



NEWSLETTER

UBC School of Nursing: Celebrating 100 years 1919-2019 VGH/UBC Alliance - 1919-1960

The beginning.

It was a remarkable achievement in 1919 – the official opening of the first nursing degree program in the “British Empire.” The world was still reeling from the horrendous casualties of WW1 and on top of that the devastating Spanish flu epidemic of 1918 – still lingering into 1919.

Thanks to the vision of BC Public Health leaders who recognized the urgent need for qualified nurses to run the planned provincial health units and the need for educated nursing instructors for the many BC schools of nursing, the program was successfully launched in September 1919. A story has been recounted that the University agreed as long as it did not cost any money. Important to note UBC itself had opened only four years earlier.

Another bonus was the selection of **Ethel Johns** to head this new program – the right person at the right time who said: *“We are building here for the future and earnestly hope that the foundation will be well and truly laid.”* This proved to be true. She had the dual role as Superintendent of Nurses at VGH so in control of the VGH and UBC nursing programs. VGH agreed to pay Ethel Johns’ salary. The location of UBC at this time on the VGH site would have helped somewhat, but this was a formidable responsibility for one person. From its inception UBC students were enrolled in classes at UBC during the first two years, and then joining the VGH students, taking the same VGH curriculum for 28 months, returning to UBC for a final year – hence the moniker *“the sandwich program.”* 500 students graduated from this



program during its 40-year history. In the final year students chose between public health nursing or teaching and supervision: the majority selected public health nursing.

It would be a disservice to attempt to write a brief article describing the 100-year history of the UBC School of Nursing. So this story is based mainly on the relationship between the two schools for the years 1919-1960 when the last UBC class graduated with a VGH diploma.



All VGH Grads are invited to attend the

Annual Alumnae Luncheon

CELEBRATE the MEMORIES...
RENEW the SPIRIT

Honouring the
1969 classes

Sunday
May 5, 2019
12:00 to 3:00

Cost: \$25

Guests at the luncheon are the 1969
classes

St Mary's Ukrainian
Catholic Centre
3150 Ash Street

Vancouver, BC V5Z 3C9
Between 14th and 16th Avenues

Registration begins at 12 noon

Lunch 12:30

Parking is available at the Centre.

Wheel chair accessible.

Payment must be received by the deadline
April 19, 2019

You do not have to be a paid up member to attend the luncheon. We encourage you to join.

If you wish to sit with your class, you must register by the deadline otherwise we cannot promise you a place at your class table. Seating is arranged ahead of time and is posted at the lunch so you can find your table.

If you require assistance at the lunch please notify us and we will help you.

If you are unable to attend after registration notify us as it affects catering and seating plans.

See registration form on page 24
or visit our website
vghnursingschoolalumnae.com
and register on line.

For information contact:
Suzanne Stothers 604-263-8059
Email: stothers1@shaw.ca or
Myrna Braun: 604-266-7202
Email at myrnabraun@shaw.ca



Archive Committee Report 2018

With the resignations of Co-chairs Ethel Warbinek and Mary Watt in March 2018, the committee has been challenged to carry out the many tasks with the loyal and four new committee members. Fortunately Mary Watt has continued to carry out a variety of committee work with other committee members. With the guidance of our Archivist, Naomi Constant, donated items were accessioned, duplicate items were deaccessioned, information was provided to researchers, a guided tour of the Artifacts by some students from the Trinity Western University Nursing Program was carried out in March, and various other projects were dealt with.

A new computer was installed which is used in the recording of printed items and photos.

Unfortunately, a flood occurred in the Heather Pavilion above the north end of the Archive area in May which resulted in several weeks of restoration to the area which impacted the normal operations of the committee work.

In June, the committee gathered for lunch to honour **Ethel Warbinek** before her move to the Interior. For over 25 years, she served as Chair and Co-Chair of the Archive and Artifacts Committee and Trustee for the Archival Development Fund from its inception. In addition, she was the Publicity Chair.

The Window Display Team, led by Norma Guttormsson, continues to provide interesting displays in the Alumnae Association windows in the Pattison Pavilion.

In the absence of a committee Chair, **Barb Kissuras** has been representing the committee at the Board meetings. It is hoped that a Chair can be found for this important committee for the 2019-2020 term.

Sincere appreciation is extended to Archivist **Naomi Constant**, committee members **Karen Armitage, Robin Brenner, Betty Kirkwood, Barb Kissuras, Denise MacMartin, Marg Shugg**, and **Mary Watt** and Jim Pattison window display team **Norma Guttormsson, Linda Allardyce, Janie Birkeland, Cathie Cousins, Jane Robertson,** and **Marg Shugg**.

Archival Development Fund 2018

With the resignations of the original Director, **Peggy Etchell** and Trustees **Betty-Anne Rogers** and **Ethel Warbinek**, the Board of Directors appointed four Trustees to manage this account. They are **Kathy Murphy, Mary Raikes-Tindle, Bonnie Lantz,** and **Sue Goguen**. The receipt of the donations and issuing the tax receipts, banking donations and payment of expenses has been carried out by **Sue Goguen** and the financial reporting by **Bonnie Lantz**.

Kathy Murphy, For the Committee.

Thank you to the donors. Your names are listed on page 23.

Membership Report 2018

We ended 2019 with a total paid membership of **765**. Over the many years of our association a tradition was developed to honour those who devote countless hours to the job of maintaining this organization. As well we honour our Special Alums. These are graduates who have maintained their membership over the years, participated in events and attended the luncheons and the AGMs. Currently most of these nurses are from graduating classes in the 1940s. So our Life Members and our Special Alums do not pay the annual \$20 membership fee. There are **69** of these people which leaves us with a grand total of **834** active members.

We are constantly exploring ways to encourage more graduates to join. One idea going forward is to contact every member of the classes celebrating 50 years. With this membership drive for 2019 each person that we have contact details for is invited to the Luncheon for free but is encouraged to join the Alumnae for \$20.

The benefits of membership have been outlined. A vibrant collection of items for the archives is maintained. The Annual Newsletter is distributed so graduates can stay informed as to what is happening with class reunions, reports on special achievements or historical events. Flowers and cards are sent to shut-ins or those recovering from illness or surgery. Sympathy cards are sent to families of deceased graduates. Children or grandchildren of members can apply for education bursaries of up to \$1,000 per year for pursuing education in the field of nursing.



The hope is that we can encourage current members to renew and new members to join their association that is maintaining the history of the institution that has played such a big part in our development and has influenced who we are today.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Kerr (Cathcart Feb '69) Membership Director

President's Report 2018

I am proud to report that the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association has been in continuous operation for 110 years. This is one of the few graduate nursing alumni organizations still in operation in this province. With the dedicated volunteers who serve on the various committees and our part time Executive Secretary, Sue Goguen and part time Archivist, Naomi Constant, the purposes of the association are achieved on behalf of the members.

However, as you may know, the Archive and Artifact Committee Chair and Publicity position were not filled for this past year which has added to the tasks of the other volunteers.

Our major event of the year continues to be the successful Annual Luncheon held in May when the classes celebrating their 50th anniversary are recognized. It is always amusing to hear of the educational and residence memories celebrated by each class.

The Board of Directors is proud of the Educational funding made available to graduates of the school and now their children and grandchildren who apply for the Alumnae Association Bursaries or Bursaries available through the Registered Nurses Foundation of BC. In 2018, 22 bursaries were awarded from the RNFBC with 3 to graduate nurses and 19 to basic students.

In addition, considerable funding is awarded annually to employees of Vancouver Coastal Health facilities for individual bursaries, In-house education programs or research projects from the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Building Society/Association managed by the VGH/UBC Hospital Foundation.

The membership fee of a mere \$20 is the major funding source to carry out the many tasks of this association. With declining membership due to deaths, graduates who have not renewed the membership or those who have never paid a fee, the Board of Directors has been acutely aware of the dwindling revenue to balance the operating budget. Although the Archival Development Fund continues to grow with member donations, there is still no news on the future of an appropriate archival and artifact storage and museum.

Sincere appreciation is extended to the members of the Board and Committee members who carry out the important work of our Alumnae Association.

Kathy Murphy (McCutcheon Sept. '65)



Friendship Committee Report 2018



This has been another busy year for our committee, sending out not only Sympathy and Get Well cards, but also those having a special birthday. This year 2 of our alums, Eva Williamson (101) and Margaret Mainwaring (107), had a special birthday, but sadly have since passed away. Christmas and Easter cards were sent by Roberta Tottle.

