



NEWSLETTER

DISPLAYS:

Showcasing our Alumnae

We believe it is important to display our archival and museum collection. A permanent display is located on the main floor in the Jim Pattison Pavilion at VGH.



A bit of history.

In 1997, VGH approved our request for a display window in Laurel Pavilion, later renamed Jim Pattison. We were given 2 windows on the Main floor. The drive behind this was the closure of the School in 1998 and the need to have a tribute recognizing the over 8000 VGH graduates.

A committee was formed headed by Betty-Ann Rogers and the decision made to commission a stained

glass window. This would be permanent and the installation and ongoing maintenance financed by the Hospital. Evelyn Burch, Pacific Glass Works, was the project artist and collaborated with the committee in designing the window. She provided the drawings for artist Sue Obata who painted the images on the glass. It features five students, in various uniforms over 99 years, and a graduate nurse. Heather Pavilion is in the



background along with the School crest and motto. The window was unveiled May 2, 1999.

The second window is the one that attracts the most attention by staff and visitors as they walk by. It is changed about every 6 weeks and the themes selected are those which have historical interest. In 2012 they were: Pediatric Nursing at VGH, Early days in the OR, Poliomyelitis Care, The School's 99 years: The Last Graduation Class, Early years at VGH,

Continues on page 7



1918 student uniform- Alumnae room display

A Reminder to attend the VGHSON Alumnae Luncheon

**CELEBRATE the MEMORIES...
RENEW the SPIRIT**
Honouring the **1963** classes

Sunday
May 5, 2013
12:00 to 15:00
hours

Cost: \$25

Guests at the luncheon are the **1963** and **1953** graduates.

St Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Centre

3150 Ash Street
Vancouver, BC V5Z 3C9

Registration begins at 12 noon
Lunch 12:30
Ample parking & wheel chair accessible.

To guarantee you have a seat, please send your payment before the deadline of **April 18th 2013** – don't be disappointed. If you are unable to attend, we would appreciate knowing as it affects catering and seating arrangements

See registration form on page 20 or visit our website vghnursingschoolalumnae.com and register on line

If you have any questions contact **Pat Sexsmith**: 604-261-8293
Email at psexsmith@shaw.ca
or

Myrna Braun: 604-266-7202
Email at mrynabrain@shaw.ca



2012 ARCHIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2012 was another busy year for us. We received a wonderful bequeath from Anne Jenkins estate – 3 photograph alums with great photos that Anne collected while she was Director of Pediatric Nursing at the Health Centre for Children. Marg Shugg has been meticulously removing the photos from their sticky backing so they can be scanned by Mary Watt before being placed in acid free envelopes. Some of these will be placed on our website for you to view.



Ethel Warbinek & Kay Raisbeck - Co-Chairs

Displays are an important part of our work and provide visibility for us in Jim Pattison Pavilion where they always attract attention from staff and visitors. They are changed about every 6 weeks and in 2012 the themes were: Pediatric Nursing at VGH, Early days in the OR, Poliomyelitis Care, The School’s 99 years: The Last Graduation Class, Early years at VGH, Early TB care in BC, and the 50th Class Reunion. November always features Military Nursing and in December a Christmas window. Another important display event is the Annual Luncheon where we provide displays of our beautiful silver collection, historical dolls and student uniforms.

Ongoing work continues as our archivist- Naomi Constant organizes our collection, accessions donations, helps with displays and liaises with visitors. We appreciate her work and dedication. Kay Raisbeck has been working with Naomi organizing the many boxes we received when the School closed permanently in 1998. Mary Watt, our hard working photographer, has photographed our uniform collection and is presently scanning the Anne Jenkins collection - time consuming work.

Donations to the archives continue although not as many as in the past. We have become more selective due to storage restraints. We are missing extra copies of some student annuals so if you have one of the following and wish to donate it, please contact us. **1961, 63, 64, 81, 85, 86, and 88.**

Tours of the Archives and Museum were requested by the September 1957 class and the 1962 50-year reunion class.

Website. With the introduction of our website 2 years ago, there has been an increase in traffic with grads, students, researchers and others contacting us for access to our collection. Museum photos, blogs/ profiles of members, reunions, many with photos, are continually added to the site, along with newsletters in colour. Take a moment to view the Archives and Museum links on our website vghnursingschoolalumnae.com.

Betty-Anne found it necessary to resign from the co-chair position due to health concerns, but continues to coordinate displays. Kay Raisbeck has temporarily filled the co-chair position. We welcomed a new member – Linda Allardyce - who is helping Janie Birkland with displays and thanks also to Norma Guttomsson who stepped in to assist Betty-Anne.

Heartfelt thanks to Janie Birkeland, Peggy Etchell, Betty Kirkwood, Marg Shugg, Linda Allardyce, Mary Watt and Betty-Anne Rogers. (past chair) and Kay Raisbeck (temporary co-chair) for your dedication to preserve our historical collection and to those of you who so generously donated to the Archival Development Fund. Without your support the collection’s future would be in jeopardy.

Ethel Warbinek – co-chair



Window display in Jim Pattison Pavilion

2012 FINANCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

GENERAL FUND	Balanced December 31 2012.....	\$13,705.72
BMO INVESTMENT ACCT	Balanced December 31 2012.....	\$68,000.00
BMO CORA TRETHERWAY	Balanced December 31 2012.....	\$70,000.00



The large, year-end balance continues to reflect the fee payments that arrive in advance of the year for which they are credited. It was not necessary to transfer funds to Education this year due to a decrease in requests. Luncheon costs continue to rise as catering and rental costs become more expensive. As a result of these issues, it was decided to increase the yearly fees to \$20 to help defray rising costs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Baxter

LUNCHEON COMMITTEE REPORT 2012

The VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association Annual Luncheon was held on May 6th at St Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Centre, 241 Members attended. The VGH Classes of 1962 were the Honored guests. The theme for the event was "Celebrate the Memories and Renew the Spirit". A



A selection of items from the Archive museum were on display at the 2012 luncheon

good time was had by all. A selection of items from the Museum was on display. These included mannequins dressed in uniforms appropriate for the year 1962, selected items from the Alumnae Silver Collection, the Doll Display, as dressed by Sheila Zerr in "period uniforms", the hooked rugs with the VGH and UBC Logos and the Memorial Book.

Sheila presented a very interesting account of her involvement in the creation of the "Doll Collection". Speakers from the Classes of 1962 entertained with reminiscences of their days as Student Nurses.

This year's Luncheon, Honoring the Classes of 1963 will be held at St Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Centre on May 5th 2013. All Alumnae including the Honored Guests are requested to pre-register by April 17th 2013. Members, other than Honored Guests are requested to submit payment by April 17th 2013, 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 5th to Celebrate the Memories.

Respectively submitted,
Kathleen Raisbeck

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2012

The Alumnae Association is still very active in its 104th year of operation due to the dedicated members who carry out the various activities. The details of these will be described in the individual committee reports, but there were also many shared projects.

The highlight of the year was the May 6/12 annual luncheon held to honour the classes of 1962 who were celebrating their 50th year after graduation and the Class of 1952 who celebrated 60 years. Life Memberships were presented to Elizabeth "Betty" Kirkwood and Gail McKay for their many years of service to the Alumnae Association. Honourary membership was awarded to Sheila Rankin Zerr who meticulously sewed the VGH school uniforms on our miniature doll collection. She was also our guest speaker.



Following the luncheon, some guests enjoyed a tour of the VGH Alumnae Archives, the Alumnae display window in the Pattison Pavilion and other selected areas.

The Alumnae Association was invited to take part in the Nursing Week display at the VGH site in May which resulted in meeting many VGH graduates employed there. In June, the 1918 VGH student uniform was on display at the Canadian Nurses Foundation 50th Anniversary Celebration and then it was part of the Association of Registered Nurses of BC display during the Canadian Nurses Biannual meeting as BC was celebrating 100 years of organized nursing.

In July, it was a pleasure to accompany Margaret Mainwaring and other Nursing Sisters who received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal from Lt. Governor Point at Government House. Margaret was the most senior person receiving this award that day at age 101½ years.

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 has also ensured the revision of the Office Manual and the entry of all Memorial Book names in a special data base.

Sad news was received in the Fall as Helen Mussallem died on Nov. 9, 2012 in Ottawa and Beverly Dugas died on Nov. 22/12 in Delta.

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.

Sincere appreciation is extended to all who assist in keeping the association viable. Once again, we would appreciate hearing from any alumnae members who would like to assist in carrying out the alumnae association activities.

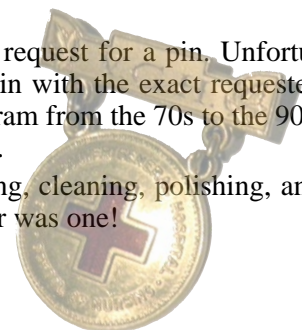
Kathy (McCutcheon) Murphy, September, 1965.

PIN BANK REPORT

It is always a challenge when we receive a request for a pin. Unfortunately it is sometimes impossible to replace a pin with the exact requested year. We do need more pins donated to this program from the 70s to the 90s. However, we were able to fill 4 of the 6 requests.

We still charge \$75 and this covers engraving, cleaning, polishing, any repairs as well as postage - a bargain if there ever was one!

Respectfully submitted,
Anne E. Williams Sept/54



**VGH SON ARCHIVAL
DEVELOPMENT FUND REPORT**

For the period ending December 31, 2012

General Account

Revenue

Funds carried forward.....	\$5,380.00
Donations received in 2012	\$15,675.00
Interest	00.93
Total revenue	\$21,055.93

Expenses

Archival supplies	\$529.00
Office supplies, postage.....	\$293.00
Web site maintenance.....	\$1837.00
Archivist.....	\$980.00
Transfer to GIC	\$7000.00
Bank charges.....	72.40
Total Expenses	\$11,211.40

Balance in chequing account	\$9844.53
Long Term investment	\$42,000.00
Balance December 31, 2012	\$51,844.53

*Submitted by: Ethel Warbinek - Trustee
January 31, 2012*

LOOK US UP!
www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE
REPORT 2012**

The Executive of the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association for the year 2013 is as follows:

Officers:

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

Committee Chairmen:

- Archives/Artifacts - Ethel Warbinek, Kay Raisbeck (temporary)- Co-chairmen*
- Education - Joan Kerr*
- Friendship - Lorna Hoare and Diane Parker - Co-chairmen*
- Membership - Anne Williams*
- Publicity - Ethel Warbinek*
- Respectfully Submitted, Kay Raisbeck*

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT

In March 2012, 1400 newsletters were printed by VGH Printing and mailed. We have been canvassing members to determine those who are interested in receiving the newsletter via e-mail which would decrease printing and mailing expenses.

