

NEWSLETTER

Our Website is launched!

www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com

VGH SON Alumnae Entering 21st Century with Launch

It was time for us to join the rest of the world so we now have our own website and invite you to visit it. It will continue to evolve over the next few months as we add our archive and museum collections. What you see now are sample items. There is a lot to view, so open the home page and scroll down the menus. We can add your reunion and class news as well. Let us know what you think by emailing us at: kathleen.murphy@vch.ca

www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com

Visit our Open House -
May 11, 2011 • 10:00 - 2:00

We are excited to be holding our 2nd Open House and invite you to pay us a visit. All rooms will be open so you can view our uniform collection, large archives and museum, hall displays, lounge and office. Special displays will be arranged such as pediatric and military nursing, polio with an iron lung and our newly created doll collection and many more.

Place: **Heather Pavilion -2 South**

Look for signs and balloons.

Honouring the Class of 1961

**CELEBRATE the MEMORIES...
RENEW the SPIRIT**

**VGHSON
Alumnae Luncheon
Sunday May 1, 2011**

St Mary's Ukrainian Centre

3150 Ash Street
Vancouver, BC V5Z 3C9

Check-in begins at 12 noon

Lunch 12:30

Ample parking &
wheel chair accessible.

To guarantee you have a seat,
register and pay for the lunch before the
deadline of April 15, 2011

See registration form on page 16

Guests at the luncheon are the 1961
graduates and if you graduated in 1951
or earlier, you are also our guest but
[remember to register.](#)

If you have questions contact

Myra Braun: (604)266-7202 -
email: myra_braun@telus.net or

Pat Sexsmith: (604) 261-8293 -
e-mail: psexsmith@shaw.ca



ARCHIVE COMMITTEE REPORT 2010



Les Mobbs, Vancouver City Archivist visited the archives. Shown with Naomi Constant, alumnae archivist

TRINITY WESTERN STUDENTS VISIT

In early November, the archives and artifacts of the Alumnae Association provided a unique experience for a number of nursing history students from Trinity Western University. With their professor, Dr. Sonya Grypma, they examined the historic photos, uniforms, displays and equipment that were carefully arranged by Betty-Anne Rogers, Ethel Warbinek, Co-Chairs of the Archives Committee and Naomi Constant, our Archivist.

It was reported that the visit was a highlight of their course.



THE DOLL PROJECT: was completed. Thank you to the team for a job well done - Peggy Etchell, Ethel Warbinek and Betty-Anne Rogers for consultation and follow-up. The project co-ordinator was Sheila Rankin-Zerr - uniform designer, sewer and doll dresser. The porcelain doll reproductions were done by Sheila Calen of Timeless Doll Gallery and Hospital. A 4-compartment plastic case with a rear mirror was produced by PLASTIC for the nine completed dolls. **DISPLAYS:** continue at the Jim Pattison Pavilion. In February -April show cased the 99 - year VGH School of Nursing and capping. It included a welcome to the Olympians/ Paralympians and their families.

On April 10, 2010, the Vancouver Public Library featured women's displays and we shared a table with the BC History of Nursing Society. Our display included a mannequin wear-

ing a student uniform along with selected artifacts. This was very well received by the public.

TOURS: two groups of nursing students from Trinity Western University visited our archives. Two UBC nursing students, enrolled in a course on nursing uniforms and professionalism under the direction of Sheila Rankin Zerr, also had a tour.

ON-GOING WORK: continues on updating the inventory, photographing the silver and artifacts. Photographs are being scanned and entered on the computer. New donations are continually processed.

We would like to thank our hard working committee members who give so generously of their time:

Janie Birkeland, Peggy Etchell, Reta Kidd, Betty Kirkland, Kay Raisbeck, Marg Shugg and Mary Watt.

We appreciate our archivist, Naomi Constant, for her expertise and careful attention to detail.

Betty-Anne Rogers & Ethel Warbinek – co- chairs.



EVENTS

Women's History Fair was held Saturday April 10, 2010 at the Vancouver Public Library Central Branch in the indoor promenade.

Over 20 groups had displays including our VGH SON Alumnae Association Archives. We shared a table along with the BC History of Nursing Society. It was well attended by the public with many stopping to talk to us about our uniform and capping display.



Marjory Wilson '35 with display

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2010

The highlight of the year was the annual luncheon held on the first Sunday in May which honored the classes celebrating their 50th year after graduation. Despite the need to locate a new venue at the last minute, there was an excellent turnout. Honorary membership was given to Naomi Constant who has been the Archivist for the Alumnae Association for the past ten years.



The guest speaker was Leanne Appleton, a VGH Nursing leader, who was the Director of Olympic and Paralympic Health Planning.

Links with other groups resulted in attendance at the Women's History Fair held in the Vancouver Library in April, hosting the reception for Naomi (Allsebrook) Miller, Class of UBC 1950, who was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in the BC History of Nursing Society, and meeting with a variety of other health groups to consider the future of a health museum in the Heather Pavilion. A donation was also given to the Heather Heritage Society, which is led by VGH graduate Peggy Etchell, to assist with the Special Fund.

The alumnae association is guided by the constitution and a Strategic Plan which is revised every 3 years and

reviewed annually. The office has been managed efficiently by Norma Guttormsson who also took on the role of Treasurer when Sharon Baxter retired after many years in this position. This was to be a temporary role and the search is still ongoing for an association treasurer.

Due to a number of enquiries from an internet listing, the association is delighted to be involved with the creation of the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association website.

Consultants have been hired to assist with the creation and it is expected that this will be a wonderful resource for our graduates.

The class reunions described in the annual newsletter reveal a variety of events that have been held in the past year. Assistance has been provided by the Association when the organizers have needed resources to assist them.

I have been pleased to represent the Alumnae Association at a number of events hosted by the VGH and UBC Hospital Foundation and the Registered Nurses Foundation when the ongoing financial support for education bursaries is recognized.

It has been a pleasure to serve as President of this fascinating group and work with so many other graduates. Sincere appreciation is extended to all who assist in keeping the Association viable.

Kathy (McCutcheon) Murphy, September, 1965.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2010

General Fund Balance	December 31, 2010	\$ 18,935.76
BMO Investment Acct. Balance	December 31, 2010	\$ 68,000.00
BMO Cora Trethewey Balance	December 31, 2010	\$ 70,000.00
Investment Income	December, 2010	\$ 2,829.00

The year-end balance includes 2011 Membership Fees that are received and deposited from September – December 2010\$ 9,098.77

Respectfully submitted, Norma Guttormsson, Treasurer

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT 2010

In March 2010, 1300 newsletters were printed by VGH Printing.

In November, 1300 Bulletins were printed and mailed along with membership renewal forms and a request for donations to our VGH SON Archival Development Fund.

Thanks to all who sent in news and photographs. Please continue to do so by mailing your news to me at the Alumnae office or e-mail me at: warbinek@telus.com

Articles about you, classmates, VGH graduates and/or the School are welcome and will be considered for publication. If you are planning a reunion, send in the information, and it will be published in the spring newsletter.

Within the next few weeks we hope to have our web site up and running and will be able to post your news.

Web site:
www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com

Special thanks to Mary Watt, co-editor, for her help with these publications.

