



**Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing
Alumni Association, Inc.**
c/o Northeast Health Foundation
310 South Manning Blvd. Albany, NY 12208-1771

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT #79



Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2015

Troy, New York

Save the Date Annual Banquet

Tuesday, November 10, 2015
Paolo Lombardi's Ristorante
104 West Sand Lake Rd
Wynantskill, NY
283-0202

Cash Bar - 5:30 PM

Dinner - 6:00 PM

Guest Speaker - Attorney Adam Cooper
Carter Conboy Law Firm

Topic - Social Media Concerns and the
Licensed Professional

Please join us for an evening of
camaraderie and an interesting
topic for discussion.

Hope to see you there.

A Nurse's Guide to the Use of Social Media

This is the link to the NCSBN White Paper: A Nurse's Guide to the Use of Social Media - https://www.ncsbn.org/Social_Media.pdf
This is an excerpt:

It is important to recognize that instances of inappropriate use of social media can and do occur, but with awareness and caution, nurses can avoid inadvertently disclosing confidential or private information about patients. The following guidelines are intended to minimize the risks of using social media:

First and foremost, nurses **must** recognize that they have an ethical and legal obligation to maintain patient privacy and confidentiality at all times.

- Nurses are strictly prohibited from transmitting by way of any electronic media any patient-related image. In addition, nurses are restricted from transmitting any information that may be reasonably anticipated to violate patient rights to confidentiality or privacy, or otherwise degrade or embarrass the patient.
- Do not share, post or otherwise disseminate any information, including images, about a patient or information gained in the nurse-patient relationship with anyone unless there is a patient care related need to disclose the information or other legal obligation to do so.
- Do not identify patients by name or post or publish information that may lead to the identification of a patient. Limiting access to postings through privacy settings is not sufficient to ensure privacy.
- Do not refer to patients in a disparaging manner, even if the patient is not identified. ,,
- Do not take photos or videos of patients on personal devices,

including cell phones. Follow employer policies for taking photographs or video of patients for treatment or other legitimate purposes using employer-provided devices.

- Maintain professional boundaries in the use of electronic media. Like in-person relationships, the nurse has the obligation to establish, communicate and enforce professional boundaries with patients in the online environment. Use caution when having online social contact with patients or former patients. Online contact with patients or former patients blurs the distinction between a professional and personal relationship. The fact that a patient may initiate contact with the nurse does not permit the nurse to engage in a personal relationship with the patient.
- Consult employer policies or an appropriate leader within the organization for guidance regarding work related postings.
- Promptly report any identified breach of confidentiality or privacy.
- Be aware of and comply with employer policies regarding use of employer-owned computers, cameras and other electronic devices and use of personal devices in the work place.
- Do not make disparaging remarks about employers or co-workers. Do not make threatening, harassing, profane, obscene, sexually explicit, racially derogatory, homophobic or other offensive comments.
- Do not post content or otherwise speak on behalf of the employer unless authorized to do so and follow all applicable policies of the employer.



From the President's Desk

Along with the harsh winters, we have beautiful summers here in Upstate New York. I hope you have been able to enjoy this summer.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, I would like to thank Cheryl Rankey, her team from the Foundation, and Susan Birkhead, Director of the School of Nursing, for making the 3rd Annual Alumni Banquet a great success. The speaker, Patty Wooten, R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N. was both informational and entertaining. It was a wonderful evening reuniting with classmates and old friends. A special thank you to Susan Birkhead for arranging tours of the new campus for the School of Nursing located in St. Mary's Hospital. The new campus will provide our students with up-to-date clinical labs along with the educational resources needed for completing their education.

The Alumni Board has been working very hard to update our By-Laws. Here are a few points:

The Seber and Belknap Committee

- scholarship awards will be sent out after transcripts are sent in for the completed course.

Finance Committee

- The President regularly and consistently reviews any conflicts among the Directors.
- All records and financial statements are available to the public.

A copy of the complete By-Laws will be sent to all Alumni before the November meeting for review. The revised By-Laws will be voted on at the November 10th, 2015 meeting. Please plan on attending the meeting or be sure to send in your proxy card.

If you are not already an Alumni member, please consider joining. Information regarding the time and location of the November meeting is in this newsletter. Hope to see you there.

Mary Rose DeMarco '77 President

Congratulations to the 2015 Graduate Practical Nurse Class



On August 6, 2015, fifteen students graduated from the Samaritan Practical Nurse Program. These new nurses are off to positions at: Sunnyview Hospital, Long Term Care Facilities for the elderly and children, and a Homeopathic Physician's Office. Employment is also available in physicians' offices, hospital operating rooms, endoscopy departments, private duty and medical sales.

BELKNAP SCHOLARSHIP FUND FALL 2015

YOU are the one we are looking for...
If you are ready to advance your **EDUCATION**:
*Samaritan RN with BSN
*Dues paying member of the Alumni (as of 1/31/15)
*Application for either Masters or
Doctorate of Nursing Practice
*Proof of Matriculation in either program

I hope you will let this program assist you
in reaching your dreams.