In November, 1300 Bulletins were printed and mailed along with membership renewal forms and requests for donations to our VGH SON Archival Development Fund. The 2013 Bulletin and 2012 Newsletter are posted on our web site.

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.net. 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 and if you agree, posted on our web page. Also send a report of your reunion with photographs.

Our Web site: vghnursingschoolalumnae.com is proving popular and traffic has doubled over the past year. Items such as events, reunions and news about members are constantly added. Send your news and we will post it. Check the site for Alumnae events such as our annual luncheon, view our archives and museum collections and find information on our bursaries. Sign up for email alerts and special notices.

Special thanks to Mary Watt, who co-authors the newsletter, and for her invaluable help with photographing our museum collection which is posted on the website.

Ethel Warbinek, Publicity Chair

Please Note - when sending photos to us for print - please use the highest resolution for the photos you have available.

LUNCHEON PHOTOS 2012



September 52 celebrating 60th reunion at the Luncheon 2012





2012 EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

In 2012, the Alumnae executive approved the new initiative to offer bursary awards to the children or grandchildren of VGH/SON Diploma Graduates and/or UBC/VGH Collaborative Nursing Program graduates. The students must be pursuing education goals in the nursing field.

The Committee received eight applications for bursary awards. Unfortunately two applications were rejected as they did not meet the criteria. Three VGH grads and three children of VGH grads were accepted to receive bursary awards.

The three “children of grads” are all in full time studies and will graduate with their Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Their letters were full of enthusiasm and interest for the nursing profession. They all expressed their appreciation that they had wonderful role models in their mothers and now are passionate about their chosen profession.

The three VGH grads are pursuing a Masters of Health Sciences from the Athabasca University, a Master’s degree in Advanced Practice, Nursing Leadership from UVic, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from UVic. The Education Committee was pleased to award a total of \$9,325.00 to six bursary recipients for 2012.

The following are the 2012 Bursary Award Recipients

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

1. Lorelei (Beech) Faulkner-Gibson Feb’88
2. Kaitlyn Hurrie--(daughter of Sandra Lee Monk) Feb’85
3. Jennifer (O’Connor) Wright Sept’78

VGH/SON Alumnae Association

1. Kim (Chubak) Boudrey, Feb’80
2. Emily Scoten--(daughter of Gloria Smith) Sept’77

Harvey/Cain Endowment, Eileen Lewis Memorial & VGH/SON Alumnae Funds

In 2012, the money for our bursary award program was exhausted. Our funds receive minimal return on the investments. I would like to thank Alumnae members who make contributions to the Education Committee which are put 100% to bursary awards. We are pleased that we have had interest in the children of VGH graduates and hope the trend will continue.

I invite you to go to our website (www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com) and link to: “Bursaries” for guidelines and opportunities for bursary awards.

The committee welcomes applications from:

- Graduates of the VGH/SON diploma program
- Graduates of the UBC/VGH Collaborative Nursing Program
- Children or grandchildren of parents/grandparents from the above programs.

Inquiries and request for application forms can be made by phoning the Alumnae Office at 604-875-4111 – local 62049 (please leave a message). Application forms can also be downloaded from our website. Applications are due September 15th of the current year.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Kerr, Chairman, Education Committee

2012 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Working with membership continues to become more and more interesting! In 2011 we began using our web site as an option for registration. In 2012 we introduced Pay Pal for fee payment and are canvassing members to see if there is interest in receiving the newsletter by email and an email list is being compiled.

Although 1126 graduates have renewed their membership the total is lower than last year. In March 2012, we sent 271 "reminder" letters to those who had not renewed their membership and had a positive response from 138. The response to an “introductory" letter to non members was disappointing. 242 letters were mailed, 7 returned and only 36 responded. It is interesting that some members do not keep in touch with their class reps and do not send change of address notices. We are hoping the website and e-mail will help with this.

Again we ask for up to date class lists. After a reunion, why not send us a copy of the up to date list with the new addresses, changes of name, as well as those who have died. One class responded to the plea last year but there are still more lost lists. The following are the missing lists:

- | | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1972-all classes | 1973-February | 1976-all classes | 1977-September | 1978-February | 1979-all classes |
| 1980-September | 1981-February | 1982-September | 1983-September | 1984-all classes | 1985-September |
| 1986-all classes | 1987-September | 1991-February | | | |

Respectfully submitted, Anne E. Williams Sept/54



FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 2012



Archival photo - Marjorie Wilson manning a display at the Vancouver library

2012 has been another busy year for the Friendship Committee and our volunteers. The highlight is always the delivery of the orchid arrangements to our senior alumnae graduates. The areas included the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island and Nelson.

Without our volunteers, who deliver and visit, we would not be able to achieve this goal. There is always much appreciation in being remembered by their School of Nursing Alumnae, and the visits are enjoyed by all.

We also celebrated 4 special birthdays this year. **Marjorie Wilson** celebrated her 100th, while **Barb Gillies** and **Kristine Griffith** had their 90th and Bev du Gas was 89.

Sadly, among the many who have passed, we lost some long term alumnae. **Bev Du Gas, Helen Mussallem** and **Nancy Lee**, from Nelson, who had just turned 102.



Barb Gillies, as Medical-Surgical Co-ordinator VGH. Photo taken from VGHSOAN Archival photo collection.

This year we welcomed Roberta Tottle from the Sept'65 class who recently joined our committee. She was able to do Christmas cards this year and will assist in the organization of our Spring florals.

We also express our sincere thanks to all our ladies who assist us in the visits and deliveries.

Once again, we are sometimes unable to send cards and flowers if we are unaware of someone, or do not have an address. Hopefully classmates will inform the Alumnae Office.

In addition to the Spring deliveries, we sent 26 sympathy cards and 10 get well cards.

Respectfully submitted:

Diane Parker/Lorna Hoare – co-chairs Friendship Committee

NEW HONORARY & LIFE MEMBERS NAMED 2012

Honorary Members

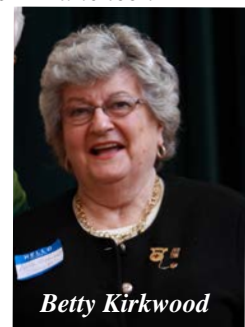
- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Mrs. Matilda Bara | Mrs. Naomi Constant | Mr. Charlie Etchell |
| Dr. Don Hutchins | Mr. D.E. McTaggart | Mrs. Nellie Ryzak |
| | Sheila J. Rankin Zerr | |

Life Members

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sharon Baxter (Francis) '62 | Janie Birkeland (Schwab) '66 |
| Vivian Blake (Jackson) '50 | Myrna Braun (Wagstaff) '62 |
| Peggy Etchell (Thompson) '51 | Barbara Gillies '46 |
| Lorna Hoare (Snider) '66 | Evelyn Holob (Anderson) '51 |
| Adelaide Hutchins (McLean) '53 | Sheila Kirk (Poersch) '61 |
| Elizabeth Kirkwood (Miles) '53 | Gail McKay (Glanville) '62 |
| Eleanor McTaggart (White) '47 | Kathleen Murphy (McCutcheon) '65 |
| Diane Parker (Sjerve) '68 | Trudy Phillips (Smith) '53 |
| Kay Raisbeck '54 | Betty-Anne Rogers '57 |
| Helen Saunders '39 | Nancy Semke (Bouzovetsky) '57 |
| Pat Sexsmith (Kay) '62 | 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 | |



President Kathy Murphy presents Life Membership pins to Gail McKay (Glanville)'62 and Betty Kirkwood (Miles)'53 at the 2012 Luncheon



Kathy also awarded Honorary Membership to Sheila J. Rankin Zerr (see page 7)

VGH School of Nursing Portrait Doll Project Presentation

by Sheila J. Rankin Zerr

It is a great honor to accept this honorary membership from the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae. My association with the VGH School of Nursing goes back to my childhood. My father's twin sister, Bessie Rankin, trained here in the 1940s. She was a classmate of Dr. Beverly DuGas. My aunt kept a close association with her classmates throughout her life. She had a strong influence on my choice of nursing as a career so when I was asked to take the VGH Alumnae portrait doll project on - I did not have to think twice. In 1987 I had a short clinical teaching contract with the VGH School of Nursing and enjoyed working with the students immensely.

It was a pleasure to work with the many folks involved in this project. My good friends Ethel Warbinek and Kathy Murphy were aware of my lifetime work with nursing portrait



dolls. I worked closely with Betty-Anne Rogers to plan and design the doll uniforms. We succeeded in finding a top quality portrait doll artist, Sheila Cullen, of Langley. Betty-Anne was helpful in providing the research and pictures to develop the authentic details of the uniforms. We give full credit to Kirstine Griffith who designed the original set of portrait dolls. Her work was valuable in guiding the uniform patterns and images we used. We added a male doll to acknowledge the male nursing students. We added an



Asian doll to honor their acceptance into the school in the 1930s.

We wanted this collection to stand the test of time. Costumed dolls captivate visual history in a way that attracts attention of both knowledgeable experts and the curious passersby. We know that portrait dolls have survived many centuries to preserve the history of past generations and their mode of dress. They provide an excellent way to illustrate and teach nursing history. The use of carefully crafted porcelain dolls was important to ensure the longevity of this collection. Betty-Anne Rogers' efforts to secure the collection in specially designed cabinets will also help protect the collection from dust and handling. Again, it is indeed an honor to be a part of your great school and alumnae. My good friend Dr. Helen Mussallem finally has her wish. For the many years I worked with her on committees in Ottawa she maintained

that I was a VGH graduate. As a RJH student I did attend provincial student council meetings when she was director here. Now I can say I am an honorary member and proud of it. I look forward to our association in the future.



Sheila Zerr was presented with an Honorary Membership at the 2012 luncheon for her dedication to the preservation of the history of the VGH School of Nursing.

Continued from page 1 - Showcasing our Alumnae

Early TB care in BC, and the 1962 50th Class Reunion. November features Military Nursing and in December a Christmas window. Photographs and museum items from our archives attract visitors, triggering memories and lively discussion.

Alumnae Room Displays

Exhibits are also found in our archives and museum in the Alumnae rooms in Heather Pavilion. "Mini" displays are organized for special tours and for our Open House, held every two to three years.

Annual Luncheon

The Annual Luncheon provides an excellent opportunity for us to share our collection with you. Mannequins dressed in student and grad uniforms are a highlight along with a presentation of our wonderful miniature dolls, photos of our pins, samples from our beautiful

silver collection - many donated by classes - and other items of interest.