Ethel Warbinek, publicity chair



LUNCH COMMITTEE REPORT 2010



Pat Sexsmith and Myrna Braun

The VGH School Of Nursing Alumnae Association, Annual Luncheon was held on May 2nd 2010, at St Mary's Ukrainian Centre. 269 members attended. The VGH and UBC Classes of 1960 were the Honoured Guests.

Upon short notice, it became necessary for the 2010 Luncheon Committee to find an alternate Venue in order to go ahead with plans for the Luncheon. With the help of our President, Kathleen Murphy, the two Co-Chairmen, Pat Sexsmith and Myrna Braun were able to accomplish this.

The new venue, at St Mary's Ukrainian Centre, proved to be very satisfactory, with a bright, spacious room and much improved parking space.

The Speaker, Leanne Appleton gave an informative, yet personal account of her role as Planner for VGH and as, Chief Provider of Medical Services for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. A presentation, enjoyed by all. A selection of items from the VGH Alumnae silver collection, was on display. The sale of books went well. The Honoured Guests of 1960 entertained with reminiscences of their days as Student Nurses.

The Classes of 1961 will be the Honoured Guests at this year's Luncheon, to be held May 1st, 2011 at St.Mary's Ukrainian Centre. All Alumnae, including Honoured Guests, are requested to pre-register. Members, other than Honoured Guests, are requested to submit payment for the Luncheon prior to April 15th. This will facilitate catering and seating arrangements.

The Co-Chairmen of the Luncheon Committee are: Pat Sexsmith and Myrna Braun.

Please join us on May 1st, 2011 to celebrate, "Thanks for the Memories".

Respectively Submitted, Kathleen Raisbeck

Book Sale: The Vancouver General Hospital School of Nursing 1957-1965 by Beverly Witter Du Gas will be sold at the lunch. Cost \$20.00

FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 2010

Our busiest time is the spring deliveries of our Floral Arrangements. It is an important time in remembering our senior alums, and to enjoy hearing of their part in the evolving history of our School of Nursing. We could not achieve this without our volunteers, who in addition to the delivery, spend time to visit. They have mentioned that not only is it a delightful time for the recipient, but also for them. This past year we sent 27 arrangements, including the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island and Nelson.

In addition 18 sympathy cards, 5 get well cards, 3 florals and 31 Christmas cards were sent. Also included was a 100th Birthday for Nancy Lee in Nelson.



Many thanks to Gail McKay, Anne Derksen, Jacquie Aird, Win Watts, Nancy Gregson and Nadiene Eaton. We are looking for a volunteer for the Surrey & White Rock areas.

Also in 2010 we lost 21 of our alums. We are not always able to send a card if we do not have an address. If you hear of a classmate, please let the alumnae office know, especially with name & address. We are also continually updating names for our Spring deliveries.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Parker, Lorna Hoare, Co-chairs

REGISTERED NURSES FOUNDATION OF BC

For over 30 years the RNFBC has been providing bursaries from a variety of trust funds for basic nursing students and graduate nurses continuing their education. The VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association established a trust fund in 1984 which has grown over the years due to additional donations.

The initial bursary was designated for graduates of the VGH School of Nursing and the UBC/VGH Collaborative Program but as the programs ended the bursary was revised to include the children of graduates.

In December 2010, 98 bursaries were awarded with the total value of \$117,000. Of this total, 12 were awarded the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Bursary. These students are studying at the University of Victoria, UBC, Camosun College, BCIT and Athabasca University.

More information on how to apply for a bursary or how to donate to the VGH Bursary at the RNFBC can be found on the website at: www.rnfbc.ca. Information can also be obtained by writing the RNFBC, PO Box 33957, Station D, Vancouver B.C. V6J 4L7.

Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$50.00 or more.

ARCHIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

For the period ending December 31, 2010

General Account

Revenue

Funds carried forward \$6581.02
 Donations received in 2010 \$9039.59
 Interest .71
Total revenue \$15,621.32

Expenses

Doll project \$1730.08
 Displays \$206.04
 Office supplies \$136.76
 Bank charges \$53.38
 Web site \$2240.00
 Transfer to GIC \$6327.91
Total Expenses \$10,694.17
 Balance in chequing account: \$5,309.59
 Long Term investment \$27,000.00
 Balance December 31, 2010 \$32,306.59
Submitted by: Ethel Warbinek - Trustee - January 27, 2011

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

A cause for celebration! In 2010 our membership figures improved so much that we are only slightly below the figures of the previous year! In 2009 we had 1152 members who paid their fees and this year we have 1144. Hopefully we will do better next year.

When we receive a class list we bring the computer listing up-to-date and frequently send a letter to those graduates we have not heard from for some time. This year we had a 26.5% response. This is an improvement from last year.

As you will note from the following we are still missing a significant number of class lists although the number is less than last year. Please remember we do not share the lists with outside organizations.

1965.....February	1981.....February
1972.....all classes	1982.....September
1973.....February	1983.....September
1974.....September	1984.....all classes
1976.....all classes	1985.....September
1977.....September	1986.....all classes
1978.....February	1987.....September
1979.....all classes	1991.....February
1980.....September	

Thank you for all your notes and cards. We enjoy keeping in touch. *Respectfully submitted, Anne E. Williams Sept/54*

PIN BANK REPORT

Unfortunately, we have not had any requests for replacement pins although there are a few available. Is it time to discontinue this service? *Respectfully submitted, Anne E. Williams*



THE VGH SCHOOL & Professional Identity

A teaching module, developed by Sheila Zerr, will examine the development of the professional image of nursing.

The module will use the nine portrait dolls portraying the Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) training school uniforms from 1899 to the 1970s as a basis of study. The project is part of the University of British Columbia (UBC) School of Nursing N344 synthesis project. Students registered in the fourth level N344 course are asked to choose from a possible 25 synthesis projects that match the students with community partners in clinical and community nursing. Students earn 2 credits for project participation and are expected to spend approximately 50 hours from September to February researching and developing their topic for presentation at the end of the project. They will search out research tools and sources, learn to examine their subject, and then present their findings in a final written and poster format.

Two UBC nursing students chose to study the professional influence of the VGH training school uniforms. They will examine and research the influence the uniform had on the development of the professional image of the nurse. Research sources include the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Archives, the College of Registered Nurses library and historical holdings and the UBC library and History of Nursing Society Archives. The students are asked to use their research to examine current nursing attire and discuss how the nurse today can use this knowledge of the past to influence the development of their future professional attire and image.

UBC faculty member Dr. Sally Thorne is partnered with Sheila Zerr in this project.

Submitted by Sheila Zerr

Celebration '50' at 2010 Lunch



More photos on the website



EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT 2010

The calibre of our VGH graduate nurses never ceases to amaze me and the recipients of the bursary awards for 2010 are no exception. Our applications were down this year but those who applied are pursuing very interesting post graduate work. Three are working towards their Masters degree in nursing. One is a distance student with the University of Queensland in Australia. She is working on leadership development and management in health care practice. Another Master's candidate is specializing in hospice palliative care nursing in the community and plans to continue her studies to earn her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing.



A Bachelor degree student has a career goal of public health nursing. Another who is also working towards her Bachelor's degree states that as a hospice palliative care clinician, she is able to provide front line support to staff and patients as well as being involved in process development at the leadership level. Another bursary award recipient is completing a dual certificate in Community and Addictions Counseling. She hopes to continue studies to obtain a mental health nursing certificate with an eventual goal to become a psychotherapist. And yet another graduate is a diabetic educator and received funding to write her diabetes certification exam.

