

HARTFORD HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

SHERATON HARTFORD HOTEL SOUTH, ROCKY HILL CT

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT; Betty Ann Fusco, Gail Rapoza, Mary Jane Densmore, Theresa Gwozdz, Karen Mazzarella, Pat Ciarcia, Chris Johnson, Alicia Junghans, Jane Lasher, Jeri Sicaras, Phyllis DeMaine, Shiela Rowell, Lesley McGrath

ABSENT: Kathy Didier

Members were greeted by Lesley McGrath and Betsy Gaudian. The cocktail hour from 12 noon to 1pm was enjoyed by all. There was an appetizer table of cheese, crackers and fresh veggies , compliments of the HHSNAA., served by Phyllis and Sheila. The members were able to purchase refreshments from the bar. Music was provided by the Joe Giangrasso trio throughout the afternoon.

There were 189 people present. There were 164 alumnae and 25 guests. There were two tables of scholarship recipients and guests.

Marilyn Miller, our wonderful photographer, captured many alumnae in pictures all afternoon. They will be on our website in the near future for all to enjoy.

Chris Johnson , Vice President, said Grace and then we all enjoyed our marvelous meal of either prime rib, salmon or chicken piccata, topped off with delicious carrot cake. Salad, rolls , tea and coffee were also provided.

Mary Jane called the business meeting to order at 2:07 pm. She introduced the head table and other board members.

The minutes of the last meeting were waived since they are on our website.

Jane Lasher gave the Treasurer's report and explained how the books are audited with the accountant. Her report was accepted. It is included as an attachment.

Terri Gwozdz , Vice Treasurer, gave her report that was accepted. The alumnae has given alums \$180,000.00 to help with their medical expenses. It was also noted that effective September 19, 2021 there is an increase in the limit of reimbursement.

Gail Rapoza, Scholarship Chair woman, gave us info about the recipients not present for 2020 and 2021 and the ones present for 2020 and 2021. She introduced them all. We gave a total of \$50,000.00 in scholarships in 2021 and in 2020 we gave \$52,500.00. List included at end of minutes.

Pat Ciarcia read the poem spoken at the Nightingale memorial for deceased members. We lost 35 of our members in the last two years.

Betty Ann, Nominating Chair, reminded the members that they can nominate members to become part of the board in 2022.

Betty Ann Fusco , then gave us an update on the Springer Memorial Garden and our donation of the new fountain with Hepatitis and friend. We contributed \$75,000.00 for the fountain. The architect donated the second heron.

Betty Ann read us the “Legend of Hepatitis”, that she has kept since 2011 .In 1920 the Heubleins donated the fountain with a spouting heron to the School of Nursing. It was in our garden for years. In 2011 the Class of 1966 decided that they wanted to donate a fountain in memory of Hepatitis. They asked the Alumnae Association to assist .There were many sites for the fountain discussed over the years. Finally in 2014 it was decided it would be in the Springer Memorial Garden behind the ERC . Ground was broken in 2018, but Covid 19 put it on hold. It is now ready and September 27, will see the dedication and ribbon cutting by Betty Ann , who worked so tirelessly to see this to fruition. The Springer family will be in attendance.

There were two posters at the banquet showing the members the fountain and herons. Behind the fountain is the Barney Building plaque which we all remember as our library , classrooms and gym.

There were 23 classes represented at the banquet. 50 year charms were given out by Mary Jane and Chris. Two were given to the members of the Class of 1970, 6 will be mailed. The class of 1971 had 3 members awarded charms and 6 will be mailed. Fifteen states were represented.

Mary Jane recognized the past presidents of the Alumnae Association.

Mary Jane thanked the staff of the Sheraton, Marilyn, Pat and all who worked to make this banquet a great success.

We continued with Roll Call, Class of 1976 to 1950. We then remembered June Noble and sang, “May You Always Walk in Sunshine”, “Auld Lang Syne” and ended with “God Bless America”. A few tears were shed and we all look forward to the 2022 banquet.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Junghans, Recording Secretary

Attachments: List of Scholarship recipients. 11 new, 1 repeat

Jane Lasher ,Treasurer’s report