These displays would not be possible without a group of dedicated members who spend hours collecting items, making signage, taking down existing displays, reassembling new ones and transporting materials from our Alumnae Rooms to Jim Pattison.

A special thanks to Betty-Anne Rogers, coordinator, and to her committee.



Items from the museum archival display: Kardex & metal eye patches

Reunions - Celebrate the memories

2012 Reunions

Sept'53 celebrated their 59th reunion with a luncheon in Lantzville, BC, the home of **Muriel (Fisher) Dickie**. Eighteen from Vancouver Island, the Mainland and **D.J. (Franklin) Peaker** flying from Toronto, enjoyed the excitement, visiting and renewing of friendships. We are hoping to see classmates attend the Spring Luncheon on May 5th to celebrate our 60th with a following get together in Vancouver.



Aug'56 The 55th reunion of UBC class of 1957 was celebrated in May with a coastal cruise on the SS Statendam. Seventeen enthusiastic classmates came from England, California, Ontario and BC. We were fortunate to connect, while in ports, with **Maxine (McCracken) Nicholson** and husband Dave, who travelled from Seattle to meet us in Astoria, Oregon, to enjoy an afternoon of visiting and refreshment in the 3



Cups Coffee House. In Victoria, we visited **Malvina (Macdonald) Eidsvik**, as she recuperated, in hospital, from a fall. Great weather, food, entertainment and fellowship contributed to wonderful reunion marred unfortunately by an accident on board. **Diane Gladman** fell, severely breaking her arm and requiring hospital admission and surgery. Diane came through the difficult time with her usual positive spirit and good humour. It was a reminder of our vulnerability at this time of our lives. Very special news from **Janet (Montgomery) Fernau** was a highlight of the cruise as she shared her experience when honoured on the Queen's Birthday List with a MBE. The Queen presented the medal at an award ceremony at Buckingham Palace, on November 15 2011, for Janet's work in establishing and running the Haemochromatosis



Society of the UK, since 1990.

We look forward to reuniting and celebrating the friendships begun many years ago as we learned and

lived together to become nurses and the women we are today. Submitted by **Betty (Donald) Wynne**



Feb'57 Seventeen classmates from the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island gathered to celebrate our 55th anniversary at the Boathouse in Horse-shoe Bay. Blue skies stretched from horizon to horizon, the Mountain View was superb and the company convivial. We reminisced, chatted and laughed. It was a joyous occasion. We plan to organize regular get-togethers. Sent in by **Marion (Cox) Barker**

Sept'57 In late May our class celebrated our 55th with a 3 day reunion in downtown Vancouver. There were 27 of us and we had a great time. We toured the New Convention Center which was fantastic. Another highlight was visiting the Nursing Archives at VGH where we were hosted by Margaret Shugg and Vivian Blake (Jackson). We were "Miss Jackson's" first class and really enjoyed that she took the time to reminisce with us about how nervous she was and how green we were.

Thanks to the Alumnae for all the time and effort you and your staff put in to keep the Association alive and well. I enjoy the yearly Newsletter very much and would be disappointed to miss it. By **Hannah Spatola (Hudson)**

Another report was sent in by **Arden Kidd**. It was a full 3 day celebration. We enjoyed a tour and tea at Rode House Museum on Barclay Square, an evening performance of Cole Porter's "High Society", a guided tour of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Gardens followed by Dim Sum Lunch at a nearby restaurant. The reunion planning committee members (Lerae, Thelma, Jeanette, Dawn, Joan MacLean, Bonnie and Arden) were happy you appreciated the program. Our hotel's hospitality suite, amiably run by Dawn with Fran's assistance, became our living room between activities. A farewell banquet was held atop the hotel where we were afforded

lovely views of the West End and English Bay. It was wonderful to see so many classmates from out of the country. Scotland, Australia,



Reunions - Celebrate the memories

Hawaii and the United States, as well as those from across B.C. and Canada were represented. We missed those of you who were unable to be with us. Over the past two years we have been saddened to lose classmates **Eleanor Ross, June Latin (Standen), Susan Laidlaw (Armstrong) and Polly Fogg**. Their names have been added to the Book of Remembrance. On behalf of our class, a donation was made to the Archive Committee for its continued work in maintaining our nursing history. Thank you, **Arden Kidd**

Feb'59 had their 53rd reunion May 1-3 at Harrison Hot Springs. Fifteen attended and had a wonderful time. Those who attended: **Pat Sinclair, Eileen Depeel, Sylvia Burkinshaw, Glenda Byers, Joyce Gammie, Helen Gurney, Edith Hesson, Elaine Kelley, Glenda Porter, Lydia Ratzlaff, Carol Saunders, Barbara Schroter, Kathleen Thune, Helen Virgo and Doreen Watt**.

Feb'62 celebrated their 50th reunion on Friday May 4th. Thirty of us converged on the Lonsdale Quay Hotel to check in, register at our class table and especially catch up on our classmates' news. The chatting and laughter continued all evening (with most of us squeezed into one room) and was only interrupted by a tasty dinner at the Cheshire Cheese Restaurant right at the Quay. Memories of "Remember when in training we couldn't have our hair lines touch our collars" or "Sneaking through the tunnels at night to dodge the matron if we were late for curfew". Saturday was a beautiful sunny day and many of us took long walks, shopped or just hung out at the Quay. We all met for dinner at the Lobby Restaurant in the Pinnacle Hotel about a half block away for a delicious dinner in a pleasant setting. More chatting and laughing followed. On Sunday we all met for breakfast and headed over to the VGH Alumnae luncheon where we were honoured guests. What an enjoyable time we had meeting up with friends some of whom we hadn't seen since we worked together in training. We were made to feel so special. Thank you to the Alumnae committee! The Alumnae president - Kathy Murphy -then took us on an interesting tour of VGH especially the Archives room and the scary tunnels or what

is left of them. What a memorable, grand weekend. We are already looking forward to our 55th. Thank you **Gail McKay**

Sept'62 held their 50th reunion at the Coast Plaza Hotel in the West End, the first weekend in May, with about 35 gals in attendance. It was wonderful to see **Jeannie Crawford, Beth Hobbs, Louanne Gibson and Pat Armstrong** from the US as well as **Sharon Hansen** from Toronto.

Following the Sunday lunch, Kathy Murphy kindly arranged a tour of Heather Pavilion for those interested, with a quick tour of the tunnels-yes they are still there and functioning. The next day, **Mona Gallaway** arranged a fascinating tour of the new Blusson Pavilion for spinal cord research before everyone raced for the plane or ferry home.

Louanne Gibson has moved from California to Vancouver this past summer, so now spends her time between Yaletown and Guatemala. We are glad to have her back after all these years.

Feb'63:As always **Penelope, Barbara, Alice and Patricia** got together for our 3-day Mini Reunion at Sooke B.C. Great time--looking forward to our 50th in May. Hello all Feb 63, see you then!! **Patricia (McGregor) Marini Feb'67** held a reunion Sept 25-26 at Harrison Hot Springs.

Sept'67 Forty-two classmates celebrated their 45th reunion by meeting at the Fairmont Empress Hotel in Victoria on May 8th. Several of our classmates eagerly arrived a day early to spend some time in Victoria and met for dinner at a local pub.

The following day we were joined by the other classmates for tea and a time to visit. In the evening we had a lovely dinner in the hospitality room at the Empress, and more time to reconnect, share our stories, show our pictures and reminisce about our student days. The following morning some of us enjoyed a tour of the lovely hotel and learned more about its history. Of our 79 grads, 5 have passed on and were honoured with a poster and time to remember them. Of the forty-two present, 19 came from Metro Vancouver, 4 from the Gulf Coast, 8 from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, 5 from other parts of B.C., 2 from Alberta, 1 from Ontario, 2 from Washington State and our farthest classmate who came from Hawaii. Many thanks to **Marilyn (McVicar) Norman** along with her team from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands for putting the reunion together. Plans are underway for our 50th which will be held in Vancouver in May 2017 with **Pat (Morrice) Ross** leading the team. Thank you **Hessina Bekkering** for submitting this.



Mini reunion -Sooke



Sept '67



Sept '62



our dance circle 2 other grads who happened to be there. One from the class of '79 and the other from '56.

We were a very proud bunch to have this common bond. Anyone not on the class list who would like to join in time for the next get together, contact **Karen Swinnard** at k.swinnard@shaw.ca Sent in by **Laurel Coghlin-Newman**

Sept'82 Sonja(Woltersdorff) Comerford wrote to tell us her class celebrated their 30 year Nursing Reunion at Harrison Hot Springs in September.

2013 Reunions

Sept'63 is planning a 50 year reunion to take place at The University of Victoria on June 26 and 27, 2013.

Contact persons are:

Daphne (Owen) Francis daphnefrancis@shaw.ca or phone at 604-224-5927 and **Frances Mayer** fmayer21@shaw.ca or phone at 250-655-7182

Sept'68 is having their 45th Class Reunion on May 24-26th 2013 at New Westminster Inn at the Quay Contact **Susan Smith Harding** cobidog@telus.net or 604-576-1499

Feb'83 is having their 30th reunion September 13/14, 2013 at the Naramata Centre. Wine tours, fun in the sun and catch up with old friends. Contact **Allison (Kelley) Viskari** ali.viskari@gmail.com or 250-558-3316

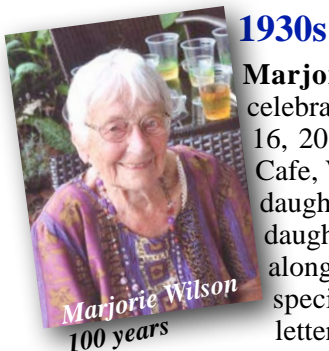
Sept'72 got together for a reunion in Whistler in September. We had twenty-eight graduates make the trek from as far away as Singapore.

We also had attendees from Ontario, Washington as well as various locations throughout BC. It seems like only yesterday that we were all living in residence, although we all know that isn't true. The only thing better than reconnecting, with everyone was the weather in Whistler that weekend. There were lots of activities to take advantage of in that special location. We are already looking ahead to 2017 for our next gathering.