One Master's student writes that she began nursing three decades ago as a naive young woman with an ideal which was a blend of Nightingale's vision, religious idealism, feminist theory and caring. She still remains at the bedside but in a different role - now as a teacher. Once she completes her Master's degree in July 2011 she hopes to continue her love of teaching in an academic setting in a college or university.

The Alumnae is pleased to be able to provide bursaries to VGH graduates as they pursue further education to fulfill new dreams, goals and career pathways. We indeed have a legacy to leave in the medical world that began with our three year hospital training. So many graduates have achieved wonderful accomplishments and you are all to be sincerely congratulated by your fellow alumnae. VGH graduates are highly respected and all our applicants had outstanding references and emphasized that VGH nurses are dependable, industrious and committed to excellence

The Education Committee was happy to award \$7,950.00 to seven bursary recipients for 2010.

The following are the 2010 Bursary Recipients

Eileen Lewis Johnston Memorial Fund

Janet (Imre) Olsen Sept. '86 (part 1 of award)

Harvey/Cain Endowment Fund – Margaret (Dorset, 1929) Harvey, & Dorothy Cain (sister)

Debra Ann (Dernisky) Mayer Sept. '80
 Janet (Imre) Olsen Sept. '86 (part 2 of award)
 Wendy (Armstrong) Sanders Feb. '80
 Sandra Stam Feb. '90

VGH/SON Alumnae Education Fund

Maureen (Jang) Anderson Feb. '68
 Kya (Monteith) Milne Feb. '90
 Joan Neuman Feb. '72

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lynne (Meir-Gildea) Dunbar Sept.'65 for her interest in the Education Committee and assisting with the selection process.

The committee welcomes applications from the VGH/SON program or the UBC/VGH Collaborative Nursing Program for the 2011 Alumnae bursary program. Inquiries and request for application forms can be made by phoning the Alumnae Office at 604-875-4111- local 62049 (please leave a message) or view the website at www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com

Respectfully submitted, Joan Kerr Chairman Education Committee



Coleen Stainton Aug 60



Speaker
 Leanne Appleton

Luncheon 2010 Speakers



Jane Robertson & Eileen Purder
 Sept 60



Anne Callegarini Feb. 60

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2010

The Executive of the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association for the year 2011 is as follows:

Officers:

- President* - Kathy Murphy
- Vice President* - Mary Raikes -Tindle
- Recording Secretary* - Vivian Blake
- Acting Treasurer* - Norma Guttormsson
- Executive Member* - Kay Raisbeck
- Executive Secretary* - Norma Guttormsson

Committee Chairmen:

- Archives/Artifacts* - Betty Anne Rogers, Ethel Warbinek
- Education* - Joan Kerr
- Friendship* - Lorna Hoare and Diane Parker - Co-chairmen
- Membership* - Anne Williams
- Publicity* - Ethel Warbinek

Respectfully Submitted, Kay Raisbeck



*Back Row: Anne Williams, Joan Kerr, Betty Anne Rogers, Kay Raisbeck, Vivian Blake
Front Row: Ethel Warbinek, Mary Raikes -Tindle, Kathy Murphy, Norma Guttormsson.*

FUND RAISING FOR OUR ARCHIVES 2010

Thank you to the 198 who so generously donated to our Archival Development Fund. This represents 17% of our membership. We are excited about our new web site and some of the funds donated in 2010 are being used to develop this. Money was also transferred to our long term investment which will be used when we have to move to a new home – date unknown at this time. For more information see the Archival Development Report on page 5. Four donors wish to remain anonymous.

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mollie Addison | Ellen Aleda Coates | Beverley Grant | Cynthia Litsky | Carole Partrick | Carolyn Taylor |
| Jacquie Aird | Delores Codville | Anne Gray | Sylvia Lyle | Helen Perry | Kathie Thompson |
| Jean Anderson | Elizabeth Coenen | Bernice Gregory | Norma MacArthur | Trudy Phillips | Florence Tickner |
| Ruth Anderson | Consuelo Corbett | Nancy Gregson | Catherine MacDonald | Barbara J. Pincott | Elaine Tinkler |
| Maureen Anstey | Dr. Barbara Coughlin | Caroline Grierson | ald | Joan Poole | Laurene Tkatschow |
| Gayle Anton | Jeanette Cowie | Marlene Gustafson | Miriam MacDonald | Patricia Pool | Sarah Mae Trelle |
| M. Rae Archer | Kathleen Cowtan | Nancy Halliwell | Joan MacLean | Gwen Proust | Deanna Turnbull |
| Penny Armstrong | Kathleen Crone | Teresa Hannesson | Kathaleen MacNeil | Prudence Reber | Lucy Turri |
| Marion Atherton | Charlotte Cronin | Hazel Hansen | Iris Anne Mandrusiak | Shirley Joyce Redfern | Julie Vardabasso |
| Karen Atkin | Lorraine Crouse | Vivian Harmer | Irene Marsaw | Ruth Reiser | Jain Verner |
| April Austin | Reba Dalgleish | Freda Hart | Donna Matthews | Anita Reith | Carol Volpatti |
| Barbara Bassett | Phyllis Davies | Edith Heinrichs | Debra Mayer | Norval Rhodes | Elizabeth Waddell |
| Pauline Beatty | Christine DeVisser | Annie Hess | Laurie McCaulder | Joyce Roberts | Virginia Walden |
| Marilyn Beaver | Noriko Dickason | Edith Hesson | Mary McDermid | Diane Robinson | Moira Walker |
| Pat Berda | J. Mirth A. Doyle | Penelope Hill | Fran McDonald | Kathleen Rosloski | Frances Walpole |
| Margaret Bickford | Nadiene Eaton | Shirley Hooper | Lorraine McKenzie | Eleanor Ross | Daphne Walstrom |
| Lorna Bingham | Beth Edge | Wendy Hunt | Diane McKrone | Ellen Rukholm | Barbara Ward |
| Kathleen Boothroyd | Shirley Edward | Kanako Ikeda | Ann Mitton | Karen Ryall | Shirley Warren |
| Marion Boyle | Jane MacKenzie-Elliott | Pearl A. Jones | Sheila McIntyre | Deborah Scheske | Ruth Waterfield |
| Betty Brannan | Sheila Elliott | Patricia Johnson | Delda McLennan | Pat Sexsmith | Idelle Watkins |
| Gail Brown | Daphne Elvidge | Norma Johnston | Winifred Miller | Marg Shugg | Mary Watt |
| Joan Brown | Margaret Erickson | Laurel Jones | Linda Miller | Patricia Silversides | Marion Weekes |
| Nancy Burt | Pat Estabrooks | Loris Jordan | Nancy Milley | Harriet Sloan | Carol Whiting |
| Marguerite Calvert | Maureen Findlay | Marguerite Kennedy | Ann Mitton | Jan Smith | Gail Whitley |
| Janice Callbeck | Mabel Fofonoff | Mary Kent | Jean M. Morrey | Sheila Smith | Eva Williamson |
| Elaine Campbell | Laura Frost | Jean Kerr | Marguerite Morrison | Joanne Smyth | Margaret Wilson |
| Joyce Campkin | Lorelei Faulkner-Gibson | Denise King | Rose Murakami | Maureen Speed | Barbara Winter |
| Rita Carle | Kathy Gielen | Barbara Kissuras | Jane Murphy | Linda Stamm | Sheila Yeomans |
| Norma Carruthers | Evelynne Gilmore | Diane Kroeger | Helen Mussallem | Margaret Standerwick | Sheila J. Rankin Zerr |
| Jo Anne Clendenning | Lucille Giovando | Joyce Kruger | Mengia Nicholson | Darlene Stewart | Jackie Ziegeler |
| Dorothy Chinner | Daphne Gogel | Wilma Latham | Joan Noble | Beverly Stirrat | Lydia Zingel |
| Susan Christensen | Marilyn Grange | Diane Laustrup | Barbara Norris | Barbara Sutherland | |
| Margaret Clow | Norma Gomerich | Cheryl LeGrice | Beverley Olafson | Betty Sweeney | |

A LIFE IN LETTERS – PATRICIA ABIGAIL BARFF, CLASS OF 1931

“Seeing that you demand it I will tell you something of my daily procedure,” wrote VGH probationer student Patricia Barff to her friend Maude on October 25th, 1928.