The highlight remains the Annual Spring Floral deliveries and visits to our Senior Alums. These were done in March for Metro Vancouver (16) and April for the Island (10). Our numbers were down from 2017. In some cases, the flowers were substituted for cookies, a drive around an old neighbourhood and lunch (thanks Charlotte).

Once again thanks to our volunteers: **Kathy Murphy, Joan Kerr, Gail McKay, Suzanne Stothers, Marg Hooper, Roberta Tottle** in Metro areas, and **Judy Reid, Charlotte Cronin, Helen Crisp and Ginny Lund** on the Island. The visits were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We have lost 31 of our alums in 2018 that we are aware of. Cards were also sent to those who have lost a spouse.

We will be compiling our Floral list for 2019, so please notify the Alumnae office if you know of someone who should be included.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Parker / Lorna Hoare, Co-chairs Friendship Committee
Roberta Tottle, Committee Member

Vice President Annual Report 2018



Chaired the Nominating Committee for the Year 2019 - 2020.

Available to Chair Executive Meetings or represent the President as necessary.

Became a Trustee of the Archival Development Fund. Met with other directors for discussion and signing authority.

Conducted tours of VGH for both February and September '68 classes following the 2018 luncheon Sunday, May 6, 2018.

Respectively submitted,
Mary Raikes-Tindle (Raikes Sept '65)

Education Committee Report 2018

The Education Committee is very pleased with the continued interest in our bursary program. The children and grandchildren have stated how proud they are to be following in their parents' and/or grandparents footsteps and to be involved in the nursing profession.

In 2018 we had seventeen applications for bursary awards. There was one VGH grad, one UBC/VGH Collaborative Program grad and fifteen children and/or grandchildren of VGH grads.

A. Harvey/Cain Endowment Fund. (Margaret [Dorset, 1929] Harvey and Dorothy Cain, sister)

The following children and/or grandchildren of VGH grads received a bursary award:



Child	VGH Grad	
1.Amanda Hemrich	Patricia Rosenberry	Feb.'63
2.Alexa Huebner	Linda Huebner	Feb.'91
3.Krista Munro	Janet MacPherson	Feb.'85
4.Michelle O'Malley	Wanda Mizel	Feb.'87
5.Julia Overton	(grandmother) Margaret Millard	Jan.'55
6.Jacqueline Purcha	Jill Armstrong	Feb.'90
7.Jacqueline Robinson	Cynthia Blaschek	Sept.'84
8.Alison Scott	Lesley Bennett	Sept.'87
9.Madeline Stewart	Shelley Collins	Sept.'82
10.Janelle Tucker	Coralee Visser	Sept.'87
11.Katya Viskari	Allison Kelley	Feb.'83

B.The Eileen (Lewis) Johnston Memorial Fund

This bursary was awarded to:

Child	VGH Grad	
1. Jessica Porth	(grandmother) Mary Raikes	Sept.'65

As a note of interest, Mary Raikes-Tindle was a classmate of Eileen (Lewis) Johnston

C. VGH/SON Alumnae Association Education Funds

The following VGH grad and VGH/UBC grad or children and/or grandchildren of VGH grads received a bursary award:

Child or VGH Grad	VGH Grad	
1.Sonia Bonato UBC/VGH '93 grad		
2. Michelle Bos	Kelly Burm	Feb. '91
3. Lisa Bouliane	Phillipa Kirkhope	Feb. '88
4. Carrie McKellar	(grandmother) Marjorie Jukes	Jan. '41
5. Kya Milne VGH Feb'90	(name at grad) Kya Monteith	Feb. '90

The Education Committee was pleased to grant a total of \$17,000 in bursary awards. We are also pleased to see the interest in children and/or grandchildren who are taking advantage of this source of funding to assist with their schooling. The source of funding is dependent on the interest earned from our investments with the VGH/UBC Foundation and our GIC with BMO. We are also very thankful for individual donations made to our VGH/SON Education Fund which helps immensely to facilitate presenting bursary awards to all eligible applicants.

The Education Committee would like to thank the following people who made donations to our **general education fund** in 2018 to be used for bursary awards.

Individuals:

Lynne Dunbar
 Ronald Ganton (in memory of his aunt May Gordon Douglas – Sept.'39)
 Joan Kerr
 Elsie (Fran) McDonald

The Memorial Book: donations from classes or individuals to honour and recognize a deceased classmate by having her/his name entered into the Memorial Book. (suggested donation of \$15)

Donations from Classes:

Feb.'53, Feb.'59, Feb.'65,
 Aug.'58,
 Sept.'55, Sept.'56, Sept.'57, Sept.'58, Sept.'65, Sept.'71

For the 2019 bursary year, the committee will welcome applications from:

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

Please be sure to check out the information on the website www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com and link to "Bursaries" OR inquiries and request for application forms can be made by phoning the Alumnae Office at 604-875-4111 – local 62049 (please leave a message).

Deadline for applications is September 30 of the current year.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Kerr, Chair, Education Committee

Financial Report 2018-2019

General Fund

Revenue\$31,143	Expenses.....\$25,413	Investments.....\$135,000
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Archival Development Fund

Revenue\$28,300	Expenses.....\$18,954	Investments.....\$82,915
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Education Fund

Revenue\$1,384	Expenses.....\$7.5	Investment\$57,000
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Bonnie Lantz, Treasurer

Hello from your Executive Secretary

As I enter into my second year in this role, I have gained an enormous amount of respect for, and knowledge from, my co-volunteers. The Directors and various Committees that volunteer are a terrific group of people with a lot of passion and dedication and the one thing I have learned for sure is, their commitment is vital to maintaining the life of our Alumnae.

Along with the many hats I currently wear, in this past year I added a new one - I am now one of 4 Trustees for the Archival Development Fund.

I continue to work on our “Family” Graduate data base. I’m trying to collect data on VGH grads and descendants of VGH grads who have graduated nursing or are pursuing nursing. So please let me know what you know.

Our Memorial Book is expanding (2 books). To date we have lost 431 members. If you wish to honour a grad, please contact us. The books are displayed at our annual luncheon.

In November, in an effort to recruit membership, Norma Guttormsson and I went to every nursing unit in VGH to talk to staff. We left copies of the 2018 Newsletter on each of the units. What we discovered is that there are very few VGH graduates actively bedside nursing now. Some nurses we spoke with were not even aware of what a VGH grad was!!! So this poses a challenge - - how do we connect to the more “recent” VGH grads and the VGH/UBC grads - those from the ‘70s, ‘80’ and ‘90s? How do we impress upon these grads their need for support of our Alumnae? VGH grads from the ‘50 and ‘60s are our Alumnae’s strongest supporters.

This past year I worked closely with our Membership Director, Sue Kerr, and in early January our annual Membership Campaign package was mailed out to nearly 1100 members.

My wish for the coming year is that all those current paid members, and those who received their mail-out, to please, reach out to their classmates and ask them to consider supporting our alumnae. Really - \$20.00 is not a lot to show your nursing pride - is it ??

Alumnae office is located at the south entrance of Heather Pavilion, first blue door on the left.

Address: 855 W 12th Ave Vancouver BC V5Z 1M9

Phone: 604 875 4111 ext. 62049

email: vghson99@gmail.com

Cheers . . .

Sue Goguen (Gammon Feb. ’75)



VGH Alumnae Bursaries Awarded by RNFBC in 2018

The Registered Nurses Foundation of BC was founded in 1979 to support BC nurses pursuing basic and advanced education. Currently there are 17 Nursing Programs in BC and all have wait lists.

Unfortunately, their ability to increase enrolment is compromised by underfunding and a growing shortage of nurse educators.

The VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Bursary was created in 1984 and there have been additional donations from the Alumnae Association, former graduates and from the sale of the VGH Manor. The Alumnae Association is pleased to be able to provide funding for graduates and now their children and grandchildren. In 2018, 22 awards were presented to 3 Registered Nurses and 19 student nurses. This is an increase from 14 awards in 2017.

To date, the RNFBC Board members and “friends” of the Foundation have successfully built a \$5 million plus Endowment Fund. The interest from the 39 bursaries that make up the Endowment allows the foundation to offer more bursaries each year to help support BC Nurses in their nursing education.

To learn more about the RNFBC and to consider making different types of donations, contact Bruce Bouchard at bbouchard@rnfbc.ca or 604-739-1944 and visit www.rnfbc.ca.

Luncheon Report 2018



Suzanne Stothers,
Lorna Hoare

We were blessed again, with a lovely warm day, on May 6th, 2018. We are hoping it will be the same for our upcoming Luncheon this May 5, 2019. We will be honouring the Classes of February and September 1969 as they celebrate their 50 years since graduation. We will also celebrate with the classes of 1959 and 1949.

