

HARTFORD HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET     JUNE 4, 2017

Cromwell CT, Radisson Hotel

BOARD MEMBERS: All the Board members were present (13). There were 212 members present at the banquet and we had 9 scholarship recipients and their guests (18). Also three band members , Cheryl Ficara, our guest speaker, and Gervasio, her AV assistant were also present.

Twelve to one pm the members were able to enjoy the cocktail hour with appetizers provided by the Alumnae Association. They had time to visit with other members. Gail Rapoza kept the parking organized outside. Betsy Gaudian and Theresa Gwozdz were greeters at the reception table . They also passed out a questionnaire about the banquet which appears that the members are happy with the Radisson as our venue. Marilyn Miller, our photographer , was busy taking pictures .

At 1 pm Betty Ann opened the banquet. She announced that the Class of 1967 were celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with 30 members present.

The head table guest was introduced, Cheryl Ficara , Hartford Healthcare Regional Vice President , Gervasio and the band members .

44 members died since last June 2016, Esther Viets , a past president was among them as well as Sam Pasco, our band leader.

We had a moment of silence for those serving in the military and our deceased members.

Mary Jane read a beautiful prayer about butterflies and friendship.

We then all enjoyed our meal of steak, salmon or chicken with a delicious dessert of crème brulee cheesecake.

Betty Ann opened our annual meeting at 2:15 pm. She introduced the Board members , Pat Ciarcia, Gail Rapoza, Jane Lasher, Theresa Gwozdz, Alicia Junghans, Kathy Didier, Karen Mazzarella, Mary Jane Densmore, Chris Johnson, Jeri Sircaras, Lesley McGrath and Phyllis DeMaine.

There was a motion made to dispense the reading of last years minutes since they have been on the website for a year. It was seconded and accepted.

Pat Ciarcia, Executive Director of Alumnae Affairs

The Alumnae Association has 653 members, 212 which were at the banquet . She has been asked what the secret of our lasting association has been and it is the love of our profession and lasting friendships. We have a website that is our way of communicating to all our members with information and they can view the many pictures taken by Marilyn Miller at our banquets.

Jane Lasher: Board Treasurer:

The report remains the same as read at the banquet and was accepted as read.

Terry Gwozdz : Vice Treasurer

The Non medical fund

We spent \$46, 000.00 on scholarships this year, 2017

We donated to the Rocky Hill Wethersfield Professional Nurses Association for their gifts of scholarships to nursing students.

We also donated to a clinic in Honduras and to an organization, Fisher House, that builds homes for families of servicemen to stay in while their family member is recovering.

A donation was also made to the Abbey of Regina Laudis for infirmary repairs and one to Dana Farber Cancer Institute for their Multiple Myeloma and Lung clinics.

The Medical Fund: In 2016 , 88 alums used the fund for a total of \$167,000.00 and since January 2017, 50 alums have used it for a total of \$88,000.00. There is a 10% increase in utilization . We are making money and our principle remains stable.

The report was accepted as read.

Chris Johnson: Scholarship Chairman

We awarded 10 scholarships for a total of \$46,000.

Mary Swanson, Maria Sladja, Elizabeth Singh, Kathy Rudzki, Simona Prescott, Cheryl Mitchell, Carey Kelley, David Ecker, Lori Caetano and Jean Boccaccio were the recipients.

Betty Ann Fusco, President:

Betty Ann read “ Everything We Need To Know We Learned In Nursing School.”

Old Business: We donated monies for the Springer Garden in 2015 and they are still short money to begin the task. They need \$30,000 more to start the project.

Hepatitis is restored, presiding at Heublein Tower, painted a shiny silver gray to our disappointment .

Betty Ann gave a HH cape to a representative of the” Friends of Heublein Tower “ for them to display in the room that they are planning to dedicate to HH. \_Three of us were able to visit the tower this past spring and the view was spectacular.

Dissolution: Betty Ann asked that if anyone present wanted to work with the Board on this to please advise us.

There were 5 Nightingale tributes for deceased nurses.

The Board toured the Cesi Center in the ERC building this past fall prior to a meeting. A request was made for monies to frame pictures depicting nursing at HH. They will line the walls of the hallway on the second floor. Chris and Phyllis will work with Maria Tackett selecting the pictures to be used. We were also able to see where the Springer Garden will be and where our new Hepatitis will be located.

Some of the Board members were able to tour the Malta House van that treats patients around the Hartford area without insurance. We donated to them again this year.

Camp Courant has invited us to tour the camp this summer. This was a 2016 donation.

#### Gail Rapoza; Program Chair

Gail introduced Cheryl Ficara , our guest speaker who was speaking on” HH in Motion, When Every Moment Matters”. Her talk was accompanied with slides of the activities at HH. She told us there are 867 beds at HH and over 2000 nurses. The new Bone and Joint Center has 48 beds and 8 ORs. Over 500 aortic valves have been replaced at HH via a transcatheter route.

They are now up on Epic, a countrywide computer system. A nurse residency program for new graduates has been created . They host a research nursing conference yearly and this is the 21<sup>st</sup> year. The first awake craniotomy has also been done. The floors are being redone to establish an increase in private rooms. Some of the ICUs have space for family members in the patient’s room. Many changes are happening at HH.

#### Betty Ann:

Mary Jane and Betty Ann gave out the 50 year charms and one 25 year charm.

She thanked the band, Gail, Betsy and Terri and Marilyn. Pat did a fantastic job of organizing the entire banquet.

We celebrated Stephanie Kaminski’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday singing “Happy Birthday “ and with a presentation of a bouquet of flowers.

The Golden bedpan was then passed from Phyllis DeMaine, Class of 1967 to Linda Samuelson, Class of 1968.

At 3: 25 pm the roll call was begun. June Noble then entertained us with her yearly singing of “May You Always Walk in Sunshine.” The members then joined hands and sang “God Bless America” and “Auld Lang Syne”. An emotional end to a wonderful banquet.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Junghans, Recording Secretary