She goes on to describe a day’s routine. “Well ... the first thing I do on the wards is to clean & dust the rooms, Doctors’ scrub room, & service room - get everything into shape. That will take from 7-7:30. Then I go down for the Sterile supplies & put them all away in their proper places on the dressing carriage. This takes a good deal of time as everything is sterile & I have to be careful not to touch them with my hands & use artery forceps. Then I clean up the instruments & sterilize them.

When I am through with that, it’s time to take the patients their breakfasts so I get to work & help with that. Feed a couple of helpless men & then help clear up. By this time it is 8:30 A.M. Then we start giving them their washes. I usually have six patients to do up. Some can wash themselves & some can’t. Then when I am through with them I go out to the service room & tidy up there again. You have no idea what a mess that place gets into. Everybody comes in and dumps their things & poor me has to clean up. Occasionally between the hours of 10-12 somebody comes down from the O.R. & I have to make the ether bed & then perhaps sit with them until they come through. Yesterday I sat with a man who had a serious operation. He had a mastoid operation & of course his hair was affected & he was unconscious. I had to sit & hold his hands because he was so restless & also watch his respirations & keep track of his pulse. To say the least he died today. He did not regain consciousness.

“Well to go on with the rest, at eleven o’clock I go to the kitchen & set the trays. Go up for the special diets & give them out. Then twelve comes & they have their dinner & we clear up & then off to lunch. In between times I have to answer bells & give fomentations or plasters, etc. After we’ve had our lunch we go to lecture from 1:15-2:15 & 2:15-3:15 then we are off for the rest of the day till 10 P.M. or so as the case may be.”

This excerpt is from one of 78 letters and cards written by Pat Barff, VGH Class of 1931, that were recently given to the VGH Nurses Alumnae Association Archives. The letters had been carefully saved by Maude Aitkens Hope and were left to Maude’s daughter, Sharon Hope of Sidney, B.C. Sharon Hope, an historian herself, believed this wonderful record should be saved in a nursing archives and be available to nurse researchers and other historians.

The letters make wonderful reading. They cover almost a half century and describe an interesting and eventful nursing career from 1928 until 1977. Ethel Warbinek (VGH 1956) and

Glennis Zilm (VGH 1957) met with Sharon Hope to collect the letters and some photographs and to interview her about the lives of the two friends to add some additional background for an archival fonds.



Patricia Abigail Barff was born in 1910 in Shanghai, where her British father was in the import/export business. When she was in her early teens, she was sent to the Victoria area for schooling at the Gordon Head School. There she became fast friends with Alice Maude Aitkens, later Mrs. Samuel Hope. In 1928, Barff entered the VGH School of Nursing. From that time she wrote regularly to Maude, telling about her nursing life.

Some of the early letters describe in detail what it was like on the wards or mention her supervisors and instructors, and tell a bit about the social life of a student nurse in the late 1920s and early 1930s. For example, in a letter on December 2, 1928, from West House, the student residence, she wrote: “I have been busy as usual & so have neglected my letters. We have been on all day duty for the last two weeks & from henceforth too. It is rather nice only we never know our hours until the day & so are unable to make plans. ... I have been spending the last two days up in the infirmary & am going out this afternoon. I had quite an infected arm so I had it lanced and hot fomentations applied every hour. Everything is getting very exciting now as the cap exams are coming off. We have had two already & the rest this week. Also the one in front of Miss Ellis! [Kathrine W. Ellis, director of nursing] Makes me shiver when I think of it.”

A few weeks later, on January 26, 1929, she wrote: “I have been on night duty the last two weeks, & I guess I will for another three or four weeks. It is quite nice & quite exciting everything seems to happen at night and so I get lots of experience. I am on 3 - 11 shift, which is not too bad. I have to go on duty every day at 2 o’clock on account of classes (except Sat & Sun) & I haven’t gotten (no such word but you know what I mean) off at 11 pm yet. It is usually after 12 when I sign off & a few days ago it was twenty to two. My that was a busy day! Never will I forget it. ... Yes we have taken up charting and I like it quite well. At present I have 4 lectures to attend to, Practical Demonstration, Materia Medica, Charting, & Doctor lectures at night on First Aid & Minor Surgery. I did a foolish thing night before last! I forgot to attend Dr. T.W. Tompson’s lecture! And of course I had a little talk with Katie!! [Miss Ellis]. The funny part of it is that I got off ‘Scott free.’ I had visions of an hour in her office, or [losing] a late leave. ... I wouldn’t mind learning how to type if we could type our notes. Do you know that we have to print our lectures & it’s heck! Takes such a long time.”

Although the students obviously worked hard, even as probationers they also found time for an active social life.



A LIFE IN LETTERS – PATRICIA ABIGAIL BARFF, CLASS OF 1931

Despite the many tales about strict curfews for nursing students, Pat and her classmates seemed to manage quite a few late evenings, as she describes in this excerpt from a long, long letter of December 2, 1928: "Day before yesterday we girls (eight of us) decided to have a party & have boys, so two of them - Van girls - invited boys so there was one for each of us & one extra. So we all stumped in 50¢ & bought eats & took them to Helen Brown's place & had a wonderful time. It was a supper dance. The extra boy made it so that when some one was playing the piano everybody else was dancing. So we had every dance from 8-12. Phew!!! & I had to get up at six the next day. Honest to goodness, Maude, I don't know how I lived to see the end of yesterday. After we came off duty I had a bath & went to sleep till supper time, got dressed and went out for supper to Charlotte Black's & home at ten. I'm still tired today. ...

Tomorrow I'm going to have tea on the Emperor of Canada with Helen & Shack & am taking one of my new chums with me as she has never been on a boat in her life. She's 21 & was a school teacher too. So this will be an experience for her." The Empress of Canada was a Canadian Pacific (CP) passenger liner and Royal Mail carrier that sailed regularly between Vancouver and Japan, Hong Kong and China in the 1930s; quite possibly Pat Barff would have know people sailing on this ship and been invited to lunch while the ship was in Vancouver.

Although Pat took part in the graduation ceremonies earlier, probably in May or June, and wrote all her exams, she did not finish her clinical rotations until November 24, 1931. She had been seriously ill during her training years and at one point spent 3 months in hospital and recovering. From the letters, it appeared to have been blood poisoning from a cut or prick. Students had to make up the time missed from their clinical rotations before they could graduate.