The venue remains the same, St. Mary's Catholic Church Centre, 3150 Ash Street.

The luncheon Committee was saddened to loose Ethel Warbinek to Naramata to start a new chapter with her family. Ethel was always so supportive of the committee and she is missed but we know it will be wonderful for her to be close to family.

We had 276 alumnae sign up for the luncheon but 252 actually showed up.

We encourage alumnae who attend the luncheon to become members. It's a very reasonable \$20.00 per year and the funds go toward the Alumnae expenses including the luncheons.

Please ensure that your payments for the Luncheon are in **NO later than April 19, 2019.**

The Committee is made up of me as Co Chair, Myrna Braun (Co Chair) Diane Parker (recording secretary, Member at Large) and Lorna Hoare (Member at Large, MC) and our newest recruit, Arlene Vanderhoeven. We couldn't do it without all the help we receive during set up and on the actual day, including the help from the Registration Team.

Thank you.

Suzanne Stothers, Co Chair

MEMORIAL BOOK

In 1959, a Memorial Book was created by the class of September 1954 in honour of Helga Thordarson, a classmate. The graduate's name is entered in the book along with the year of graduation, year of death and the name of the person who made the request. Often the request is from classmates, family members and friends.



The original book has been filled. The calligrapher is Trudy Philips Feb. 1953.

The two books can be viewed at the annual luncheon which is held on the first Sunday of May each year.

A donation of \$15 is suggested which is given to support our Bursary Fund. To honour a graduate, please contact the Alumnae office to obtain the Form which will be sent by mail. After filling out all the information, it is returned to the office along with a cheque payable to the VGH School of Nursing Education Fund. It will be deposited in the Education Committee bank account. Acknowledgements will be fulfilled.

Office Phone: 604.875.4111 Ext. 62049

Office Email: vghson99@gmail.com

**Publicity
HELP
Needed**



Are you interested in:

- **Gathering** information about our amazing alumnae members for the annual newsletter?
- **Assisting** the Education Chair in seeking more funding for the annual Education Bursary Awards for graduates, their children or grandchildren in nursing programs?
- **Working** with the Membership Chair to encourage more alumnae

to become members of this association?

- Assisting with the promotion and printing needs for the Annual Luncheon.

- **Being a member** of the Board of the Alumnae Association that meets only five times a year?

If so, we would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible.

Please contact **Sue Goguen** at the VGH Alumnae Office at vghson99@gmail.com or 604-875-4111 ext. 62049

Nomination Committee Report 2019

Officers

President: Kathy Murphy

Vice President: Mary Raikes-Tindle

Recording Secretary: Lynne Dunbar

Treasurer: Bonnie Lantz

Executive Member: Suzanne Stothers

Executive Secretary: Sue Goguen

Committee Chairs

Archives: Barb Kissuras

Education: Joan Kerr

Friendship: Lorna Hoare and

Diane Parker - co-chairs

Luncheon: Myrna Braun and

Suzanne Stothers - co -chairs

Membership: Sue Kerr

Publicity:

Pin Bank: Anne Williams

Submitted by:

Mary Raikes-Tindle

Class News – Celebrate The Memories

1940's

"I am writing to inform you that my mother, **Jean Duff Lewis, (MacMillan '40)** passed away in May of 2018 at the age of **100**. As an alumni of the Nursing profession, she was a strong supporter and advocate for all nurses and health care professionals. She maintained her strong interest in the Alumnae and looked forward to her continued contact." **John Lewis**

Dorothy Moynes, (Clerkson'49) is presently living in Kelowna with husband Jim Moynes and has frequent visits from family members who live nearby. Keeps busy with daily activities at one of the finest "Independent Residences in the city of Kelowna." Activities include Healthy Heart exercise, daily walks, singing in the choir, and playing bridge. On occasion, going on outings to points of interest such as the local museum, art gallery, local picnic grounds and sometimes a "Mystery Tour." It is all good. Submitted by **Kathleen Raisbeck Sept.'54**



Dorothy Moynes

1950's

Members of the **Class of Sept. 54** have been very active in the Alumnae since graduation. Enjoying the May Luncheon is an annual event to get together. The class is going to celebrate its 65 anniversary this year and one of the events will be the 2019 Alumnae Luncheon. Please contact **Anne Williams** at anneandormarg@yahoo.ca for details.



Erin Collis writes: Mom's name was **Inez Mowat (Fox)** from the September 1955 class. She passed peacefully on her own terms and with great dignity on May 28, 2018 with her family around her. She is greatly missed.

I also wanted to let you know that her great friend **Jean MacLeod (Hickernell Sept.'55)** passed on January 20, 2018.



Inez Mowat (Fox)

1960's

Sheila Brydon Stewart Feb '68.

Last year I attended the alumni luncheon which I thoroughly enjoyed. I live in Victoria and I am a member of the Oak Bay Toastmasters group. Last night, I gave a speech about my experience as a Registered Nurse. I think it pretty well summarizes being a student nurse at Vancouver General Hospital and what it has given us. My speech is available here: https://youtu.be/6MBcc13_vWY



Sheila Stewart

1970's

A note from **Barb Bassett Feb.'71** to tell us her friend **Debra Joan (Russelle)'74** passed away on Dec. 24. 2018.

On her retirement **Lynne Palmer (Davidson '78)** was rewarded for her exceptional achievements and lifetime of service as a nurse by Fraser Health at the Above and Beyond Awards ceremony with the **Life-time Achievement** award "The things that I think my peers recognized me for was seeing how we could improve quality and going out and thinking of a new model of care that would fill a gap or change a things or provide a different way of providing care." Lynne has been a nurse for forty years, starting in VGH caring for general surgery patients and occasionally providing end-of life care. She was in maternity at VGH and then at B.C. Women's Hospital (formerly Grace Hospital) for two decades before she was hired at Surrey Memorial Hospital in 2001 to "implement the antepartum care at home program."



Lynne Palmer

Lynne "had this unique approach to caring for women with complicated pregnancies at home and at Surrey Memorial Hospital, just as it was at B.C. Women's Hospital."

Lynne states, "Everything I've started or done, it's honouring and respecting women for their knowledge of their bodies and giving them that autonomy to be partners in their care."

Palmer headed research teams evaluating and implementing programs for the betterment of pregnant women winning a Salus Global MOREOB Patient Safety Award for Western Canada for one of her team projects.

Asked what she misses about her job, she says, "all the incredible, remarkable people that I have worked with over my career. They have their own colour, their own shape to the patterns that I have followed through my career, and some push for faster action and some want just to slow down. Some come for a long time and others just long enough to leave a design on my heart."

Congratulations and thank you Lynne Palmer, for a lifetime of caring nursing care.

Reunions – Celebrate The Memories -2019

2019 reunions and beyond •••

65th reunion planned for Sept '54

Can you believe that 2019 marks the **65th** anniversary of our graduation from VGH!! We will be celebrating with a lunch on Saturday **May 4th** 12.30 at the Shaughnessy Restaurant, 5251 Oak St. at VanDusen Gardens. (Will transportation be a problem?) The annual Alumnae lunch is the next day, Sunday, **May 5th**, at the Ukrainian Centre, cost, \$25. If you are in contact with other classmates, please discuss this with them. Suggestions welcomed. Send your ideas, plans, thoughts to class rep, **Anne Williams** anneandormarg@yahoo.ca

September 1958 Reunion

September 11-13, 2019 Harrison Hot Springs Resort Transportation to be organized for those not wanting to drive. Contact person - **Maureen (Leathem)** Speedtomspeed@telus.net 604 987-9796

Feb'71 - 50th in 2021

I'm writing on behalf of the Planning Committee for our 50th reunion in May 2021. We have 48 girls who have committed to attending our gathering! Alumnae luncheon on May 2nd so I thought I better let you know as we've had such a positive response! The reunion will be held at the Loon Lake Lodge in Maple Ridge following your kind invite for lunch till May 5th.

We are looking into having a bus transfer from St. Mary's Ukrainian Church to Loon Lake Lodge and then back on the Church on the 5th.

If you need anymore information or have any questions please don't hesitate to call. My phone number is (604) 468-4312.

