

Saint Marys School of Nursing

1906 - 1970

"Enter in to Learn - Go Forth to Serve"

Alumni Greetings 2021



Final Newsletter

From Our President:

Wow! I am pinching myself to be sure I'm not just dreaming that our last alumni reunion has already come and gone! The final tally was about 350 alumni in attendance at the Saturday banquet and 280 at the Sunday Mass and breakfast. It was really gratifying to see so many there, despite the ongoing pandemic. The Hilton was a fabulous venue, with great food and service, and even made for a surprisingly memorable setting for Mass. The service was presided over by Father Franklin Okoro and pianist Scot Schwark provided beautiful music for the occasion. In his homily, Father Franklin lauded our graduates for their years of service to the hospital and its patients, as well as the difference they have made in the lives of so many people, wherever they served around the globe. As has always been the case for Mass, we also honored our alumni that we have lost over the years.

There are many, many people to thank for helping to make the weekend a success! Thank you to the reunion co-chairs: Virginia Simons Wentzel and Monica Mellem Van Kirk (both class of '59), and board members: Barbara Leland Rasmussen, Marilyn Ricard Sheehan and Wanda Olson Samuelson (all class of '68), Brenda Rizzo Rossman ('67), and Murtice Robinson Sherek ('61) for their countless hours of hard work before, during and after the reunion.

I would be remiss in not also thanking those from my "Jubilee Class of 1970" (celebrating a year late!) who participated in the banquet program and the Mass. Thank you to Mary Anne Gainey Wolesky for her inspiring message during the banquet, and for doing the readings at the Mass; Kay Burke Allen and Mary Schisler-Scott, ushers; Nancy Schares Weber, petitions; and Lorraine Turner Dressel, Beverley Oakes Polt and Margaret Handfelt Wick, gifts.

Thank you to Sister Elizabeth (Maristella) Gillis (CST '55), who led the table and closing prayers at the banquet. She also brought a greeting from Sister Mary Lou Connelly, who was unable to be with us that evening and was sorely missed! Thank you to Carole Baron Shanley and Margaret (Peg) Sullivan Freel (both class of '59), who served as Eucharistic ministers for the Mass.

And of course – a sincere thank you to all of you other alumni who helped in so many ways – whether it was getting the word out to classmates, handing out nametags, putting programs on the tables, or emailing a word of encouragement – and all the other numerous tasks – there were many willing hands, and please believe me that you are ALL much appreciated! Elsewhere in this newsletter we have acknowledged some of the other special contributions from various alumni.

We missed those who couldn't attend, and hope you enjoy the photos and other items in this newsletter. The reunion was both happy and sad, and there were plenty of tears when we sang "In Your Quiet Halls, Saint Marys" one last time. But we have such WONDERFUL memories of all our special times together! A frequent comment heard was that it seems like no time has passed at all when we get together with our classmates, even ones that we may not have seen for decades. That common bond we all share is amazing!

In the words of Theodor Seuss Geisel: Don't cry because it's over – Smile because it happened!"

May God Bless all of you in the years ahead,

Anne Hermanson Smith ('70)

2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Secretary's Report Alumni Meeting
September 18, 2021

The final Alumni Banquet and Annual Meeting were held at the Hilton Hotel, Rochester, Minnesota. on September 18, 2021.

Following a welcome by Anne Hermanson Smith, '70, the dinner blessing was given by Sister Elizabeth Gillis (Sister Maristella) CST '55.

Mary Ann Gainey Wolesky, Class of 1970, gave an address on behalf of the Jubilee Class of 1970.

The business meeting was called to order by Anne Hermanson Smith, '70, Alumni President.

The Secretary's Report of the reunion of 2019 was missing in action, no doubt a victim of the Pandemic. The Treasurer's Report was read by Mari Ricard Sheehan, '68. The Archivist's Report was given by Virginia Simons Wentzel, '59.

Wanda Olson Samuelson, '68, was acknowledged for her years of hard work in writing and publishing the newsletter. The final edition of the newsletter will go out in November.

Announcements were made concerning the plans for Mass and Brunch on Sunday morning, September 19 at the Hilton. Father Franklin Okoro will officiate at the Mass.

A Benediction, The Prayer of Saint Francis, was followed by the singing of our school song, In Your Quiet Halls, St. Marys.

*Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Leland Rasmussen, '68 Secretary*

Final Treasurer's Report (10/25/21):

*Vanguard Account cashed in on 9/16/21 was: \$21,861.65
*Expenses for 2021 Reunion were: \$32, 208.59

Wells Fargo as of 10/25:

Checking:	\$ 9,205.62
Savings:	\$34,988.54
Total:	\$44,194.16
Three outstanding checks	-\$ 3,513.34
Estimated expense for final newsletter and Closing the Alumni Association	-\$ 3,000.00

ESTIMATED Amount left for nursing education Scholarship donation at Mayo: **\$37,680.82**

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Ricard Sheehan '68, Treasurer

IN MEMORIAM

LaVonne Griffin '45
June Mahler '45
Roberta Furleigh '48
Dorothy "Irene" Ryan Weis '48
Patricia White Johnson '50
Sister Merici Maher '50
Carleen Mayer Tester '50
Sister Charlotte Dusbabek '51
Mary Lou Miller Freeman '51
Agnes Engler Banick '53
Kathryn McNeal Mewhorter '53
Gladys Perko Born '54
Jean Evans Melloy '54
Rita Theissen Sumner '54
Lois Lubbert Buhl '55
Dr. Norma Chaska '55
Sister Rose Guercio '55
Barbara Graham Johnson '55
Hazel Beese Scheitel '55
Donna Haes Hanson '56
Janet Harding Francis '57
Sandra Potts Johnson '57
Delores Boehnke '59
Elizabeth Rivers '59
Betty Bruehling Honermann '60
Donna Anderson Koperski '60
Mary Hackett Mirhoseine '60
Judy Ives '61
Judith Reuvers Kulas '61
Michele McCaffrey '64
Harriet Ward Pendelton '65
Charlene Gaspard Benson '66
Margaret Yackley Marcello '66
Renee Kemmer Alley '67
Barbara Hostert Adrian '68
Carolyn Ross Buntrock '68
Linda Zoller Squires '68
Donna Kayser Vogel '68
Patricia Latendresse Pausard '69
Susan Henderson Nauman '70

SPECIAL OFFERING

Thank you to all who contributed to the special offering at our final alumni Mass on September 19. The total collected was \$2,053, which will be distributed equally between the Sisters of St. Francis at Saint Marys Hospital and the Sisters at Assisi Heights. Your generous giving is much appreciated!

REUNION SPEAKER: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

The final reunion banquet featured Mary Anne Gainey Wolesky, who gave an inspiring address on behalf of the last class of 1970. She spoke of the great legacy of service of all Saint Marys nurses over the years and encouraged the alumni to continue that legacy through charitable giving in the years to come.

Mary Anne's nursing career spanned more than 45 years, both in Rochester and Austin, MN, and included working as an ER nurse and manager, a director of nursing, and finally as vice president of nursing and patient care with the Mayo Clinic Health System.

Through her numerous community activities in the Austin area and beyond, Mary Anne has truly exemplified a legacy of service in her own life as well and continues to do volunteer work in retirement. She has a special passion for the arts and has worked with the Austin ArtWorks Festival since its beginning. The American Association of University Women (AAUW) honored her in 2019 for making a positive impact on her community.

Thank you for being a special part of our reunion weekend, Mary Anne!



Mary Anne (Gainey) Wolesky '70

SMSN NOTE CARDS

The popular note cards that were included in the reunion bags were made from a watercolor painting by Mary Ellen Imdieke, class of 1967. It was not until retirement from a busy nursing career that Mary Ellen took a continuing education art class. Off and on for 6 years, she painted, always in watercolor. The flowers in her beautiful gardens are her usual subjects. A few years ago, during trips to Rochester, Mary Ellen decided to paint the collage tribute to the place where her nursing career started. The watercolor will soon hang at Assisi Heights.



Thank you, Mary Ellen! The note cards are a perfect remembrance.

LOOKING FOR A CLASSMATE?

At the reunion banquet, individual class lists were distributed that included contact information for alumni. The purpose was to help you reconnect with classmates with whom you have lost touch, as well as being a tool to help reach out to them if your class plans to get together on its own in the future. (We do our best to keep up with the numerous address changes and other edits and welcome your input when further updates are needed. Folks really do move around a lot – to say nothing of changing email addresses and phone numbers!) If any of you were not at the reunion and would like a list from your class, please email your request to Anne Smith at the following: smitan6983@outlook.com

SUNDAY MORNING MASS BY FATHER FRANKLIN

FATHER FRANKLIN OKORO

Father Franklin volunteered to officiate the Mass at the Hilton Hotel due to our group being too large for the social distancing currently required at the hospital chapel because of Covid-19. Father Franklin was raised in Nigeria, where he was educated and received undergraduate degrees in philosophy and theology and a Master of Theology degree. He was ordained in September 2013, and came to the United States in 2019, receiving his Clinical Pastoral Education in Alaska.