After graduation, she was hired to work at VGH, first as a pediatric head nurse then a night supervisor and was on staff there until 1959. Sharon Hope recalls being taken on a visit by her mother when she was a child (about 1945) and that they were taken on a visit to the pediatric ward on which Barff worked. Sharon saw all the children who were being treated for polio (there had been a polio epidemic about then), including one boy of about 9 years of age who was in an iron lung and another on a rocker-bed. Sharon said this made such a

lasting impact on that she remains afraid of hospitals to this day.

During this period Barff lived in "flats" – seemingly subdivided private homes on 10th and 12th Avenues near the hospital. She continued to write regularly to Maude, occasionally on VGH hospital stationery when she was on night duty and it was a quiet shift. In October 1957, one of the letters is from a home in White Rock. She was apparently staying as a boarder to recuperate from what she describes as "a disc"; she is unable to work or to drive. She had also mentioned visits to White Rock and Crescent Beach in other letters. Her travel between Vancouver and these seaside resorts during this time would have been by railway.

In her Christmas letter of 1959, she reports that she left VGH in October and had taken a job of Matron of "Cedarhurst," a small private hospital (what was then called a "nursing home" for elderly residents) in the growing area of Newton in Surrey. Her letters to Maude now are less frequent, although the two visit one another at various times. In a letter dated November 13, 1966, she is living in a small house in Crescent Beach and has more or less retired from nursing. She mentions being especially active in the Church. She adds that she had "a weeks work at W.R. hospital [Peace Arch Hospital in White Rock] in Sept. - while they were short of staff & enjoyed it, no ill effects, so I'm perfectly well. They have called me a couple of times since but I've not been able to go so I've taken my name off call till the New Year."



In the last letter in the collection, December 7, 1977, she mentions that during the summer "Wyn and John bought a half interest in the house" and added additional rooms. Barff mentions suffering from Rheumatoid Arthritis. According to Susan Hope, the house renovations were made to allow Barff to remain in her home for as long as she could and that Wyn and John would then take over the house when she had to leave. Sharon Hope said that Maude Hope died in 1982. Pat Barff died February 1, 1987, in Surrey at age 77.

Written by Glennis Zilm

Rotary Grads

3 VGH grads volunteer with The "Rotary World Help Network" packing donated medical supplies. In 2010, 12 - 45 foot containers with educational, medical supplies and equipment were shipped around the world to Nepal, Uganda, Ghana, Tanzania and other countries. For more information visit: www.rwhn.org



*Betty-Anne Rogers '57,
Jean Robinson '56,
Gwen Gertsch '56*



Class of August 1960 "Singing their hearts out" at the Luncheon

CLASS NEWS

1940s

Jan'43 Joan (Underhill) Bryant moved into Somerset House in Victoria. She writes to say "No more cooking! But it sure is windy. Lots of ships to watch. Haven't met any VGH'ers but at 89 guess I'm a bit past my best before date."

Jan'47 Ruth (Wilson) Langdale celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary April 22, 2010. She has been living in Victoria for 45 years and says "it is hard to believe we graduated 63 years ago." Ruth also wrote to say she has been diagnosed with Alzheimers. "It was a real shock to me. I am very glad we have a good family and good friends." Sends her best wishes to her classmates and wishes she could join in the class celebrations.

Sept'48 Barbara (Elvidge) MacLachlan says that eight of her class have kept in touch over the years – now only four are left. They used to meet once or twice a year. She wrote the following about classmate Betty Hallam who died on July 30, 2010 at VGH. "Betty took the 1-year course at UBC which was a prerequisite to becoming a head nurse in 'the old days'. She was head nurse of ward J and later became supervisor in charge of the training of orderlies."

UBC'49 Ada (Ponsford) Butler who died in May 2010 was a well respected member of the nursing community. She graduated from UBC with a BASc(N) in 1950 and with Master's degree in nursing in 1971. Ada worked as a public health

nurse before joining the UBC School of Nursing faculty in 1972. She retired in 1988.

1950s

Sept'50 Dorothy (Parfitt) Myers had a short visit in Kelowna in September with Norma (Hill) Brown who was unable to attend the reunion in Vancouver.

Feb '54 On August 4, 2010, a group of grads boarded the Tsawwasswen Ferry to meet for lunch at the Sidney Pier Hotel for lunch. Arrangements were made by some of the Vancouver Island classmates on the occasion of the visit by Norma (Anderson) Colbern from California for her annual family reunion. A great time was had by all but we missed two of our regulars - Nancy Morishita and Gerry (Murray) Morrow who have experienced recent health problems. Another sad note – Rosalie (Johnston) Fawcett died on April 27, 2010 in Calgary. Sent in by Reta Kidd – thank you.

Sept'56 Our class has an author in our midst! Doris (Robinson) Riedwig has just published her second novel "Still Waters" and we are all very proud of her. The book has a student nursing interest which brings back memories. Doris wrote the following: "My second novel, Still Waters, was published last August, and I had a very successful book launch



Doris (Robinson) Riedwig and classmates

in September in Langley. One of the best parts was that the same five of my classmates from Sept/56 who attended my first book launch in 2008, also came again to this one. They were Nancy(Adams) Milley, Lou (Binkley)Lawrence, Diana (Robertson) MacKenzie, Agnes (McGregor) Merton and Gladys (Torgerson) Botnen. It was lovely to see them all again; they are so faithful. I have also had nice notes or phone calls from other classmates who have read the book. I keep in touch with Barbara (Fryer) Fonteyne who lives in Edmonton; Donna (Robertson) Connell in Halifax, and Marilyn (Puffer) McSporrان in Edmonton. I am happy to say they are all doing well." Congratulations Doris!

Sept'57 Arden (Gardner) Kidd sent class news. Through the kind efforts of Lerae (Parrott) Brigden, we receive current news as well as any changes to our address and e-mail lists. In April a large group of us had a happy get together at Bonnie (Spearing) Yarmak's when classmates Hannah (Spatola) Hudson and Bev (Knowlden) Gray were in town for a visit. Maggie (Miekle) Blackwood was also in town for a stay during the summer. Barb (McCormick) Clement, who live in Hawaii, has suggested that we include a cruise around the Islands when visiting her part of the world. Thelma (Fisher) Kilburn is coordinating details for a possible November date. Joyce (Sebry7k) Roberts is encouraging us to book for the Sunday May 2nd 2011 Alumnae luncheon, and also to renew our Alumnae memberships .It will be an opportunity to see each other and to explore



Feb.'54

CLASS NEWS - REUNIONS – sharing the memories

plans for our next reunion. Sadly, we lost Marilyn (Bailie) Smellie in June. A long standing heart problem did not deter her from enjoying tennis, bridge, curling or entertaining her many friends. She also did volunteer work at a homeless shelter in Richmond. Our thoughts are with Eleanor Ross who is gravely ill in a Toronto hospital. Updates on her condition can be found at :

www.caringbridge.org/visit/eleanorross
We look forward to seeing classmates again at the home of Jeanette (Brinkley) Cowie who had kindly offered to host our next lunch gathering at her home on Wednesday February 2nd.

