

**California Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association**  
**PO Box 88585**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90009**

## President's Message

Many of you are familiar with the CHMC Foundation through their participation in Homecoming events. What else does the Foundation do? The short answer is that the Foundation raises substantial philanthropic support for the operating and capital needs of California Hospital, generating more than \$10 million a year in donations from individuals, foundations, corporations, and public agencies. These funds help pay for new programs, equipment, and building improvements that cannot be funded through the hospital's budget. The Foundation is currently completing a campaign to raise \$9 million to expand and enhance the Trauma and Emergency Services Center. Among the funds raised was \$1 million from a local foundation to implement operational improvements, including hiring additional nursing staff and adding standard protocols and practices to ensure patients receive the care they need as quickly as possible.

The Foundation also sponsors a scholarship program for hospital employees, supporting many LVNs and CNAs seeking to become RNs, and RNs seeking advanced



nursing degrees. Based on the candidates' academic achievement, financial need, and commitment to CHMC. CHSNAA representatives sit on the Scholarship Review Committee to select the awardees.

Given California Hospital's long and storied history, the Foundation also works to preserve this legacy to ensure that current and future generations can appreciate and learn from those who came before them. To that end, Foundation staff will be working with hospital administration and the CHSNAA to remodel the main hospital library, better showcasing our history. A detailed timeline and displays of artifacts from our Archives Room will be prominently featured to educate both employees and visitors, many of whom are unaware of the hospital's remarkable past.

"We think this is a terrific and long-overdue opportunity for the hospital, the Foundation, and the CHSNAA to collaborate on an exciting, highly visible project that will publicize what we all know so well – that California Hospital and its School of Nursing are integral parts of the historical fabric of this region," said Foundation President Cliff Hoffman. "We hope this will allow us to reconnect with CHSN alums and create a public display befitting our distinguished legacy."

For questions regarding current addresses/Mailings, contact:

Elvy Gustafsson (CHSN Secretary) at (626) 281-4631

311 N. Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA 91801

or email at: [elvy@IBTnet.org](mailto:elvy@IBTnet.org).

Joyce (Scheffel) Jacob

Class of 1960

3204 Canal Point Road

Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

(626) 333-5155

[joyceajacob@aol.com](mailto:joyceajacob@aol.com)



### Tell Us About You....

Your commentary on

life, etc....

“Nine members of the Class of 1960 drove through the rain to attend our annual reunion. We had three nights in Santa Barbara: visiting, walking, shopping, playing cards, eating, eating and eating. Did I mention eating? We especially enjoyed our two wonderful docent tours of the S.B. Museum of Art. The Noble Tombs AT MAWANGDUI (China); it runs until Dec.13<sup>th</sup>. (Our numbers were short due to Noreen Wright Aberle recovering from a hip infection and “Randy” Annette Randolph Subic who was ill. Please keep Randy and Noreen in prayer for healing. Thanks.) We sorely missed them and the others who routinely attend our overnights. Don’t worry Randy, the women kept up your end of the bargain; they kept reminding me of “Molly’s Rules”. So you weren’t forgotten

We are looking forward to our 50<sup>th</sup> re-

union in conjunction with the Alumni Assoc. Luncheon on April 17, 2010. Letters have gone out to classmates and we are looking forward to seeing all that promised to attend. Let’s do it while we are able. We will only have a 50<sup>th</sup> reunion **once. We can’t go back.** Don’t let it pass without you being present. The class members are thrilled to see one another no matter what shape you are in. We even welcome the non-graduating members of our class to attend. Please consider making your reservation **ASAP**. You will be happy that you did.

While I am at it, I want to brag about all the background work that goes into planning and preparing for our Alumni Association Luncheons. Most of us who attend take for granted that we have a luncheon. Other schools of nursing don’t have alumni luncheons. We are most fortunate to have Alumni that meet and handle our business. Kudos needs to be given to the Board and all the extended helpers that they have that make the meeting go off smoothly and for all the work that they do all year. Extra kudos goes to Joyce Jacob, our classmate and President for all her efforts for the Alumni Association. We are blessed to have such an active alumni Board

I am speaking for the Class of 1960. We hope to see all of you in April 2010.”

