

Alumnae Banquet Meeting Summary of 2019-2020

This is the report that would have been read to all alumnae members in attendance on May 17 at the scheduled Alumnae Banquet.

President's Opening Remarks: Mary Jane Densmore

The year 2020 has been long designated to be "The Year of the Nurse" in honor of the 200th Birthday of Florence Nightingale. What is usually a week-long celebration in May, this year, was to stretch into the entire month, each week of May assigned a different theme in order to fully celebrate and elevate the accomplishments of nurses worldwide. The planned celebrations were cancelled because one, and only one theme prevailed, *the corona virus*. Nurses were thrust into the spotlight, but for much more dire reasons, to be honored and revered as the true heroes in a tragic story of suffering and loss.

For those of you who are directly participating in this horrific fight we thank you. For those of you who are contributing indirectly and are isolated at home, we thank you. Our thoughts are with you all and we pray for you and your loved ones for continued good health and safety and we welcome any stories or thoughts you may wish to share with us during this historically dark time. You can communicate with us through our Alumnae web site.

The need to cancel our beloved HHSN Alumnae Banquet was such a heartbreaking decision but we will look forward to seeing you all on May 16, 2021. We will celebrate the milestone years together next year so our Classes of 70 will not be forgotten and will bring the golden bedpan to pass on. Our spirit is strong and we will move forward as we always have, holding one another's hand, knowing we are stronger together. Until next year....

Reports:

Since our last Alumnae banquet held 5/19/2019 we have had 3 board meetings,

3/4/20: An adjunct meeting was held to plan for dissolution of the association. It was determined by all board members that an important goal for the dissolution of funds will be to make a lasting impact on Hartford Hospital in the health care area. The plan is that we will work with the Philanthropy Department to determine their areas of need/ interest (once the corona virus dies down).

It was also agreed that the other areas we must focus on are:

1. Nursing Scholarships: We wish to continue this as long as possible and will work on the logistics of who will carry out (if necessary) post dissolution.
2. Medical Fund: Taking care of our members is of great importance to all board members and we will continue to cover medical expenses for as long as possible. The amount of money expended continues to increase each year and we will likely be able to continue for only a finite number of years.

In anticipation of the dissolution occurring within the next 5-10 years we will keep you apprised of progress at annual banquet meetings.

REPORT SUMMARIES:

Executive Director Report: Pat Ciarcia

Membership: 6 new members joined the association and 15 did not renew membership. We have had 20 deaths since our last banquet (16 were alumnae members) Our current membership is 648.

Our oldest active member, Stefanie Druzolowski Kaminski, died on Aug 3, 2019 at the age of 102. She was honored at the last banquet for celebrating her 81st anniversary as a HHSN graduate. Two members of the board attended her funeral and honored her memory with the Nightingale Tribute.

Eight Members of the Class of 70 were to receive 50 year charms at this banquet. We congratulate them and will hand out the charms at our 2021 Banquet:

Maureen Coburn Burke, Susan Kovalski Cebollero, Cheryl Corcoran Dube, Hope C Lennartz, Anita Graph Manuck, Jan Borrup Nordell, Susan Perrin Parker, Roseanne Augustine Paulauskas

Due to unforeseen circumstances we did not have a Fall 2019 Magazine. We incorporated the fall information into the Spring 2020 edition which has recently been published.

Asst Treasurer Report: Theresa Gwozdz

Charitable Giving: \$33,000

Annual donations\$20,000: Malta House, Pat's Purpose, (Wigs for cancer patients), Honduras Medical Clinic, Footware with care (shoes for the Homeless), My Sister's Place, womens' shelter, House of Bread, mens' shelter, Immacare, mens shelter and job training, Foodshare CT, Salvation Army, Amirha, CT's first safe house for sex trafficking victims

Emergency donations: fall 2019 \$5,000 given to Hurricane Dorian Disaster Relief

April 2020: Corona Virus Relief: \$5,000 Hartford Hospital Nursing Staff for purchase of scrubs

\$2,000 Foodshare CT; \$1,000 Hawkwing (Lakota/Sioux Indian Reservation) for food and PPE

Medical Fund: \$275,000

99 alums utilized this fund for a total expenditure of \$275,000, an increase of \$5,000 from 2019.

Treasurer Report: Jane Lasher

The balance in our account as of 5/1/20 \$49,218

Deposits for 2020 \$67,109.04

Expenses \$85,489.39

Balance 5/14/20 \$30,778.23

Nominating: Betty Ann Fusco

No elections were held this year. All current board members agreed to extend their term so that elections will take place next year (odd year and every 2nd odd year going forward)

Springer Memorial Garden and AAHSN Fountain Update:

The ground breaking of the Springer Garden began in November 2019 and has made good progress through the winter due to unseasonably mild conditions. The plumbing has been completed for the fountain and the last and most important phase will be the installation of the heron to replicate our beloved "Hepatitis". The architect has not as yet chosen the piece but we are requesting that it be one that spouts water as did the original. We hope that 2020 will be the year to finalize this very lengthy project.

Scholarship Chair: Gail Rapoza

Scholarship Fund: \$52,500

16 recipients received a total of \$52,500, our largest group of recipients and largest disbursement since the fund's inception in 2010

Recipients, School, Program, Anticipated graduation date:

Andrew Smith, UConn BSN Dec 2020

Susan Donovan, UMass MSN May 2021

Emily Capozza, UConn APRN May 2022

Michael MacDonald, Grand Canyon U BSN Feb2021

Cheryl Mitchell, Elms College of Nursing MSN/APRN May 2021

Danielle Wagner, U St Joseph APRNFP May 2021

Steffi Francis, U St Joseph BSN Aug 2020

Jean Boccacio, Western Governor's U BSN Sept 2020

Deborah Bass, U of Hartford MSN May 2021

Hannah Janis, Yale School of Nursing BS to MSN May 2022

Suzana Kalanica, Quinnipac U APRNFP/DNP May 2021

Kristine Oliveira, U St Joseph BSN May 2021

Roxan Noble, Becker College ASN August 2021

Axis Ghi, Norwich U BSN May 2021

Janet Sadler, U St Joseph APRN May 2021

Julia Pearlingi, St Mary College BSN May 2021

We extend our sincere congratulations to all of these most deserving recipients and wish them continued success as they complete or continue their educational journeys.