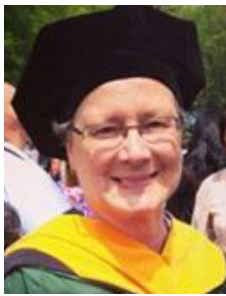
Proposed Nurse Staffing Ratios

These ratios are specified in the current version of the Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act.

As has been reported by our District Liason Karen Henchey, the New York State Nursing Association is still pursuing Legislative intervention for safe staffing levels. Above are the staffing levels proposed. For more information on this topic please go to www.NYSNA.org and search under our campaigns. There is information regarding research on this issue as well as the proposal to the legislature. This is a topic that is very important to nurses currently working and for those that are retired. We will all require nursing intervention at some time in our lives. These proposed ratios give us all a chance of less or no complications during hospitalization as well as reducing the cost of health care.

For the total District Liason report please go to the web site for Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing under Alumni. We are also looking for an additional Committee member.

All intensive care	1:2	Intermediate care nursery	1:3
Emergency critical care	1:2	Postpartum couplets	1:3
Trauma emergency unit	1:1	Postpartum mother-only	1:4
Operating room	1:1	Well-baby nursery	1:6
Post-anesthesia care	1:2	Pediatrics	1:3
Labor - stage 1	1:2	Emergency department	1:3
Labor - stages 2 & 3	1:1	Step-down & telemetry	1:3
Antepartum	1:3	Medical/surgical	1:4
Non-critical antepartum	1:4	Acute care psychiatric	1:4
Newborn nursery	1:3	Rehabilitation units	1:5



From the Director's Desk

FALL 2015

Greetings from the new home of the Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing! We moved to our new 'digs' in mid-May, and we have spent the summer getting settled in our spacious, clean and bright setting.

We have increased our size by about 4000 square feet. The corridors are much wider and much longer – we are told that the main hall is the size of a football field! We each easily reached our 10,000 steps a day all summer long as we dragged furniture and boxes up and down the halls getting everything into its proper place. While there are no more classrooms than before, we now have a computer lab that is available to the students 24/7. It has 26 PCs and the library has 6 PCs for student use; this is a 288% over what was available to students before. The library is much bigger, and the collection has been vigorously culled to ensure that we have only the most up-to-date materials. There is a study/testing suite that students are invited to use on a first/come first/serve basis as a quiet study area or as a place for group studying. All full-time faculty members have private offices, and all the part-time faculty members have a desk in several shared offices. The Student Lounge is larger and is equipped with better kitchen facilities. The faculty, staff and students all agree that we are well served in the new space, and we look forward to carrying on our tradition of excellence in nursing education in our new home!

By the time you are reading this, we will have had our site visit from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (formerly NLNAC). We have been working diligently to prove that we meet all the standards, and are confident that we will have a positive visit.

On a personal note, I defended my doctoral dissertation in April, and graduated from the Sage Colleges on Saturday, May 16 – the same day that the movers finished moving us out of Thurman Hall. It was a busy spring!

Susan Birkhead, DNS, MPH, RN, Director

District Liaison

This committee serves as a liaison between the Samaritan Alumni Association and Northeast New York Professional Nurses Organization, Inc (previously known as Capital District #9 of NYSNA). All bills proposed in the NYS Legislature and newly enacted laws and other pertinent information affecting the nursing profession are brought to the attention of the alumni membership.

Annual dues for NNYPNO are \$45.00 (\$22.50 for retirees) which are paid July 1st annually. There are currently 187 members in good standing. Please view the website www.NNYPNO.com. The current Newsletter and Educational Opportunities are available there.

All NNYPNO meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month (October, December,

February, April, and June). The new venue will be Franklin Terrace Ballroom 126 Campbell Avenue Troy NY. The cost is \$35.00 for members and \$37.00 for non-members. Continuing Education certificates are made available to those attending when programs are presented.

NYSNA priority legislation for 2015-2016 Legislative Session

1. Safe Staffing for Quality Conduct (A1548/S7820).
2. Educational Advancement for RNs: ***Reintroduced Would require registered professional nurses (RNs) to attain bachelor's degree in nursing within ten years of their initial licensure, while "grandfathering" nurses already in practice and nursing students already enrolled (S0294 & A02480)*
3. Against For-Profit Ownership & Private Equity Investment in New York Hospitals
4. Move from the "Basic Health Plan" toward Universal Single Payer Coverage
5. Strengthen Certificate of Need (CON) Regulations
6. Protect the Quality of Care of the Practice of Nursing

For further information, you can visit NYSNA's legislative advocacy website at [NYSNA.org](http://www.nysna.org).

