

## Alumni Board Members

### President - Open

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**Mary Catherine Renna** (Courtesy)  
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**Anne Conrad** (Courtesy)  
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**Barbara Holmes** (Welsh Fund)  
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**Susan Quinn** (Welsh Fund)  
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## Interim Dean of Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing

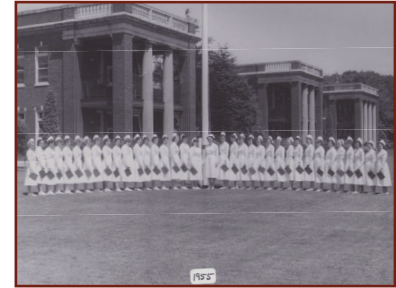
**Susan Birkhead**  
susan.birkhead@sphp.com

[www.sphp.com/samaritan-hospital-school-of-nursing-alumni-association](http://www.sphp.com/samaritan-hospital-school-of-nursing-alumni-association)

Samaritan Hospital  
School of Nursing

1300 Massachusetts Avenue  
Troy, NY 12180  
518.268.5010

## Celebrating 120 years of The Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing



The School of Nursing started as a 3-year diploma school at the request of Samaritan Hospital in 1898 with the first class graduating in 1902. In 1903 the State University of New York granted a Charter to the Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing to “instruct for the successful practice of nursing”.



Over the years we have seen many changes in the school from uniforms, equipment, curriculum, physical location, and at times virtual teaching. Many of us graduated from the three-year program with confidence in our knowledge and abilities. In 1989 the Samaritan Hospital Board of Directors received authority to grant a 2-year associate in science degree for the RN program. In January 1995, the school expanded to include a practical nursing program.

We as Alumni are fortunate to have graduated from a distinguished school that has provided an excellent education and many opportunities for past and present graduates. It has been 120 years since the charter was granted and the school continues to accept the mission and philosophy while progressively advancing program offerings to meet the unprecedented demands of the profession.

As changes in the nursing profession continue to occur, the school has been given a historic foundation to continue forward. May the school continue its mission for many years to come.



## From the Dean's Desk

Dear Alumni,

I find myself back in the saddle again as Interim Dean. Some of picking up the reins is like riding a bike – comes right back! However, there are lots of new systems and ways of getting things done to learn. There are many familiar faces who have been so welcoming and many new faces who have also been welcoming. I will hold this position until a replacement is appointed, and I will stay on to mentor that replacement as long as necessary. I look forward to guiding this school to the next chapter!

### NCLEX PASS RATES:

These figures were released by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing for the first two quarters of 2023. There was special interest in the data for the second quarter because that was the quarter in which the new test question type known as “Next Gen” first appeared on the exam. Remarkably, the pass rate went up significantly all over the country! The national and state rates below represent test takers who graduated from all types of nursing education programs (AD, BS, etc.).

	National Pass Rate	NYS Pass Rate	SHSON Pass Rate
<b>First quarter</b>	<b>80.48%</b>	<b>74.85%</b>	
<b>Second quarter</b>	<b>94.32%</b>	<b>92.70%</b>	
<b>Total first and second quarters</b>			<b>100% (18/18)*</b>

\*Number of test-passers divided by the number of test-takers.

**Susan Birkhead, DNS, MPH, RN, CNE, Interim Dean**

The Class of 1963 had their 60th class reunion at the SPHP Annual Nursing Alumni Gala held at the Hilton Garden Inn Troy, NY. Attending from left to right are Suzanne Blain Asher, Lois LaMarch McGlynn, Carol Moot Shorkey, Carolyn Repka Kozubal, Barbara Moran Cocco and Babara Moss Holmes.



## Bits and Pieces Fall/Winter 2023

**Georgene S. Beaver '65** I am retired and enjoying my life with my family and friends. I had a bilateral total knee replacement at the end of October and am doing very well - no more pain.

**Theresa L. Larson '96** Retired and enjoying life at the beach!

## Welsh Fund

A brief reminder regarding one of the many benefits of the SON Alumni Assoc.:

The Blanche E. Welsh Fund was established in 1968 by the last will and testament of Blanche E. Welsh. The purpose of the fund is to provide aid and assistance for sick and/or disabled nurses with their medical expenses. Funds are available to any member in good standing (dues paying member for 5 years) or lifetime member based on review of applications by the committee.

Additional details and application forms may be found on the Alumni web site: <https://www.sphp.com/careers/School of Nursing/Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing/Alumni Association>.

– **Barbara Holmes, Chairperson**

## Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association Fall Dinner Meeting

**When:** Tuesday, November 14th, 2023

**Where:** Paolo Lombardi's Ristorante,  
104 West Sand Lake Road, (Rt 150),  
Wynantskill, NY

**Time:** 5:00 PM

**Guest Speaker:** Nicole Gobel from Bouchey Financial

**Topic:** "Managing Retirement Funds"

**Program:** 5:00 PM gathering (Cash Bar)

6:00 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Alumni/Foundation Meeting

**Dinner Choices:** Pollo Alla Milanese  
Salmone Alla Piccata  
Melanzana Rollatini

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## Dinner Meeting Reservation

Please return reservation with \$20.00 (member) or \$25.00 (non-member) with the fee payable to Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association, Inc by Thursday, November 4th, 2023.

If you are a student and have an interest in attending, there is a fee of \$10 per person.

**Mail to:**

Claudia Graham, 1 Bridge Rd., Menands, NY 12204

All reservations must be honored. If a cancellation is required, please contact Sharon Bass at (518) 588-3955.

If anyone has a topic they would like to see presented at an Alumni meeting please contact Sharon Bass or another Board Member.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Eggplant

\*\*We would like payments as soon as possible.\*\*



**Samaritan Hospital**  
**School of Nursing**  
Alumni Association, Inc.

ST. PETER'S HEALTH PARTNERS  
Center for Philanthropy  
310 South Manning Blvd.  
Albany, NY 12208-1771

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## **Belknap Scholarship Fund**

Scholarship monies are available for Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing graduates that are alumni members in good standing . Member must be matriculated in a Masters or Doctoral program in Nursing. Currently we have one application that will be awarded in December. If you are interested please visit the SPHP web site to schools of nursing to Samaritan to Alumni association. Applications are accessed there.

– *Claudia Grahams, Belknap Chair*

## **Seber Scholarship Fund**

**The William F. and Josephine H. Seber Scholarship Fund** was created in 1973 through funds left to the Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing Alumni, Inc. in the last will and testament of Sarah Etola Peck. Miss Peck's will stated that the Fund is “ to be used to provide scholarships for the study of nursing. This fund is to be made available, from time to time, at the discretion of said Corporation 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.” These funds are only eligible to male applicants seeking graduate study in nursing.

Seber awards will be awarded at the end of the semester to ensure compliance with Seber Fund rules. The applicants must be in good academic standing and supply proof, such as a copy of grades for the semester for which they are applying, with their application. Furthermore, registered nurses seeking funds for graduate assistance must be in good standing (dues paid or waived according to association rules) with the Alumni Association Inc. Please see the rules of the Seber Fund attached to the application. If you are not compliant with established fund rules you may not be eligible for future awards or you may be required to return funds received. Three scholarships were awarded in the Spring of 2023. There are 4 current applications for the fall semester. 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.

– *Claudia Graham, Vice President*