Sincerely,

Maureen Atkins (Worobec Feb. '71)

February 1974 - 45th reunion is planned for May 28-June 1, 2019 for our 45th reunion in West Kelowna (Westbank) Almost all reunion activities are within walking distance located 12 minutes on the south side of the Okanagan Lake Bridge and easy travelling into Kelowna. **Barb Bassett, Linda Miller, Pam Rorie and Brenda Hetherington** will be planning the event. The hotel has a bar and a view of the lake, across the street from the golf course where we can dine in a private room. You can also take an easy 10 to 15 minute walk around the golf course to my home for one of the dinners. Since we are in Wine Country we will have a wine tour and lunch at one of

the wineries. Enjoy a golf game, bike, walking tour and activities that are unique to the Okanagan.

Flash* New news for the Beautiful Okanagan reunion. Host Hotel: Best Western Plus, Westbank on Elk Road.

Three Dinners:

- 19 Restaurant at Two Eagles Golf Club
- Dinner in a Private Home
- Medieval Dinner at The Gasthaus Peachland.
- Wine Tour of the New West Kelowna Wine Trail
- Lunches . **Barb Bassett.**

barbbassett@okanaganlaw.com, or

lindaat403@shaw.ca



Retiring after a collective 75 years with the archive committees Betty Anne Rogers, Co-chairs: Ethel Warbinek and Mary Watt. Mary continues as an active member.

Donations to Education Fund

Since the Education Committee started to keep stats for bursaries in 1997, the VGH/SON Alumnae Association has awarded over \$100,000.00 to VGH grads, VGH/UBC Collaborative grads and in the past several years children and grandchildren of grads.

The demand is becoming greater as the cost of nursing programs continue to rise. We are able to award funds from the interest accrued on our endowment funds with the VGH/UBC Foundation. We also have limited funds available from the Education account with the Alumnae Association.

However, the funds donated to the Alumnae Association continue to decrease each year. The Education Committee is asking for the help of fellow alums to consider the importance of future nurses' education needs by making a donation to the Education fund held by the Alumnae Association.

Please make your cheque payable to:

VGHSONAA Education Fund

With thanks and appreciation.

Reunions – Memories

**September 1958 60th Anniversary Reunion
May 6-8, 2018**

Several classmates attended the SON Luncheon at which we were guests, and four travelled on to Harrison Resort to join another thirteen for a two night stay.

A Welcome Reception in the Hospitality Suite was followed by a wonderful “slide” show put together by Denise (Lemieux) Stevenson beginning with grad photos of the 14 classmates who have marched on ahead of us. We saluted them.

Then came grad photos and candid shots of residence



days - we haven't changed a bit!

Beautiful sunny weather allowed for walking around the lake, soaking in a hot pool or tub, bridge, etc, and always chatting and laughter. Happy hour preceded an excellent dinner in the Copper Room and then we saw photos of ourselves taken that day and continued catching up with each other's lives. The setting and company were perfect and the consensus was to have another reunion SOON.

Maureen (Leathem) Speed

Ed: See page 8 for 2019 reunion plans.

September 1968 50th Reunion

It was a special and wonderful 50th reunion for the class of September 68 held on the weekend of May 4th, 5th and 6th at the Inn at the Quay in New Westminster. On

60 years - Feb.'58 at the Luncheon



Friday evening we held a Welcome Reception in the hospitality room at the hotel. It was attended by 45 classmates and included great food, wine and lots of laughter. Saturday was a gorgeous day and 8 adventurous souls headed off to Stanley Park for a 12 km hike. Many others strolled along the New Westminster quay with the beautiful flowers and trees in full bloom.

Saturday night there were 51 for a delicious banquet with the spectacular view of the Fraser River. Golden crowns were worn by all for the traditional class picture. Sunday we were honoured at the VGH Alumnae lunch in Vancouver and shared that honour with the Feb 68 class. We had classmates come from the US, eastern Canada, the interior of BC, and the island. It was truly a wonderful reunion with so many special women and it was hard to believe we had known one another for 53 years. We are looking forward to getting together again, possibly in three years, on Vancouver Island. *Continued of page 10*



Reunions – Memories Celebrated-2018

Thank you to the Alumnae for all their work in organizing the annual luncheon. It was appreciated by the class of September 1968.

Helen Chambers, Linda Clark Frost, Susan Smith Harding, Cherry Pye Harriman

September 1965 years-50 +3 years reunion

In mid September, members of the class returned to the Harrison Hot Springs Resort to share our current news and remember our student days. We were greeted with warm sunny weather which encouraged walks and soaking in the pools. Dinner in the Copper Room was a treat along with the playing of “our song”, *Moon River*, by the band. Returning to the Hospitality Room, the evening was capped off with a hilarious skit, complete with appropriate equipment and song. The expected “evaluation” was shorter this year but each member received a special pen and home-made raspberry jam. We are looking forward to Reunion 55 in 2020.

Kathy Murphy

53rd reunion at Harrison Hot Springs. “the evening was capped off with a hilarious skit, complete with appropriate equipment and song.”



Another 50 year celebration story.

Besides celebrating their 50 year, class of 1968, reunion, **Marit Main and Glenna Gardiner** were celebrating an unforeseen windfall. It started with a tiny oil painting “Sketch for Lake in Algonquin Park” that had been hanging in Glenda’s family living room for as long as she could remember and then it was stored in the basement for five years. Not knowing it was a genuine Tom



Marit Main and Glenna Gardiner

Thomson she sent it off to her friend Marit for her 70th birthday. Marit sent a photo of it to Heffel Gallery after a friend told her the painting looked like a Tom Thomson. When the discovery was made of its potential value she returned it to Glenna. Heffel Gallery auctioned it off and the result was a hefty \$400,000 plus commission. So there was lots to celebrate at the 50th reunion luncheon with friends and classmates.

Glenna is retired after a life of nursing in Vancouver, Bella Bella, Victoria and Edmonton. A planned cruise will take place with a visit to Norway.

September 1984 will be holding their **35th year reunion** on May 10-12, 2019 in Vancouver. All classmates are encouraged to register with **Michele Ray-Jones** before May 1, 2019 at: michelarayjones@gmail.com

Our Archives

Our Archives - a physical repository of all things VGH SON.

The collection started relatively small and was housed in the basement of the New Residence. However when our School of Nursing closed its doors in 1998, all records, all paraphernalia, all teaching equipment, books, dishes, trophies, iron lungs, everything was deposited with the archives. Since then items have been accessioned without regard for quantity already collected. This huge collection has had to be moved three times by the archive committee volunteers and is presently housed in Heather Pavilion in the old emergency. We know that we will be moved again and hope that when Heather Pavilion regains its original state, we will have a corner reserved for the collection.

To this end we have been working hard to reduce the collection but keep only “one of a kind” of our VGH SON heritage. By going through the boxes, reading, sorting, discarding (and learning from) the thousands and thousand of documents, publications, books and photographs we will end up with a history of our school.

The material is being scanned, photographed, documented and digitized so eventually the archives could be available to search on line. A small proportion of our collection is available now on our website - we have close to 3000 items digitized. It is a slow process but well worthwhile.



Dance card c.1942



Late night pass



Kardex



Slipper Bedpan

Heather Heritage Society

The Heather Heritage Society was formed in 1994 to raise awareness and lobby for the protection of the Heather Pavilion as well as advise and support the restoration process.

The Heather Pavilion received heritage designation by the City of Vancouver in 2002.

In 1906, the Vancouver General Hospital opened the Heather Pavilion to serve the health care needs of a growing city. At the time it was built, the Heather Pavilion became a prominent Vancouver landmark. It is considered one of the most important surviving examples of Romanesque Revival architecture in western Canada. Over time, as the hospital campus grew, it was completely obscured by additions, but is being resurrected by the demolition of these encroachments revealing its original form, intact structure, and open forecourt.

The Heather Heritage Society also works with and supports the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association in the development of a museum and archival history of health care in Vancouver.

Members of the VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association have been members and leaders of the Heather Heritage Society since its inception. At the time of the sale of the School of Nursing and residence in 2004, the Alumnae Association was moved to the Heather Pavilion and now operates out of offices on B south.

A presentation of the Heather Heritage Society will accompany the annual meeting on Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 2:00pm at Hycroft, the home of the University Women's Club of Vancouver. If interested in attending, please contact Kathy Murphy, Heather Heritage Society Board member through the VGH website

www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com.

Adapted from information prepared by Donald Luxton, Heritage Consultant

Kathy Murphy, Board Member, Heather Heritage Society

Photo: from VGH SON AA archival photo collection.