Feb'81 held a reunion in 2011 and a brunch at Newlands Golf Course in June 2012

Feb'82 finally had a reunion. Twenty-two classmates met in October for a weekend at Harrison Hot Springs. It was our first big class reunion in many years. We walked and talked and laughed nonstop. Had dinner in the Copper Room followed by dancing where we welcomed into

Class News



1930s

Marjorie (Espley) Wilson 1935 celebrated her 100th birthday August 16, 2012 with a tea party at Truffles Cafe, VanDusen Gardens. Marjorie's daughter from England and granddaughter and family from Toronto along with friends gathered for this special occasion. Congratulatory letters from the Queen and the

Governor General of Canada were on display in the family album. This album was compiled by Marjorie, **Jean Tsuyuki Feb'57** and **Betty-Anne Rogers, Feb'57**. **Lorna Hoare** and **Diane Parker**, Friendship Committee delivered a "basket of treats" along with a singing birthday card from the Alumnae. Marjorie was delighted. Written by Betty-Anne for Marjorie *Also see page 6*

1940s

Marg (Westlind) Harris Jan' 45 wrote to tell us she knew Helen Mussallem quite well. She taught her class in the OR prior to joining the army and continued to meet her through the years. Helen's smile never wavered. She also knew Bev Witter Du Gas – graduated from VGH together. Marg retired from the position of Director of Nursing Service Foothills Hospital in Calgary. Thanks us for keeping the VGH Alumnae alive.

Daphne (Gwilliam) Walstrom Jan'47 says she is keeping pretty well for her age of 88 – still golfs 9 holes twice a week at a Par 3 course in White Rock. For fun she and a friend go to the Langley Casino once or twice a week depending on their winnings. She plays cards not slot machines. She still drives but not too far from home. Would like hear from members of her class.

Lois (Hanson) Wilson Jan'49. Classmate, **Bev (Jeffares) Atkinson**, sent the following. Lois was born in Estevan Saskatchewan, on December 26, 1927 and passed away peacefully on December 31, 2012 after a long battle with many health issues. Moving with her family to Moose Jaw, she graduated from high school there and entered VGH obtaining her R.N. in 1949. Following her marriage to Dr. Frank Wilson she moved to Atlanta, Georgia where she practiced nursing until returning to Vancouver in 1954. She finished her nursing career at the B.C. Cancer Institute where she worked from 1976 until retiring in 1992. She frequently said she loved every minute of it. Lois was active in the Alumnae and as the class representative for the January 1949 class. She spent countless hours contacting class members and planning the 50th & 60th anniversary events. She was also a member of the Point Grey Golf Club, Dunbar Community Centre and the U.B.C. Volunteer Gift Shop. Lois is survived by her daughter Franca Bebb, son Frank Wilson, 6 grandchildren and 2 sisters in Moose Jaw.

Class News

1950s

Janet (Montgomery) Fernau August '56 was honoured with an MBE in the Queen's Birthday list for her work in establishing and running the Haemochromatosis Society – a charity registered in England, Wales and Scotland. For information on Haemochromatosis, visit www.haemochromatosis.org.uk. Also see reunions.



L to R - Doris (Robinson) Riedweg; Nancy (Adams) Milley; Gladys (Torgerson) Botnen; Chris (McCaskill) Robertson; Agnes (McGregor) Mertin; Lou (Binkley) Lawrence; Donna (Bell) Matthews; Diana (Robertson) MacKenzie at book launch

Nancy (Adams) Miley Sept'56 spent a happy time with **Doris (Robinson) Riedweg** to celebrate her third book "Water in the Wilderness" which was launched in May. Our dear classmate **Diana (Robertson) MacKenzie** died in November after a tough time with Parkinson disease. And life goes on for the rest of the group who enjoy occasional outings together.

Myrna Robison Sept'59 writes to say she has been volunteering at the Revelstoke Railway Museum where she has been archiving photographs of the CPR Sub Division. 6000 photographs have been archived, many from family albums of CPR employees. An inventory will be made of these historical pictures next winter and will be available via a web site. The website will also include a video of retired CPR employees telling their stories. From time to time, Myrna takes tour groups and tells them that the Superintendent would accommodate his coach so that patients who were seriously ill could be transported to CPR medical specialists in either Kamloops or Vancouver. The CPR had medical coverage for all employees long before Provincial Medical Plans were established. Now, serious accident cases are stabilized on site by paramedics and transported via helicopter to trauma centres in Kamloops, Kelowna or if closer to Golden, to Calgary. The present day protocol certainly exceeds that of yesteryear where if a Cessna could fly through the West pass of Three Valley, always weather dependent, a radio/telephone/telegraph message was sent to a local dairy farmer so that he could herd his dairy cows out of the way to allow the plane to land in his pasture. This "aircraft" landing decision was never taken

lightly as the output of milk from these hastily herded cows was often diminished the following day. *Thank you Myrna for sharing this with us. (Eds)*

1960s

Marie (Grossman) MacKay Feb'60 wrote to say she very much enjoys the newsletter. She spends six months of the year in Kenya working with an organization that supports high school students. At the 60th reunion, the class donated enough money for a herd of goats to be given to HIV+ women in Kenya. Over the past 4 years, Marie has given away over 600 local goats as well as many pure bred breeding goats which improves the milking ability of the local goat's offspring. She writes: "Several of these groups, who have received these, have formed a co-op for the purpose of marketing their goat's milk and giving small loans to members. It is surprising how a gift of a goat can improve the life of a woman and her offspring. Just the fact that someone far away thinks of them and wants to help means a great deal." *What a wonderful gift Marie. (Eds)*

Nancy (Bain) Gregson Sept'61

2012 was a very busy one for us, away from Canada more than home, with trips to Europe, Britain, the US and Hawaii. Saw many relatives and people we needed to visit due to advancing age and health. Marriages of a granddaughter and then a nephew within a week of each other, one in the Okanagan and the latter in Scotland kept us "up in the air". Added a new great granddaughter, and expect the arrival of another in July 2013. I am still keeping track of our Class although have not seen many this year, so don't have a general class news synopsis this time around. Suffice to say many are travelling, some coping with health issues and one classmate, **Janet (Ree) Anderson** sadly passed away in Oct 2012. We are hoping for yet another happy, healthy year ahead with new adventures including a 2 month cruise to the South Pacific.

1970s

Sandra Kathleen (McMann) Hyslop Feb'71 has moved back to Salt Spring Island after living 16 years in County Cork Ireland. She feels great about coming home to settle again near family and friends.

Diane Kroeger Sept'75 continues to work in hospice part time enjoying the learning challenges of end of life care. For the last two Thanksgivings she visited **Betty (Janse) Bjornson** in Westbank picking apples for the harvest. **Diane Kroeger** and **Betty Bjornson** need volunteers to help with the organization of their 40 year reunion – also need addresses of members.

Heather (Peters) Kruse Sept 77 I have been living overseas with my husband mostly in Asia and now living in Seattle, WA as new young retire folk. My e-mail address is: krusemail2@gmail.com Would love to hear from others in Sept 77 as I am keen to hear your news. I have been married almost 35 years and have 5 grandchildren. Have been working mostly doing volunteer nursing

jobs but loving it. My nursing has been a big blessing to me over the years. Much love and care.

1980s

Susan (Graham) Beattie Sept'82 writes the following about her 30-year reunion "Just came back from my 30 year reunion. Wow! And the 3 that arranged all gave us the Alumnae registration form, so I have decided to join. I am so proud to say that 2 out of my 4 children are following in my footsteps. My daughter, Shannon, just started 2nd year Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Douglas College, Coquitlam and my son Michael just began 1st year Nursing also at Douglas College.

Sonja (Woltersdorff) Comerford Sept'82 has been nursing for 30 years and presently works full time in the ER in Terrace, BC. Part-time at UNBC teaching nursing students, working on her theses for a Master's in Nursing (Academic Stream) and is about to work casual for Princess Cruise Lines. She has 2 daughters also in the nursing program. Life is full, productive, still loves nursing and finds a balance with quilting her down time. A busy life indeed (eds)

Lynne (Verdicchio) Smothers, Sept'83. lives in Oregon and is wondering if anyone from her class is planning a 30 year reunion. Would appreciate news: lynneingarden@yahoo.com

**Presentation By Mengia (Semadeni) Nicholson
Class Of Feb '62 At The 2012 Luncheon**

Mrs. Du Gas and Honoured Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Class of Sept '62, and Classmates.

It is an honour to say a few words on behalf of the **Class of February '62** on this, our **50th Anniversary!** It is also very special to be able to thank you in person, **Mrs. Beverly Witter Du Gas**, our Director of Nursing. Mrs. Du Gas, you were a wonderful role model for us and an outstanding nursing leader. It is now that we more fully realize your considerable contribution towards insuring good learning experiences for each of us as well as appropriate support during our training. We warmly thank you and we wish you the best.

Thank you, President **Kathy Murphy** and Alumnae Executive for your many activities to: - assist VGH students; - bring together the classes of the School of Nursing at these lovely luncheons, - and your timely development of the Website and Archives. Your work means a great deal to the VGH nursing community. We also congratulate classmate, **Gail McKay**, on receiving the honour of a Life Membership today.

Thank you, classmate **Pat Berda** and your committee; Pat G., Mollie, Gail, Marian, Marleen, Ruth, Anne, Rea, Pat J., Sharon, Pamela and Mardy; for wonderful reunions over the years, and for this special day! We greatly appreciate the many hours of planning and arranging of many, many details on our behalf. Regrettably, some classmates cannot be here today; they send greetings. We wish they were here with us. We remember classmates who have passed on. They lived and learned with us; they also loved our profession and contributed greatly. We remember: **Giselle Doyon, Lillian (Gee) Ng, Carol (Putnam) Rowse, Leona (Smud) Erickson and Dale (Reeves) Collingwood.** We are thankful for their friendship - they will always be in our hearts.

We are grateful for and fondly remember: our Instructors, Matrons, Nurses, Doctors and Staffs who, each in

their own way, (and some of these were quite memorable!) guided us towards proficiency in nursing. They would be proud of the students they taught and guided. Upon reflection, we realize the richness of those three years at our VGH School of Nursing.

Life in residence and classroom learning was our introduction to nurses training. Most of us were fresh out of high school; some had been inspired by Future Nurses Clubs. We were in for experiences of all kinds! The

strict expectations of the '50's still held in 1959, residence rules echoed the discipline and regimentation of Hospitals in the then-fading British Empire. As we recall, our natural exuberance was sometimes curtailed! For example, 'no shorts when leaving the residence', even if going to Stanley Park for a bicycle ride.

A few residence recollections, (among many!)

