

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET

Alumnae Association of the Hartford Hospital School of Nursing

June 1, 2014

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT

The banquet was started by Betty Ann Fusco, President, welcoming everyone and introducing the head table. Seated were: Dr. Stuart Markowitz and his wife Debra, Cheryl Ficara, Steve Lytle and wife Anne, Gervascio Pangilinan, Pat Ciarcia, Terry Gwozdz, and Gail Rapoza. Dr. Markowitz spoke a few welcoming words and then Mary Jane Densmore, Vice President, lead us in prayer before our meal.

The meeting was called to order at 2pm after an enjoyable meal and music selected by alumnae tables played by Sam Pasco and his band as they walked around the room. Betty Ann introduced board members in attendance. Absent was Alicia Junghans, Recording Secretary and Lesley McGrath, Director.

Minutes of the annual meeting in October 2013, were read and accepted as read.

Correspondence: Pat Ciarcia read a letter received from Jeffrey Flaks, Exec. Vice President , stating his regrets for his inability to attend with his best wishes.

Treasurer Reports: Jane Lasher, Board Treasurer, and Terry Gwozdz, Vice Treasure, gave their reports and they were accepted as read.

Committee Reports: Nominating- Karen Mazzarella read the slate of officers, board members and standing committee chairmen for the next two years. They are: President, Betty Ann Fusco, Vice President: Mary Jane Densmore, Recording Secretary: Alicia Junghans, Board Treasurer: Jane Lasher, Vice Treasurer: Terry Gwozdz, Exec.Dir.Alumnae Affairs: Pat Ciarcia, Directors: 4 year terms, Jerri Sicaris and Lesley McGrath. 2 year terms, Chris Johnson and Phyllis DeMaine. Alumnae Medical Fund: Terry Gwozdz, Nominating: Karen Mazzarella, Program: Gail Rapoza, and Scholarship: Chris Johnson. The slate was accepted as read and Betty Ann congratulated them and stated she was looking forward to working with them. She also thanked Barbara Nowak for her years of service on the board as program chairman and as a director. Welcome was extended to Phyllis DeMaine, new member to the board. Scholarship- Christine Johnson then announced and introduced the seven scholarship recipients present. Four recipients were unable to attend and their names were read. A total of \$33,000 was given this year.

Old Business: Fountain Project: Betty Ann gave an update on the various meetings held concerning its' placement. There was a unanimous vote by the board to allocate \$75,000 for a fountain replicating "Hepatitis" in the John Springer

Memorial Garden which will be located in the present courtyard of the Education Research Center (former school of nursing on Hudson Street). Slides were shown with the projected location and layout of the garden. She read a short biography of John Springer and then a letter from Dr. Stuart Markowitz, President of HH, thanking the alumnae association for the donation. He stated the fountain will be an area of respite and reflection and a lasting symbol of the endless contributions of the alumni.

New Business: Dissolution: The board has been working on the dissolution clause in our By-Laws, being proactive and not occurring for many years. A field trip was taken by the board to UConn and we visited The Dodd Research Center Archives of Nursing and The Josephine Dolan Collection of Nursing. It was a wonderful trip down memory lane with ideas for preserving our school history. UConn School of Nursing is the host for the History of Nursing Annual Conference to be held this Fall for the first time in CT. Your Alumnae Association will sponsor tote bags for the attendees.

Program: Gail Rapoza introduced our speaker, Cheryl Ficara, RN,MSN, Hartford Health Care Regional Vice President of Patient Care Services. She provided an update on nursing at Hartford Hospital plus some interesting and entertaining videos.

Miscellaneous Business: Statistics: There were 246 people at the banquet including 177 members and 46 non-members. Membership is only \$10 and includes access to the medical fund. Total alumnae membership is 640 members. Sixteen states were represented with California and Washington the farthest away. Betty Ann then had the past presidents in attendance stand and be recognized. A list of celebrating classes was then read. Classes not represented at the banquet were: 1953, 1950, 1947, 1946, 1943, 1942, and 1941. Oldest member present was Miriam Sihvonen, Class of 1940 celebrating her 74<sup>th</sup> Reunion. Betty Ann then read some excerpts from the 1963 student handbook. Senior tuition for her class was \$285.00!

Presentations: Betty Ann then called Steve Lytle, retired HH Archivist to the podium and presented him with a gold HHSN Shield Tie Tac for his years of service to the alumnae association. Mary Jane Densmore and Betty Ann then presented 50 year gold charms to six members present and two will be mailed. There was one 25 year silver charm to be mailed. Thank you: Betty Ann thanked all the wait staff as well as Sam Pasco for another great year with Joe on the keyboard and Don on the bass. Thanks was also given to the photographer, Marilyn Miller, Betsy Gaudian for helping at the reception table and Gail Rapoza and Laraine Farabaugh for parking assistance. Anita Gold '61 asked to approach the podium and stated that whether educated as a BSN,MSN,PA,or APRN, no education compared to the education we obtained at HHSN. Marilyn McKeown '69 proposed a toast to the board thanking them for their time and effort. Golden Bedpan: Carol Donovan '64 presented Judy

Gorsky and Barbara Maheu Class of 1965 the newly gilded golden bedpan. Roll Call: Betty Ann started the roll call with the Class of 1976.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm and Betty Ann asked June Noble '54 to lead us in our usual closing songs: "May You Always Walk in Sunshine", "God Bless America" and "Auld Lang Syne".

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Ann Fusco  
President