Main Building photo & identy taken very shortly after opening in Jan 1906
 (1) Presence of lamp standards at entrance (Gift of Canada Foundry & Canada General Electric - June 1907)
 (2) Absence of 10th Ave. Nurses home (1st home was opened May 1907)
 (3) extreme left of photo - The horse & buggy shed
 (4) flowers in beds in bloom (5) Patient and bed on veranda
 Pierce - the gift of Mr. Fred Salsbury, son of W.F. Salsbury, member of first Board and auditor of books for Hosp.

Notation reads:

Main building shortly after opening in Jan. 1906

Note (1) Presence of lamp standards at entrance (Gift of Canada Foundry and Canada General Electric June 1906

(2) Absence of 10th Ave. Nurses home (1st home was opened May 1907.

(3) extreme left of photo. The horse and buggy shed

(4) flowers in beds in bloom

(5). Patient and bed on veranda

Pierias(?) - the gift of Mr. Fred Salsbury, son of W.F. Salsbury, member of first Board and auditor of books for Hosp.

Crash Site Memorial

On April 28, 1947, Trans Canada Flight 3, en route from Lethbridge, Alberta to Vancouver with 15 people on board was lost as it approached Vancouver. In September 1994, traces of the wreckage were discovered and identified. Two of the passengers were **Rowena Hamblin** and **Janie Warren**, second year students in the Class of January 1948. On April 28, 1995, two services were held to remember the event - a Memorial Service at Mt.

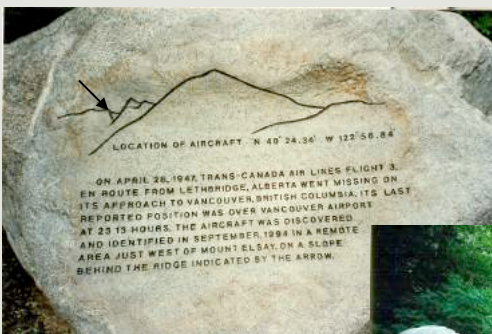
Seymour United Church and a Dedication Service at Rice Lake in the Mount Seymour Watershed. Fourteen classmates joined family, friends and Air Canada representatives at the two services.

Within view of the site of the crash, Air Canada placed two large boulders with the names of crew and passengers inscribed on plaques on the boulders.

On May 9, 1995, Alumnae Association President, **Betty Kirkwood**

planted a white dogwood tree and a plaque was added stating "In Memoriam, J.V. Warren M.R. Hamblin VGH School of Nursing Alumnae." Over the years, these tributes have deteriorated and a decision needs to be made regarding a possible replacement.

As the operating budget of the Alumnae Association is very limited, a separate fund would have to be established and the type of memorial would be based on the funds received. If you are interested in contributing to a Crash Site Memorial Fund, please contact the VGH Office by phone (604) 875-4111 extension 62049 and leave a message or use email at vghson99@gmail.com.



Inscription reads:

Location of aircraft N 49° 24.34' W 122° 56.84'

On April 28, 1947, Trans Canada Air Lines Flight 3, en route from Lethbridge, Alberta went missing on its approach to Vancouver, British Columbia. Its last reported position was over Vancouver airport at 23:13 hours. The aircraft was discovered and identified in September, 1994 in a remote area just west of mount Elsay, on the slope behind the ridge indicated by the arrow.

Photos from VGH SON AA archival collection.



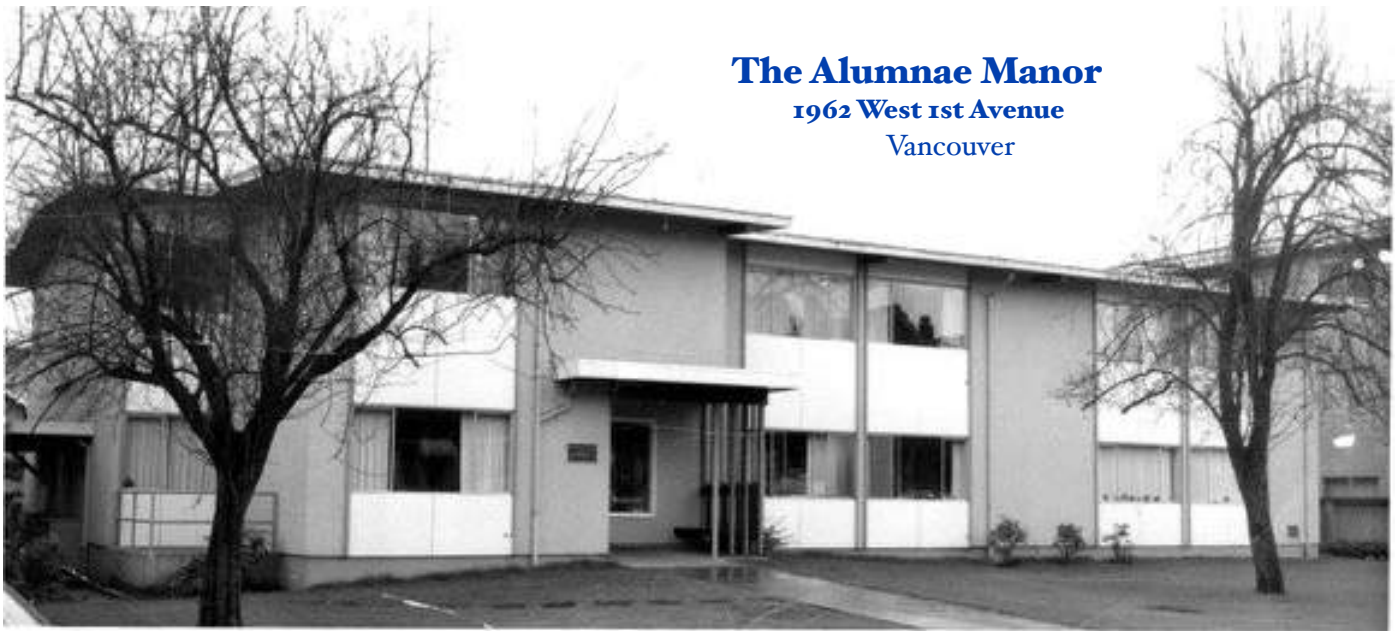


MAY 6, 2018



ALUMNAE LUNCHEON





The Alumnae Manor
 1962 West 1st Avenue
 Vancouver

Did you know that the Alumnae Association was once in the low cost housing business?

Early on in our history, there were concerns about the welfare of some single or widowed nurses with limited income, ready to retire. The cost of suitable accommodation was difficult to cover. Several endeavours were made to raise money for a **“Mutual Benefit Fund.”** For example, in 1930, nurses raffled a car — on hospital premises — which raised a few eyebrows!

Other ventures included a **“Tea Room”**, where alumnae volunteers provided light lunches for graduates and interns. In 1959, the Alumnae sponsored the **“Vancouver Broadway Theatre League,”** bringing Broadway shows to Vancouver.

In November 1961, **Miss Dorothy Jack**, (class of 1919), read to the Alumnae members her report on the need for low-cost housing, which included a summary of her findings on the financing of such a unit. The acceptance of her report led to a period of great activity.

However, the Constitution of the Alumnae did not allow for the purchase of land or the building of a structure. The answer was to create an arm of the Alumnae - the **VGH SON Alumnae Building Society**. This Society would include all Alumnae members and have its own Constitution and Bylaws and its own Executive. The President of the Building Society would be a member of the Alumnae Executive. The creation of the new Society was a formidable task, and the help from **Mr. Eades** on this and other legal matters was without measure.

The **“Build and Buy”** committee was formed. Under the chairmanship of **Mrs. Jessie Eades**, membership included **Mrs. Irene Rogers, Mrs. Yvonne Francis, Mrs. Mary Mercer, and Miss Dorothy Jack**. This small committee took on the colossal task and responsibility of building the project.

Included in the “To Do’ list were:

- contacting the appropriate people of the Federal, Provincial, and Municipal Gov’t. agencies
- purchasing property
- deciding on plans
- solving financial problems

The committee members devoted hours and hours of their time and energy. Reams of correspondence was needed, adding extra work load for the Executive secretary, **Mrs. Margaret Faulkner**.



Top: Executive of the Alumnae Building Society, 1982
Bottom: Residents of the Manor enjoying a tea on the Manor grounds.
Photos from VGH SON AA archival collection

Exciting Day

An exciting day was June 8, 1963, the first tangible result of their labours, when **Mrs. Hamish McIntosh** (class of 1906) officiated at the sod-turning ceremony for the Alumnae Manor, to be built at 1962 West 1st Avenue in Vancouver. And so began the next phase - the building, furnishing, and renting of the apartment building.