Fr Franklin at the Mass

Father came to the Mayo Clinic in 2020 and is Chaplain at Methodist Hospital.

A note from Father Franklin:

Hello, Virginia,

I received with gratitude your thank you card for volunteering to officiate the last reunion of Saint Mary's school of Nursing Alumni Association. Indeed it was a good privilege for me to be part of this great event and I am happy to associate with this noble group. You all are wonderful people with such compassion and good heart even after many years of serving as Nurses to our patients and family. I do appreciate your gestures and your active participation in the whole event, it gladdens my heart and I say thank you so much. May the Almighty God continue to bless you all with good heart and long life, Amen.

*Blessings,
Fr. Franklin*

MARIAN HALL ALUMNI MEMORABILIA ROOM

What happens to all the items, books, and other memorabilia we have accumulated over the years? The answer lies with the Mayo's Historical Suite in the Plummer Building.

1. The books, papers, photos, etc., will be reviewed by the archival staff and cataloged into Mayo's archival database. The books may be added to the History of Medicine Library collection versus being stored in the archives.

2. The items will be accessible internally to Mayo staff and externally to the general public. The catalog is available online via MAX (Mayo Archives Xplorer) on the left side of this website page: <https://libraryguides.mayo.edu/historicalunit>. Individuals may schedule an appointment to review materials Monday through Friday in the research space in the Plummer Building. Depending on the request, we can scan photos or documents and email them to the requestor.

3. The main contact person is Renee Ziemer, Coordinator, W. Bruce Fye Center for the History of Medicine and Mayo Clinic Historical Suite (507-284-2585, Mayo Clinic, 200 First Street SW, Rochester, MN 55905). Other contact persons are Karen Koka or Nicole Babcock in the Historical Suite.

Your Alumni Board will be available to you until June of 2022 and the Alumni Room would be open if you are visiting Rochester. Contact me if you are interested in seeing what's behind the doors! I doubt that the archival staff will have the index online for quite some time after we hand over the keys.

Virginia Simons Wentzel, '59 Archivist

Life As It Unfolded

for

Sister MaryLou Ann Rajdl '55

As a young girl growing up on a small farm near Alexandria, Minnesota, I told my parents, "If I don't get to be a nurse, I will never be happy."

While in high school, I took all the courses offered for nursing. I joined the nursing club as extracurricular activity. At the nurse's office, I saw a brochure, "St. Mary's School of Nursing, Rochester, MN., home of the Mayo Clinic." This had to be my nursing school. I wanted to be the best possible nurse anyone could be and certainly St. Mary's could provide that ideal.

Being a nursing student had its joys and challenges. I recall when the doctor on the G. I. ward inquired about his patient. I replied, "*Doctor, I think ...*". He replied *not too gently*, "*Miss Rajdl, you don't think, you know!*" What a lesson learned regarding medical care.

A special joy was when Helen Keller came to the Mayo Clinic for medical examinations. She was walking outside St. Mary's with a doctor I knew from Alexandria. He introduced Helen to me as she put her fingers on my lips and I greeted her. What an honor and blessing!

My parents were able to attend our graduation in 1955. When I received the "Edith Mayo Graham Award for outstanding kindness to patients", my parents exclaimed with joy, "We never knew you were so good". Thanks to all the Franciscan Sisters, doctors, nurses, classmates and all the staff for the education and opportunity given to us for a lifetime ministry and mission. Whenever the Franciscan Nurse supervisors and Mrs. McIver were off duty, I covered their units. One night I was called to see a distraught patient. I introduced myself and asked if I could help her. She looked at me and said, "Isn't Sister on duty tonight? My problem isn't physical, it is spiritual." Even though I was a prayerful person, it struck me that to be that best possible nurse, I needed more - to be a healer of the spirit as well as the body. I know my vocation to become a religious missionary sister was "birthed" at St. Mary's.