Lorraine (Malone) Spargo

Class of 1960

288 Longden Drive

Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

For questions regarding the Treasury, contact:

Lucinda "Cindy" Westhafer (Treasurer) at (310) 216-1586  
7050 Kittyhawk Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045

or: lwesthaf@ucla.edu

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(805) 481-1781

docean@sbcglobal.net

*\*Dated 10/19/2009\**

"The Class of 1963 met at the home of Diane O'Bey Wilks in Chino Hills. We had a wonderful time gabbing and catching up. After a delicious dinner, the guys watched football while the gals each shared what was going on in their lives. We also shared letters from many who could not attend. As a group, we all

shared lots of laughter.

In attendance from our class were (in alphabetical order by maiden name) Rea Babcock Crane, Dianne Blakely Windsor, Kathleen Bowling Gronos, Karen Camp McClure, Cathie Kriesel Hilke, Patricia McClung Beeler, Erika Mulley Herting, Diane O'Bey Wilks, Toni Prioleau Nelson, Sandy Weitzel Sanders and Carol Bowser Rogers.

We received notes or greetings from Carol Aardappel Bray, Judy Aiken Garrett, Judy Armstrong Hughie, Charlotte Deveny



agreed we had received a unique, as well as terrific, education at California Hospital. As we remembered the house mother, checking in and out of the dorm, all studying the same thing, study hours, living in the dorm, walking to the hospital with our capes flowing behind us, being charge nurses while we were still students, escapades that drove the administration crazy, being there when the very first ICU was set up, and all of the varied experiences we had which made us all very competent nurses, we

Friebus, Joan Donald Kalan, Karla Kuperus Evans, Sharon Mertes Reindl, Diane Myers Early, Mary Alice Potts Heidt, Leslie Threlkeld Stauffer, and Diane Wallenius Bonarek.

Leslie let us know that her Buddy has been very ill after a ruptured bowel. She is nursing him back to health. Chuck Sanders was with us that day, but has also been ill. A card was signed to be sent to Carolyn Barre Fiu who has been very ill and could not join

For other questions, contact: Claudia Stiver (Director)  
620 N. Colfax St.  
La Habra, CA 90631 (562) 691-1939

us.

We remembered Tammy Carlton Ayers, who died from breast cancer many years ago and Linda Mason Werner, who recently passed away from a heart ailment.

We agreed that today's nursing students in a college or university setting are missing out on the richness of our experience as students living together, studying and playing together 3 years and developing lifelong bonds."

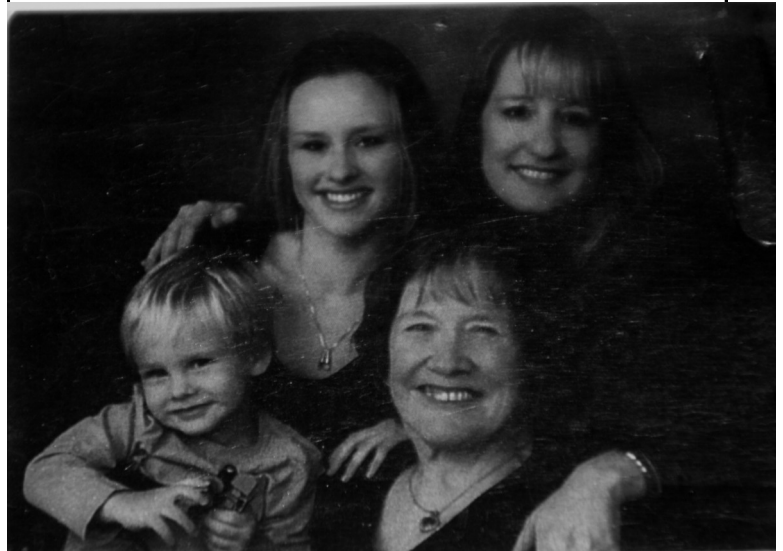
Kathy (Bowling) Gronos  
Class of 1963  
16004 Ardath Avenue  
Gardena, CA 90249  
(310) 327-1280  
groni64@sbcglobal.net  
*\*Submitted 9/20/2009\**

"I want to ask a favor of you; if you can help me I would appreciate it very much. I haven't heard from 2 of my classmates in a while. I wonder if (any of) you have?

Yvonne Stacy, (last known address of) 223 S. Linden Street, Cornelius, Oregon 97113 and Marlene Walters, (last known address of) 267 E. Calle Diamante, Tucson, AZ 85704-6610. I know that she has been in poor health, poor dear!

I am sending you a picture of 4 generations in my family: me (Loreta), my daughter Sharon, my granddaughter Genevieve, and my darling great-grandson Kaden!