1960s

Aug'60 Sherrill (McBean) McLaren wrote the following about the 2010 lunch. "I had some fascinating conversations with individuals in the luncheon line-up – the diversity of life experiences in the career of any nurse is astonishing but I still marvel at the entrepreneurial abilities honed in nurses' training. Not financial entrepreneurship, but the skill of nurses to envision opportunities and exercise the flexibility necessary to realize them, to figure ways to fix things that are not working, and to never quit."

Sept'1960 Roberta (Lindsay) Hewat received the UBC Nursing Alumni Award of Distinction at the Annual Lunch on May 29, 2010.

Sept '61 This past year we all became official members of the 70+ group. The majority of us don't feel that age, MOST of the time. This coming April will see us celebrating our 50th Reunion in North Vancouver and attending the VGH Alumnae Luncheon on May 1st. There appears to be a very enthusiastic turn out for this momentous occasion.

For many of our class, it has meant a year of health issues, either for themselves, or their spouses and family members. We, sadly, had 2 classmates pass away, Barb (Slye) McCombe in the summer of 2010, and Joyce (Griffen) Markel in October 2010.



Roberta Hewat, Cathy Ebberhoj

Unfortunately, we have lost 6 classmates since graduation. A few of us still have elderly parents, in their 90's, for whom varying degrees of TLC is required. For many, being grandmothers has really contributed to having busy times as baby sitting is often involved. Liking that aspect of their lives is pretty obvious. And, then we have our travellers. With encroaching golden age around the corner, and limits on how much we can do, those who can, like Pat (Bird) Hood, Kuni (Tanii) Ganguly, Asako (Oikawa), Chang, Diana (Richards) McKone, Lynne (Leopold) McBryan, Joan (Livingstone) Currie, and others are traveling to far corners of the world. Amongst us, we have travelled to many, many countries and all continents. A few still work, Kathy Eyre holds down a full time position in a San Mateo Anticoagulant Clinic, Joanne (Golightly) Gaitens works part time in Peace Arch Hospital ER, and many others volunteer in all sorts of capacities. For example, Ann (Evans) Johnson volunteers for overseas nursing assignments in many countries, and has incredible tales to tell. Nancy (Bain) Gregson is 3rd year volunteer member of the Registration Committee with CRNBC. The excitement is really building for our 50th Reunion and most of us are counting the "sleeps" until April 29th. That's our Class News in a nutshell. Submitted, by Nancy Gregson.

Feb'63 Kathy (Cameron) Crone still works full time with Telehealth.

Sept'63 Marilyn (Offenberger) Beaver wrote to say she traveled to Toronto this past summer to visit daughter, Shannon, and attend teen age heart throb, Justin Bieber's concert with two granddaughters, Erin and Kayleigh, from Edmonton and one granddaughter, Stephanie, from

Montreal. Also traveled to Penticton, BC (the land I will Live in forever) for a wonderful 50th high school reunion. Great to see everyone and share in warm memories.

1970s

Sept'75 Clair (Delleman) MacInnis went to Vancouver for the Olympics and had a grand time. Stayed with Betty (Janse) Bjornson. Also went to Nanaimo to visit her son Tim and stayed with Sheryl (Spowart) Elgie.

Diane Kroeger says that while working in hospice she had the privilege of looking after Rosalie (Johnston) Fawcett, Feb'54 both were members of the Calgary Chapter. Diane and Betty (Janse) Bjornson are requesting volunteers to organize a 40th reunion. E-mail Betty at bettybjornson@shaw.ca or phone Diane at 403 243 7432.

Feb'79 Pam Ratner is a professor at the UBC School of Nursing and has been elected to the position of CRNBC Board Chair.

REUNIONS – sharing the memories...

2009 Reunion

Feb'53 held a mini reunion in Parksville Summer 2009 - the last time the class was able to get together. Thank you Trudy (Smith) Phillips.



Feb. '53 mini reunion Lt-Rt Trudy Phillips, Margaret Erickson, Anita Reith, Margaret Williamson, Laddie Hutchins, Florence Tickner)

2010 Reunions

Sept'50 celebrated its 60th Anniversary Reunion April 30-May 2, 2010. Three events were attended by 20 classmates, plus a few daughters and sisters, some traveling from Ontario, Alberta,

REUNIONS – sharing the memories



California and the Interior of BC. A wine and cheese party was hosted by Eva (Nicholson) Bowering on Friday night, a dinner was enjoyed at Cravings Restaurant on Saturday night, and farewells were said after the alumnae lunch on Sunday afternoon. Thank you Dorothy (Parfitt) Myers.

Aug'56 A 53rd reunion attended by 16, including husbands, was held in Sept at the Glenhouse Resort on the St. Lawrence River at Gananoque ON. Events included attending the Playhouse, 1000 Island Boat Cruise, Jones Falls Lock on the Rideau Canal and a session of the parliament in Ottawa. The reunion ended with a lovely dinner at Elaine (Snell) McClintock's home. Thank you Elaine for planning such a successful event. The next one will be in 2012.

Aug.'59 Reunion It was 50yrs since the class of Aug'59 graduated from U.B.C. The fun filled 4 day reunion began at Ann-Shirley (Gordon) and Rob Goodell's lovely townhouse in Yaletown on Sept. 12th when the non-stop chatter, laughter and giggles began. We enjoyed the most delicious dinner with lots of wine. We have never been a class who didn't enjoy a good party. The next morning 21 of us drove to Brew Creek Lodge 20 minutes south of Whistler. We were the only guests at the time which was perfect. The accommodation was beautiful, in rustic, well appointed wooden buildings. We experienced gorgeous sunny fall weather, walks in the woods, bocce ball games, gourmet meals and special happy hours. At this time we sang one of our capping songs and Jo-Mary's capping candle and doily were once again called into service. We returned to Vancouver on Sept. 15th and

had one of our traditional picnics at Jericho Beach. Our happy time together ended at Ruth (Levirs) and Noel Boston's amazing Point Grey home overlooking the water, mountains and

city lights. Sad to say good-bye but already we are looking forward to our next reunion in 2013!!

Feb'60 reunion was held April 27-29, 2010 at the Granville Island Hotel in Vancouver Thirty-six classmates attended – some as far away as Ontario. We enjoyed walks to the market and were enthralled with the view of the harbour from the hotel. It was wonderful to see on another again and to note how very little we have all changed! Old friendships were quickly renewed. The organizers were thrilled to be presented with beautiful orchid plants.

Sept' 1965 gathered for a Western Weekend at Whistler to celebrate their 45th Anniversary. The Hospitality Room was transformed into a western setting complete with Saloon. The activities included a Wine and Cheese Reception, hearty breakfasts, village activities, and a wonderful BBQ dinner and hours of entertainment on Saturday night. The door prizes, gift bags, and chocolate cowgirl hats were fantastic. Money was raised for

the Alumnae Association Education Fund through a raffle. We are looking forward to our 50th in 2015.

2011 Reunions:

Sept'56 is planning a luncheon to celebrate their 55th reunion on Friday September 16, 2011 at the Arbutus Club in Vancouver.

Feb'65 is celebrating 46 years with a class reunion April 19, 2011 at the Best Western Hotel in Langley, BC. Looking forward to seeing as many classmates as possible to renew friendships and share memories with fun and laughter. For information contact: Elizabeth at: eliz.2001@shaw.ca for reservations call 1-888-540-9311

Sept'91 will be having their 20th reunion May 14, 2011. at the residence of Margaret (Hancock) Little , 10091 Dennis Crescent, Richmond BC 604 271 2308. For more information contact : Rhonda (Sherwood) Cuthbert at: 604 421 7104 or e-mail at: rhonda@cuthbert.ca

2012 Reunions

Feb. 77 35th class reunion, to be held in 2012.