I recall when Sister Paul John, a classmate, and a Maryknoll sister, received her assignment to Ceylon, how ecstatic she was to be going to Asia. I had dreams of going to Africa. During the year, six more Maryknoll missionary sisters came from the College of St. Teresa in Winona, MN., for their nursing practicum. I became their supervisor and began to inquire how to become a Maryknoll Missionary sister. I left St. Mary's in 1956 to work at Mercy Hospital in Alexandria, MN. I was the only registered nurse on duty with one aide. If we had a delivery, I would wake up the Franciscan sisters to come to assist. I was surprised at the trust given to me as a new graduate. During this year, I applied to enter Maryknoll.

On September 2, 1957, I was accepted to enter the novitiate at Maryknoll, New York. The flowering of my religious vocation as a nurse continued in diverse ways. During the three years of formation, I was assigned as community infirmarian. After first profession, I worked at Bethany House to care for our sick and elderly sisters. Some of them had experienced imprisonment, torture, or trauma.

Soon I was assigned to Chile, South America, to a clinic.

However, due to a back injury sustained at St. Mary's, this overseas assignment was cancelled. Instead, I was assigned to our TB Hospital at Monrovia, California, to be head nurse on the chest unit.

Within a year, the overseas assignment came: Hong Kong, South China, to work at Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital. This hospital was built to care for the thousands of Chinese refugees fleeing Communist China. After arriving in Hong Kong, I studied Cantonese for 8 months and went to work as the outpatient department supervisor in the hospital's small clinic: extremely hectic, crowded, and busy. Frequently I would assign each doctor 40 patients to be seen in a morning. For patients without a doctor, I would take care of them myself, listening to them and sending them off with sample vitamins.

Unexpectedly, in 1967, I was blessed to use my Cantonese to do ministry in Chinatown (in Chicago) with new immigrants, primarily as medical social work. I also pursued a Master of Religious Studies degree at Mundelein/Loyola University. This gave me the background to develop retreats and workshops in Creation Centered spirituality. I studied spiritual direction to have more background in healing ministry.

My dream of going to Africa was realized in 1971, when I was asked to accompany Bishop James E. Walsh, MM, as his nurse on a mission trip to Kenya and Tanzania, Africa. (Bishop Walsh had been a prisoner in China for many years.) Dreams do come true!

I am convinced that every step of my life has been a process directed by God to prepare me for the next phase. Currently, living in Chicago, Illinois, and with the pandemic protocol, ministry has developed in prayer outreach, telephone spiritual direction, "Zoom" meetings, befriending people walking by, and making God's love visible to everyone we meet.

Thank you, God for St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing and for all who made it possible for so many of us to fulfill our dreams.

(Written October 6, 2021)

Sister MaryLou Ann Rajdl, MM

ALUMNI NOTES

Just some of the many alumni letters, contributions, and wishes received...

Prior to the 2020 alumni reunion that ended up being postponed, the alumni association received a letter from Robert Cerny of Toluca Lake, CA, the son of Martha Wehmeyer Cerny ('53), who died back in 2015. Mr. Cerny wrote: "After graduation from St. Mary's, Mom moved to Los Angeles, married my father, Bob Cerny, had two children and had a respected career as a nurse at St. Vincent's in LA and later Riverside Hospital in the San Fernando Valley where we lived. I am sure that Mom would have loved to attend the final reunion and to send her best to a fine institution. I'm sure it will be missed and has done great good over the years. God bless all the alumni of St. Marys".

Thank you to Dr. Mahmood Mirhoseini from Germantown, WI, who wrote of the January 2020 death of his wife, **Mary Hackett (Cayton) Mirhoseini ('60)**, and sent a check to the alumni association in her memory, saying that Mary had spoken fondly of her years at Saint Marys, and he

is sure she would have loved to attend the final reunion. We will include his generous contribution with the contribution we make to a scholarship fund on behalf of all alumni.

Obituary: Mary Cayton Mirhoseini '60

Mary was a native of Minnesota. She grew up in St. James, near Mankato. She graduated from nursing school at the Mayo Clinic (Saint Marys). Mary also attended Alverno College in Milwaukee where she received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. She then took the state exam and received her physician assistant degree.

Mary and her husband Sid worked as associates and partners in the field of cardiac surgery. Together, Sid and Mary's accomplishments include the following:

They developed heart surgery programs in Wausau, WI, at St. Luke's in Milwaukee, and in the Republic of Georgia.

They started the Laser Lab at the VA Medical Center in Milwaukee.

During their time at the VA lab, they had 3 PhD candidates from the US, the UK, and Australia, all of whom received their degrees based on the research at the Laser Lab.