When we first started training, some students had rooms on the first floor, North Wing, while most of the class were on the second floor. Two friends looked for a place to plug in the 2-prong plug record player. All the outlets had 3 holes and you needed a big adapter to plug anything in; plus appliances were to be first inspected by a hospital engineer. The florescent light fixture above the mirror on the dresser had a 2-prong outlet but the holes had been filled with putty. No problem! They would just pick it out with a bobby pin. As they were picking away, the other end of the bobby pin accidentally touched the metal of the light fixture; there was a huge flash and sparks! All the lights in the north wing of the nurses' residence had also blown out! They were 2 scared Probies! When the Engineers came around, it seems these girls had 'no idea' why the lights went out. With an overload of soap in the washers and suds everywhere, laundry rooms were a bit like the 'Ma and Pa Kettle' movies of the day; - we laughed as we mopped. Although very active on the wards, some of us still put on a few pounds with the generous amounts of peanut butter, jam and bread. We also



wondered if VGH owned a pineapple cannery; pineapple seemed to be ever-present at most meals! We enjoyed painting windows and decorating for Christmas in residence and on the wards. Everyone seemed to be knitting Phentex slippers. (Who started that?) They made wonderful gifts that our student stipends could manage. Matrons somehow ‘always knew’ when we gathered in someone’s room; holding our breaths and holding back giggles, as the approaching sound of heels clicked on the terrazzo floors, “Girls, candles out NOW, please!” At one of our ‘full uniform’ Teas presented for VGH Members of the Board, the huge silver urn had developed a tiny leak. When we turned on the spout to fill the bone china cups, a few drops of tea also dropped into the saucers! We kept on smiling while busily wiping saucers and serving our honoured guests!

Our first classes were in the Residence basement. The daily Roll Call held expectant pauses. How would today’s Matron pronounce some of our more unusual last names? For the first 6 months we daily sang a Hymn to begin classes. Our own **Marie (Glaholm) Tucker** accompanied us on the piano. One particular Instructor, on our first class with her, decisively strode to the blackboard, and then most vigorously printed, in capital letters: “BESWETHERICK, pull and TIGHTEN that Drawsheet. I want to be able to BOUNCE a dime on it!”. “Don’t EVER put your purse on the FLOOR! It will pick up all the dirt of Granville Street!” She was able to leave us with an indelible memory of important matters. **Miss Fleming**, her face often reddening, emphatically taught us every detail of knowing and administering meds, including how to perfectly perform injections.

Warm friendships:

Students came from near and far. The ‘out of towners’ enjoyed kindness and generosity of urban classmates who warmly invited them to their homes. Merry personalities lightened up serious ones, quiet and serious ones offered another perspective to consider. A wonderful mosaic formed that helped us to better understand and respect various beliefs and outlooks. We learned a lot from each other. Our Big Sisters kindly answered our questions. Training sometimes seemed like a maze to us. We soon became a sisterhood, sharing experiences, clothing and jewelry, but especially becoming reliable sources of support for each other. It kept us going; our sisterhood gave us the support of a family. A medical specialist, a former UBC School of Medicine Resident, recently said, ‘VGH nurses were the best’. He felt that ‘living in residence’ helped shape VGH students into very good nurses’. We certainly had fun and a sense of community: We had a student newsletter: The Drawsheet. We had fund raisers. Many of you will recognize this book: “Captivating Cookery,” illustrated by our own **Gail McKay!** At our Capping Ceremony, we staged some musical numbers, setting our own words to ‘South Pacific’.

Our aim was learning how to care for patients who had all types of needs. Our patients were to be found somewhere in that ‘collection of buildings’; ancient and new. We trekked through halls and tunnels, through all levels of light and dark, temperature and humidity and on

elevators each with its own “personality”! On the wards, there was no confusion as to who was allowed to do what; each had a specific uniform denoting a specific role, and each had a readable name tag! We were sure to rise and stand for doctors arriving at the nursing station!

One morning in the Nursery on Maternity 4th floor, there were a lot of babies to bathe; so the students set up an assembly line. One undressed, one lathered and rinsed and another dried and dressed. Worked well, except the RN walked in just as somebody was rinsing a baby under the running tap. A student new to O.R., having been given no prior instruction, continued to pour acetone on the limb being prepared for surgery, thinking the Orthopedic Surgeon nearby would tell her how much to use. Eventually he tactfully indicated it was time to stop pouring, with: “Gee, I sure would like you to be the one that pours me my gin fizzes in the morning!”

There were many challenges to adapt to, and much to learn; but we did. Teamwork and protocols for nursing and medical staffs; physical sciences, many procedures, skills, understandings and techniques. We absorbed psychological, sociological and anthropological basics.

Open-mindedness, acceptance and understanding of humanity in all walks and conditions of life, have indeed stayed with us, all of these days. Finally, we were ready for Graduation! Then, with RN certificates in hand, we began our nursing futures.

In the five decades since; ‘Life’ has presented various opportunities and circumstances for our nursing and personal lives. VGH’s fine foundation has held well! This is evident from the accounts of our class’s nursing careers. A brief overview of our class’s accomplishments certainly illustrates the variety of work and skills they, as RN’s carried out. We salute our classmates who are still actively nursing! You deserve gold stars to have kept up with all the

changes! One of our class members said: “Once you’ve worked in healthcare all your life, it’s hard to give it up totally.” She then went on to say: “Other folks just don’t seem to relate well to our weird sense of humor!” Many provided reliable and vital core staffs in hospitals and health services; O.R., ECU, ICU, Cardiac, COPD, Emerg, Premie and Psych and Supervision, Head Nursing, Administration, Informatics. Others, recognized as highly proficient in their field, were asked to teach clinical students. Some worked as Casuals or Floats, often between having their children. Some nursed in rural or remote Canadian communities, the North, in foreign countries, developing countries and in Missionary nursing. Some worked beyond hospital walls, pursued further studies or specialization, Bachelor or Master’s Degrees; working for Federal and Provincial governments in policy and statistics or became Educators, Counsellors or entered Community Services. Two taught RN Refresher courses. One opened and administered the Child & Family Health Research Institute at B.C. Children’s Hospital.

One worked with Medication Clinical Trials and Animal Research. Some taught Pre-Natal, several provided Community Health Nursing. One worked in the Air Force, one became

**“BESWETHERICK,
pull and
TIGHTEN
that Drawsheet.
I want to be able to
BOUNCE
a dime on it!”**

Passing Of Two Nursing Leaders

Dr. Helen K. Mussallem and Dr. Beverly Witter Du Gas

Within the last year, we lost our two remaining Directors of the School – **Helen K. Mussallem 1937** and **Beverly Witter Du Gas 1945**. Both women achieved recognition not only in BC, but in Canada and worldwide. Their legacy will continue for years to come. Both were born in BC, graduated from VGH, worked at VGH, taught in the School and were promoted to Directors. Beverly was an instructor in the School under Helen and succeeded her when Helen resigned. Both were career oriented – desiring to make changes in the way nurses were educated. Both were ambitious, seeking higher education – Masters’ degrees and Doctorates and made a significant impact on international nursing. Their personalities were quite different – Helen was gregarious, loved to entertain friends, family and colleagues and at ease with almost everyone she met – remembering faces and names after many years. Beverly was a very private person, bright with a tremendous memory, hard working, dedicated, an “academic”. In her later years she shared stories about her life and family and spoke fondly of her children and grandchildren.

Space does not permit a detailed account of the careers of these remarkable nurses, so the following is but a glimpse at their remarkable careers and life.

Helen K. Mussallem – Canada’s Most Decorated Nurse - January 7, 1915 - November 9, 2012

Helen Mussallem was born in Prince Rupert BC, the fourth of six children of Solomon and Annie Mussallem. A few years later, the family moved to Maple Ridge where Solomon became mayor for 23 years. When Helen was a teenager, she was so impressed by two nurses who attended a CGIT meeting (Canadian Girls in Training) that she decided to become a nurse. In 1934, she selected VGH as it was the school attended by her friends. Helen’s sister, also a VGH nurse, graduated in 1939. Following graduation in 1937, Helen worked as a staff nurse in the operating room at VGH and then attended the University of Washington where she obtained a diploma in teaching, supervision and administration in schools of nursing. In 1943 she was encouraged to “sign up” by a nursing supervisor and enlisted in the R.C.A.M.C. as a lieutenant. In 1943, she sailed on the Empress of Scotland to Liverpool and then by train to the Canadian Hospital in Marsden Green where she was in charge of the operating rooms before being shipped to Holland and Germany. Following her discharge, she obtained a Bachelor of Nursing degree from McGill and returned to VGH as an instructor in the School. In 1947, she received a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University and returned to VGH as a senior instructor. In 1953, was promoted to Director of the School. During this time she was very much loved and respected by the students. Many years later, when attending one of VGH Alumnae’s annual luncheons, she was warmly welcomed by the graduates who were so excited to see her as they had known her when they were students. Even when Helen was unable to attend recent lunches, we were always asked if she was present.



In 1956, she left VGH to take a position with the Canadian Nurses Association, a job she was reluctant to take as it meant leaving her family. She was asked to conduct a survey of Canadian schools of nursing – a monumental task which involved extensive travel and hundreds of interviews. Her findings were published in 1969, in the report *Spotlight on Nursing Education*. This report was described as a “watershed in Canada’s movement towards university -based nursing education.” During this time, Helen returned to Columbia University and earned a doctorate. Her dissertation was *Path to Quality: A Plan for the Development of Nursing Education Programs within the General Education System of Canada*, 1962. Helen was appointed CNA executive director from 1963-81.

Following retirement from CNA, Helen remained busy travelling internationally as a World Health Ambassador and consultant for the World Health Organization. She sat on over twenty boards. In 1969 she presented the inaugural Marion Woodward, lecture at UBC titled “Nursing Tomorrow”. In 1994, Helen received an honorary degree from UBC and in 1999, the Helen Mussallem Endowment Fund was established at the UBC School of Nursing. A prolific writer she had over 40 publications and her book *Succeeding Together: Group Action by Nurses* 1983 was a best seller worldwide. Glennis Zilm has the following recollections of Helen while she was in Ottawa as assistant editor of the Canadian Nurse.

“Helen was always proud of “her students” and especially greeted VGH grads and wanted to know all about their program if they were not from “her years.” She was especially proud when her students did innovative things

in nursing. Helen was a "foodie" and loved to serve huge Lebanese casseroles at various functions. She loved returning to Vancouver and used to come almost every winter (January / February) and often in May for RNABC and VGH meetings, until the last four years. She had a lovely Vancouver apartment with a great view of the mountains. I have memories of her returning to Ottawa after her trip with the ICN to Russia when the cold war ended. She wrote a great piece about the system of nursing in Russia for the Canadian Nurse." She also remembers being amazed at Helen's capacity to glide easily between a high society function at the Governor General's mansion and a lowly coffee huddle among the staff.