The accommodation provided in the 2 storey apartment building consisted of 19 bachelor apartments and 2 one-bedroom apartments - one of the latter reserved for the caretaker. A common room and laundry facilities were on the ground floor. Each apartment had a fair-sized living room, bathroom, and kitchenette with stove and refrigerator. In 1963, the rent for a bachelor apartment was in the \$36 to \$40 range.

Much appreciation must be extended for the great help given by many people — the architect, **Mr. Ross Ritchie, of Townley and Mathison**, the contractor, **Mr. Bjornson**, and the services of the VGH Administration, Controller’s office, Maintenance, and Public Relations Departments to name a few. Many others stepped in to help and give support.

The Opening

The official opening of the Alumnae Manor was held on **Dec. 5, 1963**. Distinguished guests included representatives from 3 levels of Government, VGH, the School of Nursing and the Alumnae Association. With the ceremonies completed, **Mrs. Logan**, President of the Alumnae Association invited the guests to join a tour of the building, led by members of the **“Build and Buy”** committee.

Committees were formed to meet the needs of an occupied building:

- Tenant selection - review application forms, interview prospective residents and make selections.
- Tenant welfare - activities could include:
 - arrange outings, such as a bus tour to see the Christmas lights
 - visit residents who from time-to-time were in hospital
 - help arrange coffee parties and the Christmas party.
- Maintenance - general up-keep as needed
 - liaising with repair and service companies for major things such as
 - replacement of hot water tank,
 - installation of an intercom system, and purchase of fire extinguishers.
- Garden - liaise with the company contracted to do general landscaping, clean-up, plant bulbs, and do some gardening.
- Finance - prepare financial statements and budgets, receive invoices and pay bills.

Over the nearly 40 years, many dedicated Alumnae members filled the positions of the Executive and Committee chairs, volunteering hours and hours of their time and talents. But times and circumstances were changing. It was becoming more difficult to fill the position of Caretaker. Rents increased. Needs of nurses changed and fewer were applying for or met the criteria for low-cost housing. Fewer Alumnae members were keen to fill the available volunteer positions. Eventually, the management of the Manor was provided by a management company, although the Building Society members were still involved in the day-to-day running of the Manor.

The End of an Era

In May, 2002, the Alumnae Manor was sold to the City of Vancouver for \$770,000. The proceeds of the sale provided funds for nursing education - an endowment fund “The VGH SON Alumnae Building Society/Alumnae Association Bursary (VGH and UBC Hospital Foundation), and the VGH SON Alumnae Bursary Fund (Registered Nurses Foundation).

Coast Mental Health now operates the Manor. A legacy for social housing has been left for the citizens of Vancouver, and is an important tribute to the work done by so many.



Compiled from the Archives of the VGH SON Alumnae Association and the Alumnae Building Society.



Top: Nancy Semke, and Building Society: members Eleanor McTaggart, Sheila Kirk, Vivian Blake.

Below: VGHSONAA and Building Society Executives viewing plaque in Jim Pattison Pavilion: Laddie Hutchins, Ethel Warbinek, Kay Raisbeck, Eleanor McTaggart, Kathy Murphy, Anne Williams, Vivian Blake, Mary Raikes-Tindle, Sheila Kirk, Pat Wadsworth.

Luncheon Presentation by Linda Clarke Frost Sept. 1968

“Florence would be pleased”

In the forward of Florence Nightingale’s “Notes on Nursing: What it is and is not” published in 1860 and republished in 1969 there is the following statement “Ingenuity and Perseverance (and these really constitute the good nurse) might save more lives ...than we think.” We decided to take a look at what Florence Nightingale thought was important and required to become a nurse. We all reflected on our experiences in training to explore if we had been provided opportunities to develop the qualities Florence thought were important. So let’s start by taking a look at these two qualities and reflect on how we developed them (or didn’t) during our nurses training experience.

Some examples of **PERSEVERANCE** first:

Redoing pharmacology calculation tests over and over until we got all the questions correct with the instructor standing near.

Surviving on B5 with no RN on shift ... loving it and scared to death at the same time. Remember, the blinds had to be in alignment, towels hung neatly, over-bed tables at the foot of the bed and the garbage emptied Florence would have been pleased!

Repeating skills/tasks over and over without complaint until we did them “the right way.” How many catheterizations does it take to become an expert?

Working 10-14 shifts in a row, often as we changed from one rotation to another.

Persisting through the very difficult process of seeking permission to get married and remain in training and ultimately were successful. A few of us did this.

Learning and Maturing. Perhaps the best example of perseverance may be that we survived 3 years of living in residence, learning and maturing.

Some examples of **INGENUITY**:

Making sure everyone who should be at early morning roll call was marked as there, forty or so present in body in the classroom resulted in 50 present responses.

I, of course, never did this next one but apparently a few classmates figured out that if you didn’t sign out that you were going to be out overnight, the matrons didn’t know you were gone. Unless they did a spot room check.

Using our “broad bibs” to carry extra food from the cafeteria to the residence.

Using the Hopper Room to hide if you needed to gather yourself after a challenging incident or interaction. One wonders where they hide now.

Two additional concepts that Florence felt were necessary to develop good nurses were self-confidence and mentoring

Considering **SELF-CONFIDENCE**:

We learned to be very organized in planning and providing care (in my case it took the entire 3 years but being organized has really helped in and outside my career).

Learning on the job over time contributed to the feeling that you could do the work. Confidence came as you mastered the skills and assimilated the knowledge of many different areas of practice.

The promise of a position upon completion of 3 years also allowed us to feel confident in our abilities as a nurse. We were obviously good enough to hire and pay.

A Florence Nightingale quote “let whoever is in charge keep this simple question in her head NOT how can I always do this right thing myself, but how can I provide for this right thing to always be done?”

Examples of our **MENTORING**:

The very memorable RNs who passed on key elements of their practice. One RN spent time explaining a system of charting her observations head to toe. That lesson stood the test of time in that student’s nursing career. Observation according to Florence Nightingale, by the way, was an ability that was absolutely critical to being a good nurse.

It is here that my reflections differ somewhat from my fellow reunion planners. When I think back to our experience in training, I see a very complex support system. Perhaps formal “mentoring” the way it is defined these days wasn’t obvious at first blush but we had support and advice from many different places. The apprentice model was set up to provide learning from those with more experience on the job. We not only had RNs on the units supporting us, we had senior students. Add to that our own classmates who we could col-



Continued on page 17

laborate with on both the units and back in residence. There was a lot of collaboration amongst us because of the fact that living in residence always provided someone to talk to anytime day or night. There was an attempt at a more formal type of mentorship which worked for some and not so much for others and that was the assigning of "Big Sisters."

In Summary

Florence Nightingale says, *"So never lose an opportunity of urging a practical beginning, however small, for it is wonderful how often in such matters the mustard seed germinates and roots itself."*

So, it seems that having participated in a three year nurses' training program we were able to develop some of the qualities that Florence felt were essential to

Florence would be pleased

becoming a good nurse. Whether we learned from the intended curriculum in formal classroom sessions, our many different practical experiences on the units, or from unintended learning as a result of surviving the rules and regulations of living in residence for 3 years. I don't know about you but I feel very lucky to have had the opportunity to participate in the VGH School of Nursing program. It formed the basis of an incredibly

fulfilling nursing career.

One last quote "... it is impossible to learn it (the art of nursing) from any book and that can only be thoroughly learnt in the wards of the hospital."

Florence would be pleased.

**February 1968 classmates
are in full voice at the Annual Luncheon 1918**



Lead by **Lynne Stevenson Walter** the Class of Feb. 1968 were in full voice putting on a lively presentation at the VGH SON AA Annual Luncheon. All things pertaining to student nursing was on the table and the act was very much enjoyed by other VGH grads.



From page 1

Tributes

It is impossible to acknowledge the many nurses who graduated from UBC/VGH program. The following list is a sample of those who are well known and recognized for their contributions to nursing, the Hospital, the School and the Alumnae.

Bea (Johnson) Wood (1922)

One of the first 3 to graduate in 1923. Married Freddy Wood and was a strong supporter of the UBC SON Alumnae and the UBC community.

Jean Dorgan (1934)

Public health nurse, distinguished dual career as a nurse and social worker. Nursing Consultant Federal Department of Health and Welfare.



Lyle Creelman (1936)

Provincial, national and international nursing leader of great distinction. Chief Nursing Officer World Health Organization.



Helen Saunders (1937)

Operating room instructor at VGH for 11 years and later, in service educator, Royal Jubilee Hospital.