Mary and Sid have published over 200 scientific papers. Because of their work, they were honored with an invitation to attend a ceremony in Tokyo for Dr. Ted Marmen, who received the Nobel Prize for the invention of the Laser. In addition, they were invited to attend a meeting of Nobel Laureates in Vancouver, BS. There they were asked to sit at the head table with the 11 Nobel winners in attendance.

Mary and Sid have 3 patents:

- A cardiac assist device based on nanotechnology
- Cell signaling
- Reverse harmonic signaling of the cell for the

treatment of cancer.

Finally, they developed the medical technique called Transmyocardial Laser Revascularization, a procedure used when cardiac bypass surgery is not possible. It is very evident that Mary and Sid were true partners in advancing our

knowledge of cardiac surgery and in medicine, in general.

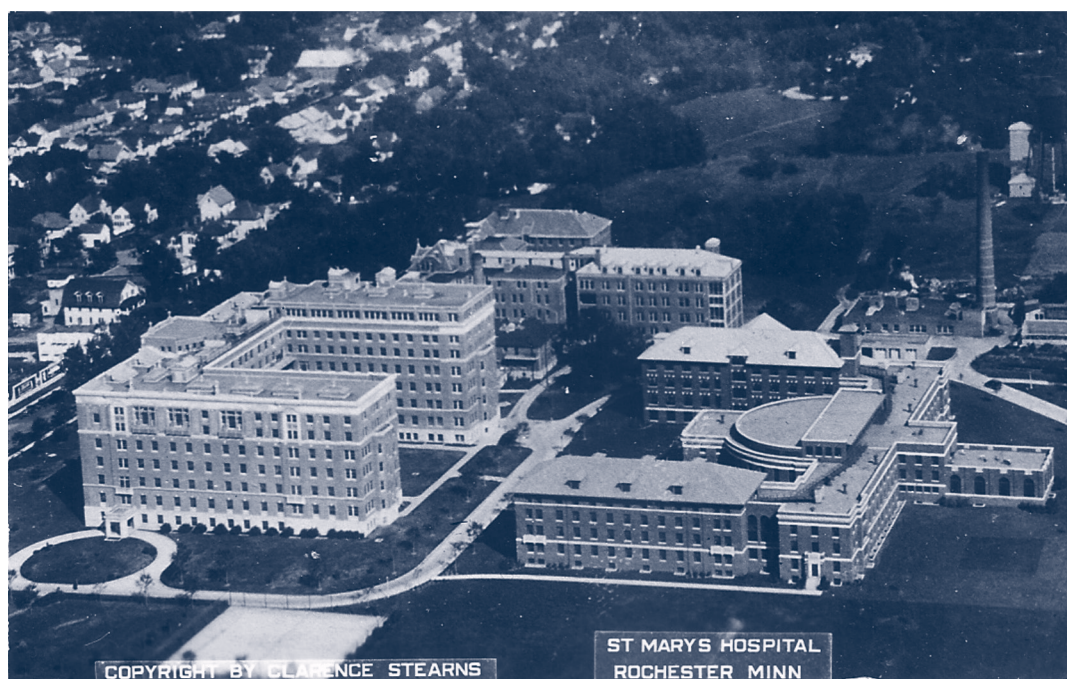
On the personal side, Mary loved music, literature and opera.

Joyce Baker Jacobson ('46) sent a check in honor of her classmates, which was used for the beautiful fall flowers by the altar for our farewell Mass. Thank you, Joyce!

Congratulations to **Dianne Fochtman Seleny ('65)**, who came all the way from Hawaii for our final reunion! She was given a copy of the book, "Nurses of the Mayo Clinic" in recognition for having traveled the farthest to attend.

At the alumni reunion on May 6, 1969, the school's director, **Sister Julie Erne** (who served longer than anyone else as director), spoke about "Alienation with Affection". The speech is too long to print in its entirety but included many very funny comments as well as an important message for all the alumni that day. She addressed the graduating class of 1969 and indirectly spoke of the protests going on in our nation in the turbulent late 1960's, with the following words: "*Such a beautiful evening. The only protest is against the calorie; the only riot is one word knocking out another to be heard. Shall we let them enjoy themselves a few moments longer, Sister? – or should we have your speech now?*" And she closed with the following words directed also to the last class of 1970: "*If the 70's can believe in the sun even when it isn't shining – then their Big Sisters can believe in LOVE, even when they do not feel it; and they can believe in God, even when He is silent – for – in the process of becoming a person you must have learned that the lesson of LOVE must be learned again and again; there is no end to it... It is said that the legitimate aim of young people is to make the future so attractive that older people will wish they were going to live there. You will and we do bless you*".