Time and place yet to be determined. E-mail: Rhonda Cromarty, rancrom55@shaw.ca or Wilma Bully, wilmabully@hotmail.com



Honorary Members

Mrs. Matilda Bara	Mrs. Naomi Constant	Mr. Charlie Etchell
Miss Jean Fernie	Dr. Don Hutchins	Mr. D.E. McTaggart
	Mrs. Nellie Ryzak	

Life Members

Sharon Baxter (Francis) '62	Janie Birkeland (Schwab) '66
Vivian Blake (Jackson) '50	Peggy Etchell (Thompson) '51
Dr. Beverly DuGas (Witter) '45	Barbara Gillies '46
Lorna Hoare (Snider) Feb. '66	Evelyn Holob (Anderson) '51
Adelaide Hutchins (McLean) '53	Sheila Kirk (Poersch) '61
Eleanor McTaggart (White) '47	Kathleen Murphy (McCutcheon) '65
Dr. Helen Mussallem '37	Diane Parker (Sjereve) '68
Trudy Phillips (Smith) '53	Kay Raisbeck '54
Betty-Anne Rogers '57	Helen Saunders '39
Nancy Semke (Bouzovetsky) '57	Margaret Shugg '54
Mavis Standfield (Coleman) '51	Jean Tsuyuki (Lyons) '57
Pat Wadsworth (Beck) '54	Ethel Warbinek (McIntyre) '56
Mary Watt (MacKinnon) '54	Anne E. Williams '54
Marjorie Wilson (Espley) '35	

institutional and individual achievement. She has authored several more books, some on history and others on helping nurses improve their writing skills (she holds degrees in journalism and communications as well as nursing). Recognizing the importance of clear and effective communication, she mentors students on writing skills for their written assignments and advises faculty on their publications. Zilm is considered an expert on nursing history and is often consulted by nursing organizations. She is a founding member of the volunteer BC History of Nursing Society (established in 1989), editing its newsletter for many years. She is also a founding member of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing. Zilm has produced many papers and articles and is often invited to present at conferences and at other nursing institutions. In 2004 Zilm was appointed to the advisory board of directors for the Museum of Healthcare in Kingston. In 2006, she was awarded an honorary doctorate from Kwantlen Polytechnic University. She is also a recipient of the John B. Neilson Award from the Associated Medical Services, a prestigious medical historical society for her long-standing contributions to the history of healthcare in Canada. Congratulations Glennis!

VGH NURSES NEWS

Dr. Helen K. Mussallem '37 was invited to the Queens Garden party held on the Rideau Hall grounds on July 1, 2010. The Queen spoke briefly with Dr Mussallem who recalled when she met her parents, King George and Queen Elizabeth in Edinburgh during WW11. On June 17, 2010 at 4 PM. Dr. Mussallem was presented with the ceremonial collar of Capilano Herald Extraordinaire.

Glennis Zilm Aug'57 received the prestigious Blythe Eagles Volunteer Leadership Award from the UBC Alumni Association at a Presentation Dinner held on Nov 28, 2010. A special awards ceremony was held at the Chan Centre on Nov 29, 2010. The following was read at the dinner.

Glennis Zilm is a historian, writer and teacher who has performed a great service to the nursing profession in Canada by researching and preserving its past, in particular the central role played by her alma mater and its nursing alumni. Zilm's meticulous research and documentation has ensured that the vital contributions of key individuals are accurately recorded and never forgotten. As an honorary UBC professor and popular guest lecturer, Zilm instills in students the importance of nursing

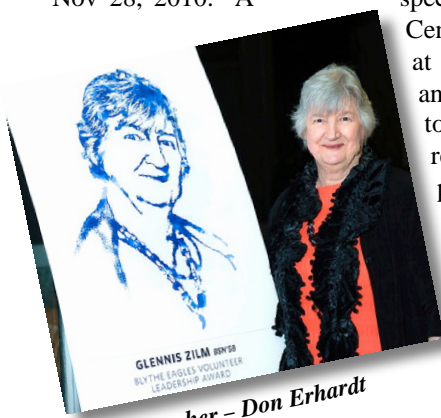
history and inspires pride in the profession through an appreciation of its past. In the School of Nursing is a showcase containing nursing artefacts which she changes regularly. She also assists UBC Archives in the preservation of nursing artefacts, along with the work of important nursing leaders. She co-authored the book, Legacy: History of Nursing Education at the University of British Columbia (1994) which documented 75 years of

**Margaret Mainwaring '33
Happy 100th Birthday**

Margaret Mainwaring celebrated her 100th birthday Saturday February 5, 2011. A celebration was held at the Mann Park Lawn Bowling Club in White Rock attended by family and many friends.

Margaret was born in Toronto and moved to Vancouver as a young child. She attended school in Cranbrook, BC and entered VGH in 1930 and her first residence was West House where she shared a five-person dormitory, later moved to Ellis House and then to the "Old Home". After graduation in 1933 she worked at VGH and shared a room in a boarding house near the hospital - had a gas plate and a box outside the window for a refrigerator. At that time VGH paid the highest wages for graduate nurses in Canada - \$54/month + board and laundry. In 1935, she moved to Port Alice as jobs were at a premium during the Depression of the 1930s.

In 1941 she joined the Royal Canadian



Photographer - Don Erhardt

VGH NURSES NEWS

Army Medical Corps and after several delays arrived in Scotland March 1942. She nursed in military hospitals in England, later was sent to North Africa and Italy. She remembers being one of the first nurses to administer Penicillin – It was thick, brown and injected every 3 hours. At the end of the war, she returned to Vancouver and nursed in Hawaii, and then moved to Wells (near Barkerville) where she worked as Matron of the 10- bed hospital and married Gerry North, a widower with three young boys. A daughter, Moria, was born in 1951.

In 1957, the family moved to Vancouver and Margaret did some “special nursing” and worked at Pearson TB hospital for a while. Her husband, an accountant, and she became interested in

long term care, so opened Park View in New Westminster and a year later, the Cypress Nursing home in Vancouver. They discovered many residents wanted private rooms, so opened Garden Manor in Ladner. Margaret was the charge nurse, assisted by an RN and aides. All three homes were licensed and they operated them until the mid 1970s. After Gerry died, Margaret moved to White Rock in 1976 and married her second husband - Mickey Mainwaring - who unfortunately died six months later.

Living independently in her apartment, Margaret leads an active life enjoying ball-room dancing, lawn and carpet bowling.



Margaret attends our annual lunch and we hope to see her again in May. Do come over and say hello to this “cool feisty lady” as she is described by her friends.

Happy Birthday Margaret. May you enjoy many more!

Source: interview with Margaret in 2006 BC History of Nursing. CD available CRNBC library Call # 192

DOLL PROJECT: PORCELAIN DOLLS WITH UNIFORMS OVER THE YEARS



This project was approved in February 2010 and completed in the summer. The costs were covered by the Archival Development Fund. We would like to thank all the donors who made this possible.

Nine VGH uniforms were selected to reflect changes over a 70-year period. We were so very fortunate to have the expertise of Sheila Rankin Zerr project coordinator, uniform designer and seamstress and Sheila Callen of Porcelain Doll Reproductions. Betty-Anne Rogers developed a reference manual with pictures and uniform details and worked closely with the two “Sheila’s”.