Love. God Bless you"



Loreta (Montgomery) Davis  
Class of 1957A  
2132-B 33rd Street  
Los Alamos, NM 87544  
(505) 662-4088  
*\*Dated 7/31/08\**

*\*\*\*Can any of us help Loreta? Unfortunately, our database has the same address that she does on one, and none on the other. Please respond directly to her, or to The Pulse PO Box and we will forward the info on to her— The Editor.\*\*\**

"Hi to everyone! Or should I say, 'Howdy!'. I can't believe that this next year will mark 30 years of nursing. Time sure flies! We moved from California about 18 months ago and I love Texas. We are northeast of Dallas and on 1 acre of land. It's wonderful! I miss our friends but

even all my kids are with us. I have a wonderful husband (Tim) and 3 children (Brandon 25 years, Courtney 23 years, and Amy 21 years). Nursing has been good to me. I want to thank CHSN for the wonderful and thorough education I received. Yes—it was difficult at times, but it certainly prepared me for my nursing career. Currently, I am a Lactation Consultant and Childbirth Educator at a new hospital locally. It is quite small compared to some, but a great place.

I do plan on coming for Homecoming next year, so I am looking forward to seeing everyone.”

Cindee (Phillips) Wilson

Class of 1980

4 Cheshire Court

Heath, Texas 75032

(469) 744-8592

cinntim@gmail.com

\*Dated 8/2009\*

*Sorry, no further submissions received from any of you this time; please write and encourage your classmates and other alums to keep in touch. It can be as simple as announcing an address change, recent/planned trip, a short update on your life now &/or since nursing school, or maybe your feelings about current events or medical-nursing issues. **Looking for inspiration?** Check out the web or one of your nursing journals for science or medical issues.*

*Comment on the state of hospital/clinic/surgical/specialty nursing today versus how we were trained. What do you think about/give your opinions of the new TV shows: Nurse Jackie or HawthoRNe. See the attached form in the newsletter and send it to the PO Box or you can send an electronic note to the editor (please leave a identifying subject note on the email so that I can recognize that a CHSN grad is sending me something). As our fearless leader, Joyce says, “your content makes this newsletter the best it can be.”*

—The Editor

Cruising the web looking for things CHSNAA related? Check out the web *Archive* located at [www.chsnarchive.org](http://www.chsnarchive.org) and with over 1,000 records to date, including portraits, candid shots, personal correspondence, marketing material, and curricula related to the School of Nursing. The design of the *California Hospital School of Nursing Digital Archive* is under the direction of the Studio for Southern California History, a nonprofit dedicated to Southern California’s social history, and the Alumni Association.

Visit the website to see what others have written or said about their CHSN experiences!

## **Business Meeting Reports:**



**Treasurer’s Report** (Lucinda Westhafer, Treasurer): Checking account \$16,094.16. Covington-

Capital Management \$235, 685.31. Presentation of expenses: \$755.00 for French Laundry for cleaning costs of 4 wool capes in heirloom boxes, 3 polyester capes with 2 scarves. As part of our support for the Conservancy, cleaning and donation of above items. Other financial issues: new IRS form 990 completed. Invoice from City of Los Angeles resolved as LA City (finally) agrees the CHSNAA is not a business.

**Archives** (Margaret Souza & Diane Hara): Conservancy of Nursing History meeting planned for next week. Meanwhile, reviewed book put out by Kaiser Permanente, "Caring. Making a Difference, One Story At A Time" as compiled by Terry L Bream, and Joyce A. Johnson. Book is somewhat similar to the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series, with nursing stories. Board discussed creating our own inspiration book.

**Merchandise** (Barbara Jury and Grace Mizuno reporting): No comments. We still have available stock on hand, for those who missed Homecoming and wish to order something.

**Scholarship** (Barbara Jury reporting): As per the 2009 Homecoming voting body elections, changes to the Scholarship/Tuition reimbursement application eligibility have been voted in. Updated applications can be obtained from Barbara (see posted address to contact). 1 scholarship award pending.

**NurseMADE** (Grace Mizuno reporting): More

offerings obtained; pending future distribution to CHMC. .

**Newsletter** (Mary Ann Hayase reporting): Although a lot of material is in the post-Homecoming issue, we need continued alumni participation writing newsletter entries. See the note from the Editor in *Tell Us About You*. Please encourage all your classmates and friends to keep us updated with your current address/phone number/email address, and your reports of what's been going on with you.