Sister Julie



Honored Classes

Note, because of our year's delay, we chose to recognize the 2020 honored classes and the 2021 honored classes. So, here they are:

Classes of '48, '49, '50:



*L to R: front: Lois Nigon Reed Holland, Vera Kruse Sullivan, Mary Lent Streit ('48)
2nd row: Rose Perra, Pat Osborne*

Class of '55:



*Front: Catherine Girgen Mayer, Beatrice Pittman Falkner
2nd row: Virginia (Ginny) Clair Macaulay, Rita E. Gengler*

Class of '60:



*Front row: Carolyn Johnson, Signe Durnin, Mary Ann Hanson, Joanne Walsh Smith, Rita Smith Razidlo
2nd row: Janet Zak Speltz, Nancy Hammill Goodbar, Judith Sosinski Goodman, Dianne Erding Wolfe
3rd row: Shirley Sonntag, Delsie Simon Hoffey, Therese DeGrood*

Class of '61:



*Front row: Gayle Riordan Spary, Shirley Dailey Bartsh, Mary Passe Tentis, Marilyn Anderson Spensley, Barbara Prokasky,
Eileen M. King
2nd row: Lucy Beth Wilshusen, Erin McCaffrey Gross, Jean Savoie, Janet Drometer Gorman, Connie Kashmark, Murtice
Robinson Sherek, Betty Springborn Gascich
3rd row: Joan Ratchford Modjeski, Joan Seskarski Henderson, Kay Swanson Kohl, Kathy Rettner Pieper, Theresa Redig
Yaeger, Carolyn Jacobson House*

Class of '65:



Front row: Sandra Asmussen, Barbara Mocco Burnikel, Joan Chudars Smith, Edie McCoy Meeks, Sara Ihrke, Janet Melzark Pilloud, Linda Frye Johnson 2nd row: Mary Broom Ferdon, Mary Jane Mertz Wirges, Jeannine Killian Ladd, Sue Coleman Chilson, Sharon Hincheki Whelan, Maxine Bach Daly 3rd row: Judy Adams Stancl, Marie Vossler Walters, Ann Brunner Selleck, Marilyn Gengler Mussallem, Dianne Fochtman Seleny, Joan Bordsorf Ruppman 4th row: Penny Williams Klein, Janet Prom Ryan, Sheryl Wach Ciastko, Kathleen Sheehan Lambert, Sharon Poisson Hanson

Class of '66:



Front row: Peggy Kennedy Price, Mary Fagerness Krook, Charlotte Hostert Carey, Carole Whitfield Gorden, Claudia Coates Richards, Cori Schumacher Leete, Charlotte Zimmerman, Gloria Woog Kamish, Mary Barnett Sontag, Connie Armstrong Dulas 2nd row: Rennee' Jesseau Ondrozeck, Marie Roiger Koldborg, Irene Jensen Kelly, Beverly Schafer, Charlene Lambert Benson, Kathy Igou Hoopman, Mary Ann Frost Paulukonis, Rebecca McGear, Mary McGowan Jensen, Joan Schlichting Paulson, Joan Capoferri 3rd row: Lynne Aderhold Leary, Mary Kaye Deibert Moore, Barbara Wenner Conway, Helenruth Shaffer Schuette, Janice McCord McArthur, Sharon Sadewasser Gentsch, Pat Soukup Bouska, Carole McLaughlin Hasse, Mary Jo Alberts Steffes 4th row: Barbara Borgert Snyder, Kathy Schaefer Dale, Linda Morgan Sheridan, Molly Maxwell (Berry), Cheryl Anderson Caulfield, Rosanne Schwider Davies, Karen Messersmith Zahasky, Priscilla Pratt O'Rouke, Karen Ellingson Yennie, Marie Nagel Bunders

Other Classes Attending:
(Who chose to have a picture taken)



Class of 56



Class of 64



Class of 58



Class of 67



Class of 1959



Class Of 68

LEAVING OUR LEGACY FOR FUTURE NURSES:

After all the bills are paid, our SMSN Alumni Association treasury will still have a significant amount of money left over, currently estimated at about \$37,600. As those who were at the reunion banquet know, that money will be given to a scholarship fund in honor of our alumni. It is with gratitude to all and our enduring hopes for the future, that your Alumni Board is pleased to announce a contribution to the **Mayo Clinic – Saint Marys Campus Scholarship Fund.**

You may know the fund by its original name, which was the Sister Joseph Endowment Fund. The scholarship fund has been in existence since 1906, when Sister Joseph first started it to provide financial assistance for nursing students. Many alumni received scholarship money from the fund over the years. After the hospital became part of Mayo Clinic, the decision was made to bring the fund “in house”, thereby enabling it to be managed by the clinic’s experts in money management, and eliminating tax professional, banking and investment fees so that more money can be devoted entirely to scholarship recipients. It was renamed the Mayo Clinic – Saint Marys Campus Scholarship fund and has since grown to over \$2.7 million. In 2021 alone, \$108,000 was distributed to Saint Marys staff for nursing scholarships to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees and other related education. The scholarship fund is a “perpetual” named fund, which will never go away, and its purpose can never be changed. Future recipients will be made aware that our SMSN Alumni made a significant contribution toward their scholarships.

Those of you who are in a position to donate further may wish to consider this fund for your gift giving. That can be done in either of the following ways:

To donate directly online, go to the Mayo website at:
<https://philanthropy.mayoclinic.org/donateMC>

(In the box for “Other”, type in: Mayo Clinic – Saint Marys Campus Scholarship Fund)

-OR -

If you prefer, you may also contact:

Jess LeMay Nelson
Phone: 507-538-4119
Email: nelson.jessica3@mayo.edu

(Specify to Jess that you wish to contribute to the Mayo Clinic-
Saint Marys Campus Scholarship Fund)

The SMSN alumni association has been a good steward of our resources over the years, and we are pleased to give back because of all that Saint Marys has meant to us throughout our lives. Special thanks to our alumni treasurer, Marilyn Ricard Sheehan ('68), for serving in that capacity the past few years and helping with the final disbursement of funds (plus taking on the HUGE task of reunion registrations – a particular challenge this year) - We appreciate your hard work, Mari!

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill

A FAREWELL FROM THE BOARD

All of us want to let you know that it has been a great privilege to serve on your SMSN Alumni Board these last few years, culminating in the final reunion this September. As you know, the board will be officially closing the books around the end of the year. Our plan is to be available to you for about the next six months after that, in case of any alumni issues or questions you have and we will make arrangements to keep our contact information on the Mayo website until June 1, 2022. The Link to access our SMSN page on the Mayo website is:

<https://college.mayo.edu/about/alumni-center/saint-marys-school-of-nursing-alumni-association>

Starting on June 1, 2022, the Mayo Center will take over our alumni list and will be your resource should you need further assistance. The preferred method of contacting them is via phone at the following number:

Alumni Center: **507-284-2317.**

We will miss our annual gatherings for sure, and of course, we will especially miss all of you! It will be nice if some of the individual classes continue to get together periodically in the future to renew those valued friendships and reminisce. Stay well and enjoy the upcoming holidays!

Your SMSN Alumni Board,

Anne, Barb, Mari, Wanda, Virge, Brenda, Monica, and Murt

*“How lucky I am to have something that makes saying
goodbye so hard.”*

A.A. Milne

*“In your quiet halls, Saint
Marys.....
May you always take great
pride in us for we belong to you”*



Mayo Clinic
Department of Development

November 12, 2021

Anne Smith, President
Saint Marys School of Nursing Alumni Association
5341 80th Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Dear Ms. Smith,

I am aware that the Saint Marys School of Nursing Alumni Association hosted its last class reunion and has made the decision to donate the remaining proceeds to the Mayo Clinic – Saint Marys School of Nursing Endowed Fund that supports scholarships for nursing education.

On behalf of Mayo Clinic, I wanted to express our sincere appreciation for this generous gift. I know it must be bittersweet at the same time to attend the last class reunion and wind-down the affairs of the Alumni Association. I hope you and the members take comfort in knowing that, because of the service and values of the students that attended Saint Marys School of Nursing, Mayo Clinic is able to provide the gold standard of care for patients from all over the world.

The funds provided by the Alumni Association will perpetuate that excellent care to future patients through a permanent endowment. The spirit of the Saint Marys School of Nursing will live on and the tradition will continue.