Beth McCann (1939) UBC SON faculty member for 35 years and

acting director for 3 years: the only VGH grad to have this position. Untiring ambassador for UBC and VGH Alumnae.



Margaret Campbell (1947)

First UBC SON graduate to receive a doctorate. Taught anatomy at VGH before becoming a UBC SON faculty member for many years.



UBC School of Nursing: Celebrating 100 years 1919-2019

It is fascinating as it reflects the many changes in nursing education over the years including the trials and tribulations and differing school philosophies underpinning the curriculum.

However, when all is said and done, there was a good working relationship between the schools. Many UBC grads felt as attached to VGH and sometimes more so, than to UBC as seen by membership and participation in the alumnae and attendance at annual luncheons. Numerous close, long lasting friendships developed between the students mainly due to residence living and the sharing of many secrets.

Brief history: 1919-1960

1919. UBC Senate approved a five-year nursing degree program offering a BASc(N) within the Faculty of Applied Science where it remains. The first 4 UBC students, handpicked by Ethel Johns, entered the VGH diploma program having completed courses at UBC. They were: **Bea Johnson (Wood)**, **Marion Fisher (Faris)**, **Margaret Healy (Crann)** and **Esther Naden (Gardom)**.

1920s

UBC students were required to take some UBC classes which at times interfered with their ward responsibilities which led to resentment from some VGH students. This continued for the duration of this arrangement between the Schools. High expectations were required from these “pioneering students” who felt they had to do well and must not fail. *“Well do I remember studying in my room night after night until the lights out bell rang, then sneaking quietly downstairs, through the darkened corridors into the big lecture room, and there with Mr Bones – the skeleton - occupying one ghastly corner, I would pace back an forth, learning chemical formulae by moonlight.”* (**Bea Johnson**).

A diploma course in public health nursing began in 1920 and the first 26 students graduated in 1921. Two were VGH grads – **Jo Peters, 1916** and **Ida Snelgrove 1919** (Eliot). Jo Peters had a long distinguished career as a TB nurse, becoming supervisor of TB nursing for BC Government.

U.B.C. Nurses’ Club was established by PHN graduates as well as **The Science Girls Club** for undergraduates in the degree program – the precursor of the UBC Nursing Alumna Division and the Nursing Undergraduate Society (NUS).



Grace Fairley

Ethel Johns resigned in 1925 replaced by **Mabel Gray** - the program had been successfully launched. Unfortunately Mabel Gray faced the problems of the looming “Great Depression” with enforced fiscal restraint. As the only full-time nursing faculty member, her challenge was to maintain existing programs while collaborating with Ethel Johns’ successors at VGH - **Kathleen Ellis** followed by **Grace Fairley**.

The UBC SON was now located in the Chemistry Building on the Point Grey campus. During this decade, UBC SON granted 37 degrees and 154 diplomas. There was a desperate need for a faculty member to teach the public health nursing program and relieve Mabel Gray so **Margaret Kerr, 1925** was appointed.



Old UBC building at VGH. This photo taken in 1935 when it was the West House Residence. (Nurse: K. Merritt). VGH Archival photo.

And VGH/UBC Alliance – 1919-1960

The Middle years 1930s - 1940s

UBC faculty controlled their students' clinical time, requiring psychiatric, tuberculosis and VON experiences. These were not available to all VGH students. The admission of "Oriental students" to VGH was finally approved. **Louise Lore** later **Yuen** was the first Chinese student to graduate from VGH in 1936 and was the first Chinese nurse to complete the UBC PHN course in 1938. Many obstacles impeded her nursing career because she was Chinese. The first Japanese student to enroll in the UBC program was **Yasuko Yamazaki** later **Tsuchiya** who graduated in 1938 and became a public health nurse.

The UBC clinical experience was increased to three years – the same as for VGH students. This continued until 1951. Students during this decade worked long hours and still did a fair bit of cleaning and sometimes cooking! One UBC student recalled working evenings on Ward F: *"there were only two of us – one for the big ward and one for the corridor. We just ran and ran and ran."* UBC graduates were hired as VGH instructors - one of the earliest ones was **Alison Reid (1934)** later **Wyness**. Students who graduated during these years and pursued careers in public health nursing felt *"filled with enthusiasm. the University had set us off on a great track with considerable ability and inspiration."*



1940 UBC Nursing grads

Students who graduated during these years and pursued careers in public health nursing felt *"filled with enthusiasm. the University had set us off on a great track with considerable ability and inspiration."*

1940s

Mabel Gray retired in 1941 and was praised for her ability to overcome the obstacles of the 1930 turbulent years. **Evelyn Mallory** followed Mabel Gray as head of the UBC SON, a position she held for the next 25 years. The early 1940s also had their challenges with the outbreak of WWII. UBC students recalled the "black outs" during the war. One student remembered big curtains that had to be pulled across the high windows in the large 21-bed wards in Heather Pavilion. *"There were no street lights and everything was blacked out."* In early 1941, all those of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from the Coast to the Interior of BC. **Trenna Hunter, 1939, PHN 1940** set up a hospital at Hastings Park - the notorious temporary internment facility. She arranged for a Japanese VGH student to compete her program there and said: *"We had the smallest nursing school in the world – one student for six months."*



Evelyn Mallory

Following the end of WWII, there was a tremendous increase in admissions to UBC and to UBC SON. 145 were registered in 1947. For students at VGH the program changed little during the 1940s with strict rules for residence living. UBC introduced the 3-year Nursing D program for RNs wanting to obtain a degree. Many VGH graduates enrolled in this program.

Tributes

Dorothy (Byers) Logan (1949)



Nursing instructor VGH SON: Director VGH SON for 13 years.

Vivian (Jackson) Blake (1950)

Instructor VGH SON, leadership roles at VGH, active member VGH SON Alumnae. Highly respected by former students.



Lavinia Crane (1950)



Director of Nursing for BC Health Department developed BC home care program Nursing for BC Health Department

Dorothy Kergin (1951)

Public health nurse, Associate Dean McMaster University, Director of Nursing University of Victoria. Developed nursing program in Pakistan,



Pat (Beck) Wadsworth (1954)

Director of Patient Care Services at VGH, Executive Director, BC Health Association and consultant on health care.



Alice Baumgart (1957)

UBC SON faculty member, Dean of Nursing at Queens University and first woman appointed Vice-Principal at Queens.



Ann-Shirley (Gordon) Goodell (1959)

Nursing administrator, educator, clinical nurse specialist in pediatric oncology. VP Nursing BC Children's Hospital and international consultant.



Continued on page 20

From page 19 **1950s**

The alliance between UBC and VGH begins to fall apart. UBC SON had become an autonomous School, no longer a Department of Nursing and Health and a 5-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing. BSN replaced the BASc(N) degree. VGH still had a "block" system of classes. Unfortunately for many students, the content was unrelated to their current clinical experiences. UBC was looking at a more comprehensive model such as concurrent theory and practice taught by UBC faculty. Demands for UBC students to have preference for specialized clinical experiences at VGH created severe problems. The number of students had increased - 500 were enrolled at VGH. An impasse occurred and despite negotiations between the Schools, there was no successful resolution. UBC terminated its contract with VGH and entered into an agreement with St. Paul's Hospital. UBC students no longer entered VGH. The last UBC class graduated in 1960 – ending the 40-year "sandwich program." UBC had its own distinctive student uniform, cap and graduate pin. The first group of 20 UBC second year students, wearing their designed pink-striped uniforms with white bibs and aprons, entered St. Paul's Hospital in May 1959.



1960s-1980s.

A lull occurred in the relationship between the Schools. What was happening at UBC?

1960s



The degree program was now integrated with preparation for staff level positions in public health nursing as well as work in hospitals. It also included preparation for teaching and fundamentals of ward management and supervision. The diploma program in PHN continued but its days were numbered with the movement to Bachelor degrees. **Evelyn Mallory** began her pursuit for a Master's degree in nursing. It was successfully launched in 1968. During her 25 years at UBC, about 675 received degrees and 1,000 diplomas. Graduates from the 1960s mentioned the inspiration of the School and Miss Mallory's sense of humour and wit. In 1969 UBC SON celebrated its 50th anniversary and the first Marion Woodward lecture was held with VGH's own **Helen Mussallem** as speaker.

