on HSC website: <https://hschome.hsc.mb.ca/resources/nursing-at-hsc/>

Nurses' Alumni Association of the WGH / HSC

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Applicants must be Graduates of the Winnipeg General Hospital or Health Sciences Centre School of Nursing diploma program (including the University of Manitoba/HSC Collaborative Program)

- ◆ Life Membership is assigned upon payment of the \$200.00 Life membership fee or when the 50 year anniversary of your graduation year (jubilee year) has been reached
- ◆ If you currently have Active/Life membership and you wish to donate to Alumni activities, it is essential that you identify the intended Fund.
- ◆ Membership fee amounts and donation options are identified below.

Each require a separate cheque.

Name: _____

Name at graduation _____ Grad. Year _____

Address: _____

My Contact Information may be disseminated to:

- a. Class Reps. b. Classmates
c. WGH/HSC Grads living within my geographic area

or

My contact information may not be disseminated

Please Submit Membership Form & Dues or Donations to:

***The Nurses Alumni Association WGH/HSC,**
c/o NA 138-700 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3E 0T2

Exception: Please mail Archives/Museum Fund Donation to: HSCF, PW112-700 William Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 9Z9

With your paid up membership you will be eligible to apply for Alumni Education bursaries. The Annual Newsletter will be available on the association website: <http://wghhscnursingalumni.com>

Postal authorities recommend the use of cheques or money orders when sending funds.
(Make cheque payable to Nurses' Alumni Assoc. WGH/HSC).

Membership Fees:

\$25.00 Annual Dues \$200.00 Life Membership

DONATION Options: Please send a separate cheque

A. **Jubilee Memorial Fund** (Lecture & Archives)
Amount: \$ _____

Please make *cheque payable to Jubilee Memorial Fund*.
A tax receipt will be issued. Send to ***Alumni Association**.

B. **General Funds:** Amount \$ _____
Please make cheque payable to *Nurses' Alumni Association, WGH/HSC*.

A tax receipt cannot be issued. Send to ***Alumni Association**.

C. **Archives/Museum Endowed Fund:** Amount \$ _____
Please make cheque payable to *HSC Foundation & use memo line to direct the cheque to the:*

Archives/Museum Collection Endowment Fund.
A tax receipt will be issued. Mail to: **HSC Foundation**,
PW112 – 700 William Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3E 9Z