The District Liaison Committee is seeking another member. If you are interested, please contact me at 283-4967 or khenchey@aol.com

Karen Henchey, Chairperson

Congratulations to the May 2015 Registered Nurse Class



Lyme Disease



As you take walks in parks and trails you may see signs regarding the presence of ticks that may carry Lyme disease as well as other tick born illnesses. They have become commonplace and therefore we may not be as diligent about prevention as we might be. This was brought home to me two times in the past month with the discovery of ticks on my grandniece and my granddaughter. The one looked like a freckle that only her Mother noticed because she was familiar with the moles and freckles on her daughter. The other lifted her shirt and said Grandma is this a tick? With that the engorged tick promptly fell into my hand. It is not only parents that must be diligent but caregivers also. I was quickly reminded that if a child is in my care I would need to make sure that he/she is properly protected from exposure and inspect after a day outdoors. Fortunately neither child developed adverse affects from this exposure. Below is a link to the CDC for a comprehensive look at Lyme disease prevention and treatment. <http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/index.html>

Condolences to the families of:

- Mary Hayner Ulibarre Class of 1958
- Naomi Lavender Miller Class of 1940
- Jacqueline S. Gray Class of 1951
- Jennie Shaw O'Keefe Class of 1944
- Jennie Kleiber Baker Class of 1946
- Betty Downing Kano Class of 1953
- Edna Barrey VanLew Class of 1945
- Carol Lynn Lambertsen Kot Booth Class of 1978



Condolences to:

- Martha Baker Hart Class of 1968 on the loss of her sister Mary K. Baker
- Penelope Roblin Class of 1966 on the loss of her father Lt Col Walter K. Roblin
- Marie K. Occhiogrosso Class of 1981 on the loss of her father-in-law Fred W. Occhiogrosso
- Robert Hengsterman Class of 1992 on the loss of his grandfather Edward F. Hengsterman
- Louise Steele Class of 1951 on the loss of her husband Robert Smith
- Suzanne Blair Asher Class of 1963 on the loss of her husband Paul Asher

History Committee

History Committee Members are Joan S. McReavy, Eleanor Lee, Bunny Ohara and Florence Strang.

The focus of this committee is to retrieve, organize and preserve our Alumni's memorabilia and artifacts. This will preserve the history of our school and nursing. Alumni, please think about donating your own memorabilia to the History Committee

I am looking for a member with computer skills to assist with a project of documenting all classes on a spread sheet. Phone - 541-3786.

Presently, we are located in the Alumni office with the School of Nursing on the Seton Campus.

Leora E. Belknap Scholarship Fund

The Leona E. Belknap Scholarship Fund was created on 1991 as scholarship assistance for a Samaritan Graduate of the RN program of Samaritan Hospital SON who is matriculating into a Master's Level program in nursing.

If you are presently an active member of the Samaritan Hospital SON Alumni Association and matriculated into a graduate level nursing program you may be eligible for the Belknap Scholarship fund. Information regarding this fund is on the Samaritan Hospital SON Alumni web site and our application is there as well. Send the application to Samaritan Hospital SON Alumni Association, attn Belknap Scholarship Fund. Donations to the Fund are always welcome.

The most recent awardees of this scholarship are Margaret Gongoleski, Class of 1991 and Ann Coonrad, Class of 1984.

Seber Fund

This fund is to be made available, from time to time, at the discretion of the Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing, Inc. to young women who desire to become registered nurses or to registered nurses who desire to do graduate study in nursing, but who need financial assistance in order to do so." Male applicants seeking graduate study in nursing may also apply. Applicants for BSN programs and Graduate school must be Alumni members.

This spring two scholarships were awarded and the committee will meet again in December. Applications for the Seber Fund may be found online via the St. Peter's Healthcare Partners website, under Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association Inc. We encourage anyone eligible to apply.

Courtesy Committee

The Courtesy Committee was created to provide memorials for deceased alumni or their immediate family members. It also provides a remembrance for those who are ill or disabled. Monies are obtained from annual dues or donations received and designated for the Courtesy Fund.

To date in 2015, 11 condolence donations were made to the Leora Belknap Scholarship Fund. 17 donations were made in 2014.

The Infirm List currently is comprised of 15 alumni. Cards are sent to these members at Thanksgiving and Easter. Poinsettia plants are sent at Christmas dependent on available funds.

If anyone has knowledge of an alumni who should be placed on the Infirm List or a grad who is recently deceased and should have a donation made to the Belknap Fund, please notify Karen Henchey at (518) 283-4967, khenchey@aol.com, or committee members: Kathy Davis 273-4503, Ellen Dunn 283-0431, and Diane Dare 783-8790



Over 120 were in attendance at the Annual Alumni Banquet sponsored by the Northeast Health Foundation held on June 5th. This year's milestone Classes were for 1965 - 50th anniversary and 1990 - 25th anniversary.

Save the Date for next year's banquet on June 3, 2016!



Members of the Class of 1975 celebrate their 40th reunion at this year's event.