**Upcoming Homecoming 2010 Plans?** As always, your Board is planning our next Homecoming, this next one scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 2010. We've been considering assorted foci (?) since the last class (of 1984) has just been honored with the 25-year mark, there will be no further 25-year anniversaries. **Please write to us/call us and give us your input... what would YOU like to see? Who would YOU like to honor? Are you willing to help with organization, decorating, displays, or anything else? Would you like to celebrate our military nurses? (Do you know any alums with military service? Do you know how to contact them?) Or would you like to celebrate a nursing specialty? (OR, PACU, NICU, Nursery, Administration, Education, School Nursing? Who do you know within a spotlighted group? Do you know how to contact them?). Do you know of any alums or others who would be will-**

**ing/able to give a 1-1.5 hour class on Homecoming? (Topic? Content? Contact information of proposed instructor?). Get involved! Contact your Board via email, snail mail, or phone.**



**From the Pages of Foundation Update (Summer/Fall 2009):**

Celebrating The Past While Supporting the Future

Many new friends of California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) are surprised to learn that a well-regarded school of nursing flourished for many years on the hospital's campus. With roots dating back to 1898, the California Hospital School of Nursing (CHSN) graduated more than 2,100 nurses before it closed in 1984, training nurses through such major historical events as the deadly Influenza Epidemic of 1918, two World Wars and the Equal Rights Movement (which resulted in a 1976 policy change to allow the admission of male nursing students).

CHSN alumni went on to illustrious careers in such areas as Surgery, Pediatrics, Critical Care, and Emergency Medicine throughout Southern California and beyond, including in hospitals, schools, the Military, and working for Boeing's Space Shuttle program. A number of alumni practiced their craft right here at CHMC (and still do). Many obtained advanced degrees, and CHSN graduates became the first Nurse Practitioners more than 29 years ago.

Today, the memories and achievements of this remarkable institution are remembered and celebrated by the CHSN Alumni Association, a group of 300 active members. The alumni gather annually at CHMC for their Homecoming event, which in 2009 attracted more than 140 attendees. In recent months, the Association has been working to organize and catalogue its impressive collection of artifacts, papers, and photographs documenting the history of the school, of California Hospital, and of the nursing profession in this region. Many of these items are currently on display in the Archive Room on the ground floor of Leavey Hall on the CHMC campus. The collection is being joined with those of other local hospitals to form a truly comprehensive archive of materials to be housed at Azusa Pacific University under the auspices of the Western Conservancy of Nursing. Associal leaders Diane Hara (Class of 1974), Joyce Jacob (Class of 1960), Barbara Jury (Class of 1950), and Margaret Souza (Class of 1958) are working with an archival consultant, Dr. Sharon Sekhon

of the Studio for Southern California History, to ensure that the history of the school and its



**The Graduating Class of 1954**

students is properly preserved and made accessible to future generations.

“The California Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association was organized in 1901 and has maintained a tradition of excellence by supporting its membership and the hospital,” said President Joyce Jacob. “We are proud of our training at California Hospital and know for a fact that we are the best graduates from a three-year diploma school.” Members continue to support the hospital by donating clothing to the Emergency Department and (by) handcrafting hats, sweaters, and blankets for babies in the NICU.

For more information on the CHSN Archives or to visit the Archive Room, please visit <http://www.chsnarchive.org>, or call the Foundation office at (213) 742-5662.



Questionnaire for the California Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association: mail to the PO Box

Please take your time to answer each question. Use separate pages for more space. Print clearly or type your responses; they will be recorded in the California Hospital Digital Archive & posted on the Archive's website.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad year: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**May we contact you for photographs or for an interview?      Yes      No**

1. How old were you when you first thought about becoming a nurse? When did you definitely decide to become a nurse? What influenced this decision? (For example: a parent or teacher, fictional or real figure in history, a war, etc.).
2. How would you describe your background? Your parents? Did you come from an extended family or a smaller family unit?
3. What or who were your support systems prior to coming to CHSN? Did your support systems change?
4. What schools of nursing did you consider? Why did you choose California Hospital School of Nursing?
5. What do you recall of the application process? Who interviewed you? Was it an individual or group? One interviewer or more? Where was the interview held? What was it like?
6. What are your early memories of your first classes at the School of Nursing? Who were your first teachers? First impressions? What was California Hospital like when you arrived?
7. If applicable, what do you remember about moving into the dorm? Did you have a roommate? Was she someone you already knew? What was your first encounter like?
8. If applicable, what are some of your favorite memories of dormitory life? What social events stand out in your memory? Memories of study hours? Lock out? Housemothers?
9. What are some of your favorite memories of time spent in the Library? During study hours? After class? Doing research?
10. Where were you living before you came to California Hospital? If different from Southern California, what were your first impressions of the place?
11. What was downtown Los Angeles like when you arrived? Did any major events occur when you were at California Hospital? Refer to list below for examples of historic pivot points.