Mayo Clinic is immensely grateful for this support. Please express our gratitude to the board and the members of the Saint Marys School of Nursing Alumni Association.

With the warmest regards,

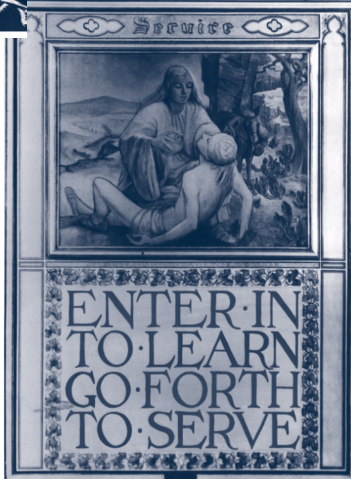
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nick Mueller".

Nick Mueller
Interim Chair
Department of Development

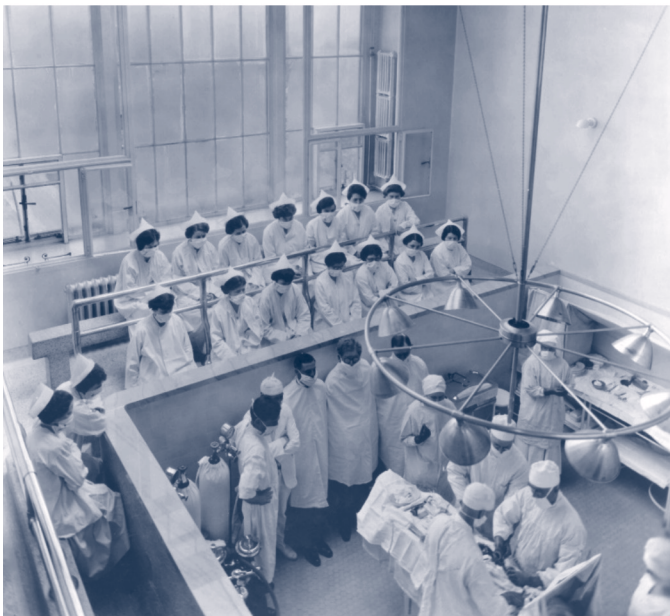


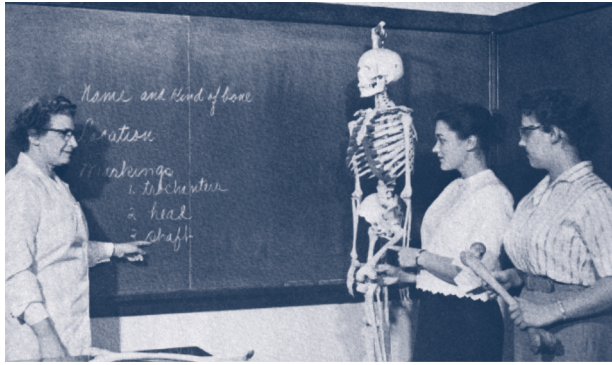
SAINT MARYS SCHOOL OF NURSING

Rochester, Minnesota
1906 - 1970









Alumni News

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Is A Correction Needed?

If your Alumni News was incorrectly addressed, please check the appropriate space below, make any needed correction next to the mailing label at the right and return it to Saint Marys Alumni Association, Siebens 533 Mayo Alumni Center, 200 SW 1st Street, Rochester, MN 55905.

- My name was misspelled
- My address was wrong
- I received more than one copy
- (enclose mailing label from both copies)

_____ *the year I graduated*

Editor's note: Alumni News features items of interest about SMSN Alumni, as well as items about Saint Marys Hospital and Mayo Foundation. Your comments, suggestions, and news information are appreciated and should be sent to SMSN Alumni Association, Siebens 533 Mayo Alumni Center, 200 SW 1st Street, Rochester, MN 55905.



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Golden Jubilee Class of 1970:



Front row: Norma Opsahl Steele, Gloria Little Wesley, Sue Keefe Weis, Mary Schisler-Scott, Kay Burke Allen, Sharon Wolff Vitas, Anne Hermanson Smith **2nd row:** Cheryl Davis Basztura, Linda McBroom Little, Claudia Henderson-Merhi, Nancy Schares Weber, Ida Dolan Miller, Joan Erdmanczyk Majerus **3rd row:** Mary Anne Gainey Wolesky, Donna Seipel Gettys, Lorraine Turner Dressel, Beverley Oakes Polt, Margaret Handfelt Wick, Linda Hugli Olson