Over the years, Helen received numerous prestigious awards, citations and honorary degrees. A remarkable nurse leader, she contributed tremendously to the nursing profession, shaping the reform of nursing education and the Canadian Health Care System. After her official "retirement" she served as advisor to national and international health organization in 38 countries, including her ancestral home, Lebanon. A founder of the Canadian Nurses Foundation and several university scholarships, she assisted hundreds of nurses to pursue graduate studies. Her awards are too numerous to list, but include our nation's highest honour, the Companion of the Order of Canada. She was the first Canadian to receive the Florence Nightingale Medal of the International Red Cross and was the recipient of seven honorary doctorates. Helen was the ultimate communicator; a skill developed early in her career, and knew the value of social networking which she used so effectively.

Helen Mussallem died peacefully in Ottawa in the presence of her friend and VGH graduate, Hallie Sloan, November 9, 2012 following a brief stay in hospital.

For a fascinating account of Helen's life and accomplishments go to: [The Dr. Helen K. Mussallem Biography Project at drhkm.ca](http://TheDr.HelenK.MussallemBiographyProject.at.drhkm.ca)

Sources consulted: James E. Mattison, Still opening doors. *Reflections on Nursing Leadership. Vol 22, No 2, 2003.* pp.10-15. The Dr. Helen K. Mussallem Biography Project at drhkm.ca

Beverly Witter Du Gas: A visionary – June 29, 1923 – November 22, 2012

Beverly was born in Vancouver and received a BA from UBC and a diploma from VGH School of Nursing in 1945. Following graduation she moved to Seattle where she received a Master of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Washington in 1947. After several years working in Seattle and San Francisco, Beverly returned to VGH working night shifts so she could spend time with her children in the evenings. She described Helen Mussallem as her "saviour" when she offered her a position teaching psychology and neurological nursing to the senior classes in the School. She was later promoted to Senior Instructor and when Helen Mussallem resigned in 1957 was promoted to Director. One piece of advice she received from Helen was to "look after yourself" and she started on a regular exercise program which she diligently adhered to throughout her career and into retirement. She was a member of the Stroke Club for several years.



courses such as community health. Innovative clinical teaching methods were implemented where students observed various nursing procedures demonstrated on real patients at the bedside rather than traditional laboratory demonstrations. She recalled several humorous occasions while director one being members of the new senior class who, when changing to white shoes, strung their old black ones on a line across twelve avenue from the student residence to the interns residence across the street. This caused a major traffic jam as drivers slowed down to take a look.

Early one morning in 1965, Beverly received a phone call from The World Health Organization offering her a position as a Nurse-educator in Chandigarh, India – capital of the Punjab. She woke her children and excitedly told them – "We are going to India". The decision was made to leave the three older children in Canada so they could complete their education and the youngest Dan, who was thirteen, would go with her. She had been at VGH for twelve years now and it was time to move on so she submitted her resignation. Several events were held in her

Continued on page 16



honour such as a big party held in the courtyard. It was organized by the students who performed Indian dances and songs and also learned to cook chapattis and curried dishes. So Beverly left VGH for India. She returned to Canada two years later in 1967 and in 2003 published a fascinating collection of short stories about her experiences in India. She returned to Vancouver and obtained a Doctor of Education in 1969 from UBC and moved back to Ottawa where she was hired as Nursing Consultant – later Director - of the Planning Division of the Health Manpower Directorate for the Federal Government. Most of her time was spent traveling to such countries as Ghana, New Guinea, and Korea to assist in the preparation of primary health care workers. She left Ottawa to undertake international assignments and in 1982, she joined the nursing faculty at the University of Ottawa and later became Director, retiring in 1989. During this time she was a pioneer in developing new approaches to the delivery of distance education for nurses such as telephone conferencing.

During retirement, she carried out international consultancies for WHO and CIDA and was an invited scholar in China, the Philippines, Ghana, Tonga and India. She also served as a consultant to the Gur Nanak College of Nursing. She was a founding member of the B.C. History of Nursing Society and served as first president.

Beverly was a prolific writer particularly of nursing textbooks and published numerous articles. Her most recent book was: *The Best Damn School in the Country: The Vancouver General Hospital School of Nursing 1957-1965* self published in 2009. This is a collection of stories about the School while she was director. Beverly received many awards such as the Order of British Columbia in 2000 and the Order of Canada in 2001.

Beverly Du Gas brought honour to the School. She dedicated so much of her life to the advancement of nursing. Her vision was and remains an inspiration for generations of Canadian nurses and nurses from around the world. She died on November 22, 2012.

ADDITIONAL MEMBER NEWS

Special Milestones – Happy birthday to the following: Marjorie Wilson, Barbara Gillies and Kirsten Griffith



Kirstine (Adam) Buckland Griffith UBC 1944

celebrated her 90th birthday in Feb 2012. A special afternoon tea was held for family and friends at the Arbutus Manor in Vancouver.



Barb Gillies UBC 1946

celebrated her 90th birthday on March 12, 2012. Several lunches and dinners with family and friends were held in Nanoose Bay.

Marjorie (Espley) Wilson 1935.

Celebrated her 100th birthday August 16, 2012. Pictured in her grandson's porsche.



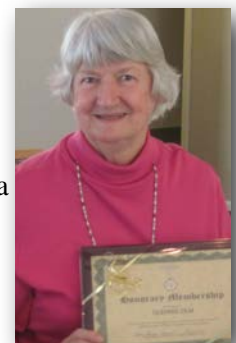
Colleen Stainton UBC 1960 received the 2012 UBC Nursing Division Award of Distinction at a ceremony held at the Museum of Anthropology on May 3, 2012. Dr. Stainton helped develop the four-year Bachelor of Science Nursing program and the Master's and Doctorate programs at the University of Calgary. A pioneer in nursing



Colleen Stainton

research, she established the international maternity nursing research conference. Colleen has received numerous awards in recognition of her contributions and has provided expert consultation to her colleagues on nursing research and practice. Source: *Touchpoints* UBC School of Nursing, September 2012.

Glennis Zilm UBC 1957 received Honorary Life Membership in the B.C. History of Nursing Society in July 2012 for her contributions to the history of nursing in Canada. She is a founding member of the Society.



Margaret Mainwaring Sept 1933, received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal at a ceremony at Government House on July 18, 2012. Margaret celebrated her 102nd birthday in February.

Continued from page 13 Class of '62 Presentation at 2012 Luncheon

a Para-Medic, two nursed in Prisons, (Juvenile Corrections, and Medium Security). Some did Insurance Medicals, Private Duty, Home Care, Long Term Care, Doctor's Office, Physiotherapist's Medical Office Assistance, Walk-in Clinics, and one nursed at a race track! One is a Parish Nurse and volunteer (Military) Reserve Nurse. One worked with the deaf, another was a 'standardized patient' for UBC's Med. School.

Some later choose other fields; such as realty work, newspaper production management, advertising, and one a CGA. Some have held public office, one worked for a MLA in his Constituency Office. One is an author and sought-out speaker for her spiritual leadership. Some generously shared in financial ways; establishing and supporting foundations to significantly assist our VGH Student Nurse Bursary program, special projects for two Interior Hospitals, the UBC School of Medicine and Cancer research in B.C. We thank you.

Some personal accomplishments have also been outstanding; among them, the ascent of Mt. Kilimanjaro (5,895 M.) by one of our classmates at the age of 71, no less! Way to go, Pat J! Our children and grandchildren have benefited from what we could teach them about staying healthy. Many of our children have chosen careers in nursing, medicine, and physical or social helping. Our VGH School of Nursing provided not only solid nurses' training, but also gave us the confidence to carry on and to try new things. Miss Helen King and Mrs. Beverly Witter Du Gas likely envisioned this for us. To you we owe our deepest thanks.



What does 'nursing' mean now, fifty years later? Fifty years ago, we had to possess good skills in communication, observation, assessment and techniques, provide emotional and physical support and accurate information for patients and families, (appropriate to the specific area). These 'elements of nursing' continue, however they continually change with evolving processes and new settings. Nevertheless, our patients (and families) will continue to need these 'elements of nursing'.

As our VGH Crest symbolizes, Nursing was, and still is, about: 'Compassion, Peace, Tradition and the Values of the Great Beliefs'. Our School Motto underlines this with: "Non Ministrari Sed Ministrare."

On behalf of the Class of February '62, I would like to thank the VGH School of Nursing for the exemplary foundation we received for our nursing and personal lives.

And on behalf of our class, we thank you, Kathy and your entire Executive, for keeping these realizations before us. Thank you for your kindness and leadership. We are honoured to be your guests at this lovely Luncheon and to have this special time together. Thank you, and all the very best to everyone; until we meet again.

(For 'a little bit of spice': Feb '62 Class members then sang a bit of their version of 'There is Nothing like a 'Male' (Dame) from 'South Pacific').

Mengia Nicholson (Semadeni) Class of Feb '62

CELEBRATING 50 - CELEBRATING 60



Children and Adolescents Surviving Cancer: Psychosocial Health, Quality of Life and Social Support

Mary-Elizabeth Bradley Eilertsen Sept' 78

Congratulations to Mary-Elizabeth who recently completed a doctoral thesis at NTNU – Trondheim, Norwegian University of Science and Technology in 2111. The following are excerpts from this thesis that will be of special interest to our readers.



Background:

Childhood cancer involves a crisis for the child and their family where they face many challenges to achieve normality after diagnosis, even after successful treatment. In 1985, a professional collaboration model (PCM) was developed at the Department of Paediatrics, St. Olavs University Hospital, Trondheim where the goal was to offer optimal follow-up care to children with cancer and their families.

In Norway, approximately 120-150 children and adolescents under the age of 15 are diagnosed with cancer each year (annual incidence 16.2/100,000) and approximately 40 children die yearly of their cancer illness (Cancer Registry 2009). The most common type of malignancy in children is leukaemia, accounting for approximately 1/3 of childhood cancers. The second most frequent malignancy in children is tumours of the central nervous system.

Survival rates for childhood cancer have improved dramatically through the past years, resulting in a growing population of childhood cancer survivors. With the help of cancer treatment such as chemotherapy, radiation, surgery and improved supportive care (both somatic and psychosocial) nearly 80 % of children currently treated for cancer will become long-term survivors

Aim:

The aim of this two part study was to explore social support, psychosocial health and quality of life for children and adolescents surviving cancer. Health and non-health professionals from the families' home communities caring for children treated at the Department of Paediatrics, St. Olavs University Hospital in Trondheim, Norway between 1990 and 1996 were invited to participate in part 1 of this study. Part 2 was a case-control study including 50 children and adolescents diagnosed with cancer between January 1, 1993 – January 1, 2003.