1941: The bombing of Pearl Harbor

1960-1974: Vietnam War

1942: The internment of Japanese Americans

1965: 5-year Delano Grape Strike

1943: Zoot Suit Riots

1965: Watts Riots

1944: End of WWII

1968: Assassination of RFK at Ambassador Hotel

1950: Korean Conflict

1969: Manson murders

1954: Opening of Disneyland

1973: Election of Tom Bradley, LA Mayor

1957: Dodgers come to LA

1984: LA hosts the Summer Olympics

12. What are your first memories of your early clinical experiences?
13. What are your memories of your capping ceremony?
14. What were your favorite classes in nursing school? Why?
15. What did you usually wear to school? Describe it?
16. Were there nurses or other hospital staff members who had a positive influence on you? Who were they?
17. What were your favorite floors to work on? Why? Least favorite? Why? What shifts did you like best? Least? Did you work for pay?
18. Who were your favorite patients to work with? Why? Can you remember any stories that illustrate This?
19. Who were your favorite doctors? Head nurses? Supervisors? Nursing instructors? Hospital administrators? Why? Can you remember any stories that illustrate why he or she was your favorite?
20. What are your memories of your Affiliations? What are they? Positive and negative? Be sure to Include specific information.
21. What do you remember about the cafeteria? Your favorites? Night lunch? Dorm food/snacks?
22. What do you remember about your graduation ceremony?
23. What was your first job in nursing after graduation? Was it in the area of nursing that most interested you? Did you remain in this area of nursing throughout your career?
24. What other areas of nursing did you pursue? What influenced your job/career changes?
25. If applicable, what college or school did you attend prior to and during your education at CHSN? Favorite classes? How did you commute to and from classes? If you drove, what kind of car did you have? Did you have any favorite teachers?
26. Did you pursue further education after graduation from CHSN? What degrees, certifications, etc, did you earn? From what colleges, universities, educational programs, etc?
27. Did you pursue a career (careers) other than nursing? What and why?
28. Have you received any form of recognition or acknowledgment apart from your nursing career? What were they associated with?
29. Did you join the military after graduation? Which branch? What was your rank at the time of discharge? Did you travel in the course of your service? If so, where? What are a few of your most memorable experiences while in the service?
30. What is the best thing about nursing to you?
31. What is the worst thing about nursing to you?
32. Why should we remember California Hospital School of Nursing?
33. Please include any other memories, experiences, or thoughts that you wish to share.



California Hospital School of Nursing  
 Alumni Association  
 PO Box 88585  
 Los Angeles, CA 90009

**\*\*Return Service Requested\*\***



**CHSN Alumni Association: Merchandise Price List**

Merchandise	Available Sizes (circle order)	Price/one	Price/two	Subtotal
Blue Sweatshirts w Gold CHSN Logo	L	\$15	\$25	
Blue Sweatshirts w Gold CHSN Logo	XXL	\$17	\$28	
White Polo Shirts w Blue CHSN Logo	L	\$15	\$25	
Tote Bags w CHSN Logo	N/A	\$10	N/A	
Fanny Pack w CHSN Logo	N/A	\$6	N/A	
Stainless Steel Travel Mug w CHSN Logo	N/A	\$10	N/A	
Wine/Burgundy Leather Planner/Organizer w embossed CHSN Logo				
Navy blue Baseball Style Cap w Gold CHSN Logo				
CHSNAA Memory Cookbook	N/A	\$20	\$40	
Commemorative CHSN Display Brick	Variable Appearance	\$25 on site \$40 w S/H		

Shipping & Handling \$5, not including Brick (see pricing)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ S/H

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to  
 CHSN Alumni Association

Please print legibly

Ship to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Pickup arrangements must be made with  
 CHSNAA Board member

**Homecoming 2010 will be Saturday, April 17, 2010. Start planning now—reserve the day!**

**Honored Class for 2010: the Class of 1960 (50 years)**

**Other honorees: to be announced**

**Submissions for The Pulse may be sent to the PO Box or emailed to the Editor. Please include a CHSN identifier(s) in the email subject line/message if any attachment(s) enclosed.**