Sheila Callen hand crafted the dolls which involved firing and painting. If you look closely at the photos you can see the exquisite unique faces. They were then turned over to Sheila Zerr who created the uniforms. This intricate sewing involved approximately 20 hours /doll.

The completed dolls are now housed in a 9-compartment display case made by “Plastic”.

A sincere thank you to everyone involved in this special project



Betty-Anne Rogers: co-chair archives committee.

VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE 2010

- President Kathleen Murphy (McCutcheon '65)
- Vice President Mary Raikes-Tindle (Raikes '65)
- Treasurer Norma Guttormsson ('58)
- Rec. Secretary Vivian Blake (Jackson '50)
- Exec. Secretary Norma Guttormsson ('58)
- Exec. Member Kay Raisbeck ('54)
- Archives/Artifacts Ethel Warbinek (McIntyre '56)
Betty-Anne Rogers Feb'57
- Education Joan Kerr (Dunbar '65)
- Friendship Lorna Hoare (Snider Feb.'66)
Diane Parker (Sjerve Feb' 68)
- Membership Anne E. Williams ('54)
- Publicity Ethel Warbinek (McIntyre '56)
- Past President Pat Wadsworth (Beck '54)


In Memoriam

Gone but not forgotten

	Grad Name	Given Name	Married Name
1935	Dalton	Phyllis	Brown
1936	Weatherhead	Evelyn	Vaill
1938	McMartin*	Pauline	Ranta
1938	Trant*	Helen	Milbur
1939	Henderson	Merle	Turner
1945	Baverstock	Marion	McCuaig
1945	Crowe	Ruth	Carmichael
1946	Feeney	Lillian	Manson
1948	Hallam	Betty	
1948	Kershaw	Mary	
1948	Wright	Frances "Fran"	Coleman
1949	Kent	Jean	Munday
1949	MacPherson	Bernice	MacNab
1949	Ponsford*	Ada	Butler
1949	Steele	Pat	Megaw
1950	Moore	Pat	McDiarmid
1950	Pilling	Catherine	Robinson
1951	Humble	Alice	McLelan
1951	Macdonald	Sheila	Maurice
1953	George	Connie	Kotzian
1953	Smith	Margaret	Harris
1953	Steele	Pat	Megaw
1954	Johnston*	Patricia	Burgoyne
1954	Johnston	Rosalie	Fawcett
1955	Chiddel	Gwen	Lofting
1956	Cummings	Lorraine	Jackson
1956	Farndon	Shirley	Riddle
1957	Black	Mabel (Mae)	Allemann
1957	Bailie	Marilyn	Smellie
1957	McEwen	Patricia	Robinson
1957	Murdin	Shirley	Oakes
1958	Janzen	Johanna	Lowther
1959	Miller	Carol	Turgeon
1959	Seed	Lorna	Rae
1961	Tarmastin	Helen	Etherington
1962	Loewen	Bertha	McAllister
1962	Urquhart	Sandra	Mikkelsen
1962	Young	Jackie	Thomas
1963	Winning	Pat	Jones
1965	Hawksworth	Barbara	Hoffman
1965	Risto	Avril	Blair

* UBC

Helen Etherington (nee Tarmastin) 1939-2010

Helen passed away Tuesday, August 24, 2010 in Ottawa surrounded by her loving family. Born in Cranbrook, B.C., October, 1939, Helen grew up in Canal Flats, a small logging town nearby. She was in the first graduating class (12 students) from Canal Flats Elementary Jr/Sr High School in 1957. Helen enrolled in VGH, SON in February, 1958 graduating in Feb '61.

In 1962, Helen married Bob Etherington a member of the RCMP and they lived and worked in Vancouver, Richmond and Kamloops before moving to Ottawa in 1976. Here Helen worked at CHEO - Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, a teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Ottawa, first as Head Nurse in Neonates, and lastly Nurse in Charge of a number of clinical drug trials. Helen retired in Ottawa after 25 years in a profession in which she took great pride and from which she received much satisfaction. She was proud to be a VGH Graduate.

In a tribute to her memory, one of her colleagues wrote the following: "I am so very sorry to hear of Helen's passing. I am shocked. Helen was my team leader years ago in NICU and she was very protective of "her girls". I can still remember the great party we had at her house. We all so enjoyed ourselves. She was respected and a great woman. She will be missed".

From a small logging town to the Nation's Capitol.

CHANGES AT VGH

The main addition to Heather Pavilion on West 10th has been demolished and a garden (of sorts) has been planted. Willow Pavilion (old maternity building) has all the windows boarded up awaiting renovation. Should have more news for you next year. So far we are safe in our location in Heather Pavilion.



An important donation of \$3.7 million from the Milan & Maureen Illich Foundation has funded the purchase of a new MRI to replace the aging one. This will help in the diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of diseases and injuries. Other equipment and research projects are a Mimi C- Arm, a diagnostic tool that allows deep views into certain areas of the body, an Apheresis Machine used to deliver specialized treatments for patients with blood diseases and a wireless post-surgery monitoring system which provides continuous surveillance of up to 40 high-risk patients at one time.

Source: in touch, Fall 2010.

BOOK OF MEMORIAM

This book lists the names of deceased classmates and is kept in a special cabinet in the Alumnae Association office.

The Class of September 1954 created this Memorial Book to honour **Helga Thordarson** (Sept '54).

For those wishing to recognize classmates in this way, please forward the name, grad class and year of death to Trudy Phillips, 387 Laurentian Crescent, Coquitlam, BC V3K 1Y6. Phone: (604) 939-1800.

A Suggested donation of \$15 is appreciated and is forwarded to the Education Fund for use as bursaries. The Memorial Book will be available at the lunch.



Naomi Constant (right) receives a Life Membership of the Alumnae Association from President Kathy Murphy at the 2010 luncheon. The archivist received the award for her work directing the Archive Committee in organizing the collections.

VGH SCHOOL OF NURSING
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
c/o 855 West 12th Avenue,
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1M9



Phone: (604) 604 875 4111 local 62049.
Please leave a message.

Registration for the School of Nursing Alumnae Association Lunch
Sunday May 1, 2011 12: noon to 3:00 pm Cost \$25.00 Class of 1961 - no charge but (please register)

Name:.....Name at Graduation:.....

Address:.....e-mail:

Phone:Grad Class:.....

Return this form with your cheque payable to:
VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association Lunch 855 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 1M9 by APRIL 15, 2011.
Non-refundable.

Help us keep in touch with you! Do we have your correct name and address? If not, please fill in the address form below and send it to V.G.H. School of Nursing Alumnae Association.
 Mailing address c/o 855 West 12th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1M9

Current Name

Name at Graduation Month & year of graduation

Address

..... Postal Code

Phone..... Spouse's Name.....

Tell us your news!

.....

.....

.....

**Wear your VGH Grad
and Class Pins to the**

ANNUAL LUNCHEON
Celebrate the Memories...
...Renew the Spirit

SUNDAY MAY 1, 2011
St Mary's Ukrainian Centre
3150 Ash Street, Vancouver
Check-in begins at 12 noon

Newsletter:
 Ethel Warbinek (McIntyre) '56
 Mary Watt (MacKinnon) '54
 We appreciate your input!