Clinical background – clinical reflection

For over 25 years I worked in the field of paediatric oncology, employed as a nursing advisor in the Norwegian Cancer Society (1980-2004), and collaborated with the Department of Paediatrics, St. Olavs University Hospital, Trondheim, Norway. As a nursing advisor I worked in close contact with children with cancer and their families, and collaborated with both health and non-health professionals in Central Norway. I was privileged to follow these children through the different phases of their illness and treatment, as well as after completion of treatment. As a result, I had the opportunity to view the extent of how children themselves, as well as their parents and siblings were able to adapt back to their normal life with family, friends, school and work (parents). I also had the opportunity to be a part of a team which built up a professional collaborative model (PCM) for children with and surviving cancer, essential for follow-up care and rehabilitation of children with a chronic, life-threatening illness.

Children with cancer were subjected to intense and long-term treatment with a diagnosis that was fatal without the required treatment. In my experience, most families had an enormous burden to carry over many years. Even though the strain of the cancer illness and treatment was difficult and the sick child's future was uncertain, many families appeared to function well and adapted back to their "normal" life, coping well in their daily living. However, other children and their families often seemed to struggle "alone" back to their normal daily living at home, as well as at school or work (parents).

Through these years of clinical work I was fortunate to experience that many children survived their cancer diagnosis, something which gave me a desire and a need to document the effect the cancer illness and its treatment had on the child, even several years after their diagnosis. It was both the families that functioned well, as well as the families that struggled back to a "normal" life that inspired me to evaluate the PCM and further explore psychosocial health and quality of life for children and adolescents surviving cancer. Obtaining more information and new knowledge of what children themselves experience, as well as their parents was an important goal in improving follow-up care through the PCM, thus giving the necessary social support and rehabilitation essential for the individ-

ual child surviving cancer and their family. My goal and dream started after evaluating the PCM in 1997 and became a total reality in 2006 after receiving a grant from NFR (The Research Council of Norway) and HiST (Sør-Trøndelag University College) enabling the possibility to achieve more knowledge about children and adolescents surviving cancer.

Conclusions:

To improve the child’s psychosocial health and quality of life our results indicate that a collaborative approach is an important resource for social support and is essential in planning and implementing the necessary interventions for long-term follow-up care and rehabilitation for children and adolescents with cancer, especially for survivors with brain tumours, and those with late effects. To gain a comprehensive understanding our results also show the need to particularly take into account subjectively perceived and proxy reported quality of life, in addition to children and adolescents’ psychological problems and psychosocial functioning.

It is my greatest desire that this research promotes to an increasing knowledge in the profession and practice of nursing in evidence-based nursing, which can contribute to optimal social support and rehabilitation necessary for children and adolescents surviving cancer and their families, as well as the professionals caring for them. In this study we have gained knowledge after asking the ones that could give us this knowledge: children and their families and the professionals working in close contact with them.

Four articles have been published internationally. If you wish more information on Mary-Elizabeth’s impressive research contact her at mary.elizabeth.eilersen@hist.no



St. Olavs University Hospital in Trondheim, Norway

Honoured 70 Years Later: Alice (Uyede) Naruse VGH 1941



Alice (Michiyo) Uyede was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Applied Science (Nursing) at a special ceremony on May 30, 2012 at UBC. Honorary degrees were conferred on Japanese students who were unable to complete their education when they were sent to internment camps in 1942. The University wanted to recognize and honor these Canadian students. On this special 70th anniversary, the University acknowledged the injustice to their basic citizenship rights.

The ceremonies honored them and their families, welcomed them as alumni, and celebrated their contributions as citizens of Canada. Stories were collected by the Japanese Canadian community and the University who used available strategies to try to locate the students or families.

Alice, also called “Mikkie” by classmates, was born in Vancouver on May 19, 1917. She enrolled in UBC’s six-year nursing program and completed the three-year portion at VGH in 1941. She returned to UBC for her final year and due to intervention by the School was able to remain in Vancouver and complete her studies after the evacuation in 1942. However, she did not receive her degree but was allowed to attend the graduation exercises.

She moved to Montreal and worked as a surgical teaching supervisor at the Children’s Memorial Hos-

pital. In 1950 she married Henry Kanao Naruse and moved to Trail. While raising her family, she was involved in many community activities. In the 1970s she took a nursing refresher course from BCIT so she could return to nursing at the Trail Regional Hospital. In 1981, she received a Masters degree in Health Care Planning from UBC. She made a career change and became a fashion designer and entrepreneur. Alice died in Trail on March 1, 1998.

Source: *Return: A commemorative yearbook in honour of the Japanese students of 1942* published for the ceremonies.

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.

PROFILE - Doris Robinson Riedweg (Sept'56)

I am a late starter. At the age of 23, I entered nurses' training at VGH, late for those years when most new students were not long out of high school. I was married in my late thirties, and I began my writing career at the age of 62.

Only once did I regret my late start in nursing – the first night I spent in the student residence at VGH. I had been working and out on my own for five years. So that night in August, 1953 when the home matron knocked on my door at 10 o'clock and told me to put my light out and go to bed, I wondered what I had gotten myself into. It was the first and only time I questioned my choice of career.

As a new graduate I was accepted on the staff of Langley Memorial Hospital, a 50 bed facility at that time. I loved the small hospital atmosphere. That is probably why, during much of my nursing career, I chose to work in small institutions such as Nova Scotia's Fishermen's Memorial in Lunenburg; and Powell River General Hospital where I spent two years as operating room supervisor.

My stint in Powell River was preceded by a post graduate course in surgery at VGH. When Miss Helen King learned that I was once again leaving VGH for smaller pastures, she said, "I suppose country hospitals need nurses, too." I considered myself gently chastised.

In 1962 a nursing friend and I took six months off for a much anticipated trip around the world by ship, train and 'thumb', an adventure that cost us each a grand total of \$3000. In my case, I used all my worldly savings including my accumulated superannuation. I returned home to Maple Ridge with just twelve cents in my purse, but with a bucketful of memories and many new friends.

Following that trip I spent 18 months at Victoria's St. Joseph's Hospital, and then returned to Langley to take over as OR head nurse in the new Langley Memorial. It was at this time that I met my husband John. Forty-five years ago, this Saskatchewan

farmer's daughter returned to her farming roots on the acreage where we still live.

I may be a late starter, but I quit my nursing career early – before retirement age – to concentrate on farming endeavours, my garden and my elderly parents' growing need of assistance. In 1991 when family responsibilities lightened, I found myself with time on my hands, and the opportunity to get back to the passion I had harboured all my life – writing. My first article, a story about the birth of my great-niece, was published in the Vancouver Sun along with a picture of her in my arms. This was soon followed by another piece on dairy farming in the Fraser Valley. I had only just received the phone call from Shelley Fralic at the Sun to tell me it had been accepted, when my husband handed me a shirt with a missing button.

"Sorry," I said haughtily, "I don't do buttons; I'm a writer."

Well, I soon found out that being a writer did not excuse me from doing buttons, or windows, or any other household chore. But I still managed to find time to write. Several of my articles were published in newspapers and magazines in the next few years, and two of my short stories won awards in Canadian literary contests. And I had the good fortune to be asked to edit and co-author the book, *Hospital on the Hill, a history of Langley Memorial Hospital*. That project, which took 4 1/2 years,

was truly a labour of love. Although I have published three books since that time in 1997, I can honestly say that nothing has quite equalled the thrill of holding that beautiful book in my hands for the first time. Indeed, I felt as though I had given birth after a 4 1/2 year pregnancy.

In 2006 I was surprised and delighted by being honoured with a Women of Excellence award in Arts and Culture. Surprised because I had never thought of myself as being either particularly artsy or cultured. But I've since realized that writing is considered an art form.

During those years I started to write fiction, and had two novels completed by early in the new century. Then began the arduous process of promoting my work to publishers and agents – followed by the inevitable rejection letters. I could have papered my office walls with them. However, in 2007, I found a publisher who was willing to take a chance on my first novel, *Fury of the Wind* which was released – in 2008 – by Libros Libertad Publishing. It was followed in 2010 by *Still Waters*, and then its sequel, *Water in the Wilderness* in 2012.

Newspaper reporters, when interviewing authors, often ask, "Is the book basically an autobiography?" I am never quite sure how to respond. I think that every novel has some autobiographical aspects – it couldn't be otherwise. In the case of *Fury of the Wind*, the locale is Saskatchewan, and the town and farm is fashioned after the area in which I grew up. *Still Waters* follows my life more closely than the others since

Continued on page 23



L to R -- Donna (Robertson) Connell; Doris (Robinson) Riedweg; Marilyn (Puffer) McSporran; Diana (Robertson) MacKenzie.
(R)Doris, capping ceremony

2012 - ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FUND RAISING YEAR

Thank you to all who so generously supported our fundraising during 2012. Two donors wish to remain anonymous.

More donations were received in 2012 and the amount raised was significantly greater than in 2011. Some of the donated funds were used to purchase archival supplies, maintain and develop our website, pay part of our archivist salary and most important, to raise money for the move to a new site, still unknown. We encourage you to visit our website and view the additions made over the past year. For information on the Archival Development Fund report go to page 4.

Lynne Adams	Joan Dooling	Adelaide Hutchins	Gillian Mouat	Jean Smith
Lucile Adderley	Mirth Doyle	Kanako Ikeda	Avis Muir	Maureen Speed
Mollie Addison	Mary Lou Drescher	Sandra James	Rose Murakami	Linda Stamm
Jean Anderson	Penny Dumas	Judith Jeffery	Gail Murphy	Maureen Steel
Ruth Anderson	Frances Dye	Pearl Jones	Jane Murphy	Catherine Sterna
Barbara Andrews	Nadiene Eaton	Arlene Juby	June Mussenden	Jean Sterling
Rae Archer	Denise Edwards	Mary Kent	Hiroko Roberta Nasu	Darlen Stewart
Ann Arnett	Sheila Elliott	Joan Kerr	Margaret Neilson	Grace Stewart
Kathleen Anstey	Margaret Erickson	Sue Kerr	Sharon Newton	Katherine Stratford
Marion Atherton	Rochelle Farquhar	Reta Kidd	Mengia Nicholson	Lorna Sutton
Karen Atkin	Frances Farr	Florence King	Sylvia Nielsen	Betty Sweeney
Barbara Bassett	Anne Favell	Barbara Kissuras	Joan Noble	Carole Teather
Marion Beaver	Doreen Fergusson	Maureen Kochanuk	Shirley North	Carolyn Taylor
Meta Beduz	Carolyn Feldinger	Joyce Kruger	Ruth Norton	Nancy E.Teng
Kathleen Belknap	Maureen Findlay	Gwyenth Lamperson	Judy Nylander	Alvena Teufel
Dana Bjarnason	Janet Fleming	Ruth Langdale	Grace Osborne	Kathie Thompson
Noreen Boyer	Beth Fitzpatrick	Wilma Lathan	Helen Overgaard	Elaine Tinckler
Marion Boyle	Kerry Frazer	Diana Laustrup	Vivian Parker	Laurene Tkatschow
Betty Brannan	Calli Funk	Lily Lee	Sandy Parfeniuk	Sarah Mae Trelle
Sheila Brew	Lorelei	Shirley-Mae Lister	Trudi Perkes	Sharron Trickett
Eileen Brown	Faulkner-Gibson	Ellen Lukaitis	Barbara Pincott	Deanna Turnbull
Margaret Browne	May Gillis	Mary Lundquist	Trudy Phillips	Arlene Turner
Nancy Burt	Pat Godwill	Susanne MacCarthy	Patricia Poole	Nell Turner
Janice Callbeck	Patricia Godwin	Laurie MacCaulder	Anita Price	Carol Tyrell
Sheila Calvert	Norma Gomerich	Carol MacKenzie	Sharon Prinz	Lucy Turri
Elaine Campbell	Patricia Gorwill	Joan MacLean	Gwen Proust	Julie Vardabasso
Ruth Carlisle	Anne Gray	Jean MacLeod	Mary Raikes-Tindle	Sheila Yeomans
Pat Carroll	Bernice Gregory	Mavis MacMillan	Doris Riedweg	Carol Volpatti
Lois Cassels	Caroline Grierson	Maureen MacNamara	in memory of Diana	Betty Waddell
Libuska Cernohorsky	Nancy Gregson	Irene Marsaw	MacKenzie	Robin Waine
Dorothy Chinner	Beverley Grant	Kathleen Matterson	Marion Reaburn	Frances Walpole
Linda Clark-Jones	Kirstine Griffith	Donna Matthews	Judith Reid	Daphne Walstrom
Class of	Barbara Groundwater	Debra Mayer	Anita Reith	Barb Ward
September 1957	Marlene Gustafson	Mary McDermid	Norval Rhodes	Elizabeth Warren
Audrey Clearie	Teresa Hannesson	Fran McDonald	Laurel Richards	Idelle Watkin
Barbara Coglan	Agnes Halliwell	Linda McGibbon	Marion Rivers	Mary Watt
Robin Copeland	Hazel Hansen	Marjorie McKellar	Joyce Roberts	Florian Wells
Consuelo Corbett	Mary Ann Hardy	Delda McLennan	Diane Robinson	Gail Whitley
Jeanette Cowie	Freda Hart	Kathy McLeod	Kathleen Rosloski	Donna Whyte
Wendy Cowan	Annie Hess	Alice McMillan	Donetta Ross	Kathleen Wilson
Kathleen Crone	Barbara Hestrin	Marilyn McSporrnan	Ellen Rukholm	Margaret Wilson
Charlotte Cronin	Frances Hitchman	Myrna McTaggart	Deborah Scheske	Anne E. Williams
Lorraine Crouse	Shirley Hooper	Agnes Mertin	Sandra Smallemberg	Diane Winteringham
Dorothy Currar	Jocelyn Howden	Linda Miller	Nancy Semke	Katherine Woods
Phyllis Davies	Joan Howey	Naomi M. Miller	Helen Shore	Shirley Wright
Marion Deane-Freeman	Pat Hudson	Nancy Milley	Marg Shugg	Charlotte Wynne
Devina Dennis	Wendy Hunt	Ann Mitton	Patricia Silversides	Jacqueline Ziegeler
Anne Derksen	Heather Hunter	Muriel Moore	Hallie Sloan	Glennis Zilm
Christine De Visser	Mary-Jo Hunter	Jennifer Morrison	Jan Smith	<i>Ethel Warbinek - trustee</i>



In Memoriam

And Not Forgotten

Maiden name	Given name	Married name
1932	Lee	Nancy
1933	Mack	Mary
1937	Mussallem	Helen
1938	Kelly	Elizabeth
1940	Lydiard	Elizabeth
1941	Geddes	Mona
1942	Cranna	Elva
1943	Bolton*	Nancy
1944	Brownlee	Beryl
1945	Witter	Beverly
1946	Buckley	Ruth
1947	Emigh	Shirley
1947	Johnson	Ruth
1947	Lowe	Marion
1948	Polley	Eleanor
1948	Wheatley	Alice
1948	Wright	Marion
1949	Hanson	Lois
1949	Hetherington	Ida
1950	Boyle	Kathleen
1951	Doerkson	May
1951	McLennan	Gladys
1952	Mackay	Jean
1953	Henry	Mary
1953	English	Margaret
1953	Walker*	June
1954	Eriksen	Phyllis
1955	Wright	Sylvia
1956	Hack	Elsie
1956	Robertson	Diana
1957	Armstrong	Susan
1957	Schreiber	Anne
1957	Standen	June
1958	Miller	Charlene
1958	Redden	Lois
1958	Taylor	Patricia
1960	McAndrew	Carol Jean
1960	Swanston	Rosalie
1961	Ree	Janet
1965	Burnett	Jacalin
1965	Graham	Gwyeneth Ann
1965	Gregor	Ann
1965	Harkness	Carol
1965	Henderson	Jean
1966	Barr	Glennis
1966	Cornies	Hedy
1966	Miller	Elaine
1966	Wiebe	Irma

*UBC

REMEMBERING

Nancy Lee 1932

May 5, 1910-June 16, 2012



Nancy Viola Lee died peacefully in Nelson, B.C. on June 16, 2012 a month after her 102nd birthday. She was born in East Bridgford, near Nottingham, England, the youngest of four children. When she was 14 months old the family came to Canada, settling in Bonnington, B.C. Nancy attended boarding school in Vernon for several years and was a graduate of Nelson High School in 1928. She graduated from VGH in 1932 and then went to England for further training in midwifery and paediatric care at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital.

When she returned to British Columbia she worked at hospitals in Nelson and Quesnel and was subsequently offered a job at Vancouver General. When WWII broke out she joined the South African Military Nursing Service, serving in Johannesburg and Bloemfontein from 1942 to 1944, then went to Italy where she nursed wounded soldiers 12 miles behind the front lines. After the war she did additional training in Public Health at UBC and worked in this field for the remainder of her career. She received a Bachelor of Nursing degree from McGill University in 1960. Nancy held a number of supervisory public health nursing positions in the province, the last one being Director of Nursing for Greater Victoria until she retired in 1973.

Nancy was an avid gardener and was among the first group of volunteers that evolved into Friends of the Government House Gardens Society. She loved to travel and made dozens of wonderful trips all over the world. She took up weaving and was involved with the Victoria Handweavers and Spinners Guild. For over 20 years Nancy volunteered at the Garth Homer Society and spent many years helping with Meals on Wheels and the blood donor clinic and served on the Alter Guild at St. Luke's Anglican Church. She was a great friend to many cats over the years. In 2004 she moved to Jubilee Manor, in Nelson in order to be closer to family. During her time there Nancy was able to make three trips back to visit friends in Victoria. Nancy died in Nelson on June 16, 2012

REMEMBERING

Shirley (Emigh) McAllister Jan.1947

December 23, 1924-June 5, 2012



Shirley was born in Langenburg, Saskatchewan and grew up in and around Broadview and Moosomin. After graduating from high school in 1944, she entered VGH School of Nursing, graduating in 1947. Following graduation Shirley worked as a maternity nurse and then in 1949, married Don McAllister. The family lived in Fort St. John, Nanaimo, Crofton and Wood-fibre before settling in Squamish in 1966.

Shirley joined the staff of Squamish General Hospital in 1971, became head nurse four years later and retired in 1990.

Through her work at the Hospital she impacted many lives and will be remembered for her kind and compassionate care. She also served as a member on both the Hospital and Foundation Boards.

She enjoyed traveling, playing bridge, dancing, and singing all kinds of music. Shirley passed away peacefully in her sleep at age 87. She is survived by her daughter Patti, son Robbie and grandsons.

Adapted from the Memorial Service June 23, 2012. For more information on Shirley's nursing career and life check the oral history and biographical file in the CRNBC library

Lois (Hanson) Wilson Jan'49

Please see Class News 1940 (page 10)

Continued from page 20 Profile Doris Riedweg

it is about a nurse whose story closely resembles my own. But *Water in the Wilderness*, apart from the nursing and farming scenes, is strictly imagination.

One of the greatest influences in my writing life has been the Langley Writers' Guild, an organization that has been active for the past thirty-two years. Although I have taken writing courses and attended writers' conferences, it has been the Guild members who have encouraged, corrected and cajoled me over the past two decades.

I cannot end this without mentioning the book launches I have had for my novels. They were each a success beyond my wildest dreams. But the one thing about those events that I cherish the most is the attendance of several of my nursing classmates from VGH. They came from all areas of Greater Vancouver, from Chilliwack and from Victoria. It made me realize that nothing is of greater value than the friendships we of the alumnae formed in our nursing school, as we shared our tears and triumphs, loves and losses throughout the three years that shaped our lives and our futures.

And weren't we proud of our uniforms, two years of black shoes and stockings notwithstanding? Nothing could ever quite replace the thrill of receiving our caps, those symbols of our profession that we wore with such pride.

Doris Riedweg

VGH NEWS

VGH has BC's first and only stroke hotline. Every year more than 6,000 in BC suffer a stroke and VGH is BC's stroke hospital – officially named BC Centre for Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disease. Approximately 1,500 are hospitalized annually at VGH and with the stroke hotline, specially trained neurologists are on-call 24/7 to assist in aggressively reducing the impact of a stroke.

V.G.H. School Of Nursing Alumnae Association Executive 2012

President	Kathleen Murphy (McCutcheon '65)
Vice President	Mary Raikes-Tindle (Raikes '65)
Treasurer	Sharon Baxter (Francis '62)
Rec. Secretary	Vivian Blake (Jackson '50)
Exec. Secretary	Norma Guttormsson ('58)
Exec. Member	Kay Raisbeck ('54)
Archives/Artifacts	Ethel Warbinek (McIntyre '56) Temporary -Kay Raisbeck ('54)
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)

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 5, 2013 12: noon to 3:00 pm Cost \$25.00. Classes of 1963 & 1953 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 18, 2011.
Non-refundable.

Help us help 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.
 Name at Graduation Month & year of graduation

Mailing address c/o 855 West 12th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1M9

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 5 2013
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!