1970s

Beth McCann (1939) UBC 1940, followed Evelyn Mallory as acting director until a successor with a PhD was selected becoming the only UBC/VGH graduate to hold the director position. **Dr Muriel Uprichard** took over the reins in 1971 – the only director who was not a nurse – her background was in educational psychology. She instigated radical changes to the curriculum: the "ladder concept" based on four 2-year stages stating the curriculum needed a "tremendous overhaul." At the completion of the second year, students would be eligible to write the RN examinations and could leave the program or continue to the next level and graduate with a BSN. The next level was the 2-year MSN program - the third "rung on the ladder" - and finally a PhD. Problems with the curriculum surfaced when RNABC questioned the students' clinical competence at the end of the second year. This was successfully resolved but was a stressful time for second year faculty and students. The other major change was the introduction of the UBC Model for Nursing. The diploma in PHN was discontinued in 1973. Dr. Muriel Uprichard resigned in 1977 and **D. Marilyn Willman** was appointed. Her first task was to review the 2+2 program. Few students exited at the end of two years. In 1979 it was discontinued and a 4-year BSN program, often referred to as the 'generic' program, was implemented. The 2-year program for RNs was referred to as the "post-basic or post-RN" one.



1980s – UBC/VGH Collaboration – A renewed relationship

In 1980, UBC SON moved to the third floor of the new acute care hospital now renamed **Koerner Pavilion** where it remains. During this time, UBC students resumed clinical practice at VGH under the direction of their own faculty. Nursing programs were offered through the Knowledge Network – an innovative method of reaching out to the nursing community. The development of these Outreach Courses also provided flexibility for students through independent study. Towards the end of this decade, VGH was the only hospital-based school of nursing in BC and was coping with diminishing enrolment. Negotiations began between VGH and UBC for a collaborative degree program. VGH had excellent clinical resources and UBC had an established degree program. This new

UBC/VGH Nursing Program was successfully launched in 1989 and no more students were admitted to the VGH diploma program. The class of 1991 was the last to graduate from VGH.

1990-1998 – final farewell

A PhD in nursing was approved and the first two students were admitted in 1991. Skepticism had been voiced by some university colleagues “*there isn’t much nurses can study is there?*” In 1992, UBC awarded an honorary doctorate to **Lyle Creelman (1936) UBC 1936**– the first UBC nursing graduate to receive such an honour. Dr Willman retired in 1994 and **Dr Katharyn May** replaced her until 2000. The UBC/VGH Collaborative Program was initially funded jointly by VGH and UBC. VGH agreed to pay costs for 50 percent of the first year students, VGH faculty salaries and use of classroom space at VGH, however, VGH decided to terminate its financial support. This withdrawal of funds was gradually phased in and in 1998, the last collaborative class graduated from VGH.



UBC Graduation pin

The School closed after 99 years thus finally ending a relationship that had lasted for 80 years.

2000-2019 – a few highlights

There have been five directors during this 20-year period: the longest serving one **Dr. Sally Thorne 2002-2010**. The present director is **Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc**, appointed in 2017. A Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner - (MNNP) was established in 2004 and in 2016 a Master of Health Leadership and Policy - (MHLP) - accepted the first students. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) a 20 month course continues and students now enter at the 3rd year level and have to have completed a Bachelor degree or significant progress towards one.

I feel fortunate to have graduated from VGH and UBC – benefiting from both programs. Several events are planned for 2019 and I sincerely hope some of us will participate in these celebrations.



Written by Ethel Warbinek VGH 1956/UBC 1957.

Source for most of the above is from *Legacy: History of Nursing Education at the University of British Columbia 1918-1994* by **Glennis Zilm and Ethel Warbinek 1994**.

Loyal friends who have passed away



Eva Moody "Billie" Williamson

“Billy” Williamson passed away on April 15, 2018 at Saint John Hospice at the age of 101 after a short illness. Billie was a UBC grad who had a career in Public Health nursing, finishing her career as Director of Nursing for the City of Vancouver. She


has kept in touch with the Alumnae all her post VGH life!

Margaret Ellen North Mainwaring

Margaret passed away peacefully on August 2, 2018 at the age of 107 and a half. Margaret graduated from VGH in 1933. She enlisted in the Royal Canadian Medical Corps in 1942 serving in North Africa and Italy. After her discharge she nursed in Hawaii and then in Wells BC, where she met her first husband Gerry, marrying in Barkerville in 1951. Back on the coast Margaret nursed in Vancouver, including at the George Pearson Hospital (Polio ward) and later she and her husband started three private nursing homes in the Vancouver, New Westminster and Ladner areas.



Margaret retired to White Rock in 1976 and led a very active life in sports, into her late 90’s. She was also a loyal VGH SON alumnae, attending the luncheons after her 100th year. She lived every day of her life as fully and as joyfully as she could. She will be greatly missed by those that knew and enjoyed her unique personality and vision!



Honorary Members

Mrs. Matilda Bara	Mrs. Naomi Constant
Mr. Charlie Etchell	Mr. D.E. McTaggart
Mrs. 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
Norma Guttormsson (Scobie) ‘58	Lorna Hoare (Snider) ‘66
Adelaide Hutchins (MacLean) ‘53	Sheila Kirk (Poersch) ‘61
Joan Kerr (Dunbar) ‘65	Elizabeth Kirkwood (Miles) ‘53
Gail McKay (Glanville) ‘62	Eleanor McTaggart (White) ‘47
Kathleen Murphy (McCutcheon) ‘65	Diane Parker (Sjerve) ‘68
Trudy Phillips (Smith) ‘53	Mary Raikes-Tindle ‘65
Kay Raisbeck ‘54	Betty-Anne Rogers ‘57
Nancy Semke (Bouzovetsky) ‘57	Pat Sexsmith (Kay) ‘62
Margaret Shugg ‘54	Jean Tsuyuki (Lyons) ‘57
Ethel Warbinek (McIntyre) ‘56	Mary Watt (MacKinnon) ‘54
Anne E. Williams ‘54	

In Memoriam 2018
But not forgotten

Class	Name at Graduation	First Name	Current name
1933	Neily	Margaret	North/ Mainwaring
1939	Grist	May Gordon	Douglas
1940	MacMillan	Jean Duff	Lewis
1940	Williamson	Eva "Billy"	Williamson
1943	Payne	Kathleen	MacDonald
1945	Wilkinson	Mary Hilda	Canty
1948	Buckingham	Florence Alma	Younger
1951	Chipenow	Kera Alexandria	Bredin
1951	Cope	Delores Vivian	Codville
1952	Barnsley	Grace Evelyn	Stewart
1952	Robson	J. Lorraine	McKenzie
1953	Haile	Margaret	Erickson
1953	Harper	Rosemary	Cotton
1955	Fox	Inez Nadine	Mowat
1955	Hickernell	Jean Elaine	Macleod
1955	Hoare	Margie	Neate
1956	Moi	Berte	Willoughby
1956	Stapleton	Lois	Stewart
1957	Chowen	Gail Patricia	Davidson
1959	McDonald	Mary Ann	Hardy
1960	Gianchiglia	Rona	Moran
1960	North	Anne Judith	Callegarini
1967	Cameron	Marilyn Anne	Brassington
1969	D'aoust	Sharon	D'aoust
1969	English	Jennifer Anne	English
1971	Smith	June Kathleen	Dieno
1974	Russelle	Debra Joan	Fenn

B.C. Historical Federation

Naomi Miller (Allsebrook '50), UBC'51. At the annual meeting of the BC Historical Federation in May 2018, hosted by the Arrow Lakes Historical Society and held in Nakusp, Naomi Miller received an **Honorary Membership** in recognition of her outstanding work through the years with BCHF.



Naomi Miller with K. Jane Watt president BCHF

Naomi spent her growing up years on Kootenay Lake. She wanted to be a nurse but being too young for enrolment in VGH, she decided to go to UBC,

enrolling in the BSN program. Her first job upon graduation was head nurse at the TB Willow Chest Centre.

Nurses of Note •••

A Historical Commemoration

Beatrice McNair, a Canadian nursing hero from the first world war was commemorated by the University Womens Club in May 2018 at the 75th Anniversary of the opening of Hycroft as a rehabilitation hospital.



Beatrice was born in 1889 in Vancouver, graduated from VGH in 1911 and enlisted as a 29-year old nursing sister with the Canadian Army Medical Corps Regiment serving in Europe. For her actions in the war she was one of the very few nurses rewarded the Military Medal for Bravery, 100 years ago. When in 1943, during the 2nd World War, Hycroft opened as a rehabilitation hospital Beatrice McNair became the first matron.

Ethel Johns Recognition

Appointed as the Director of the newly created Department of Nursing at UBC in 1919 and also the Superintendent of Nursing at the Vancouver General Hospital, Ethel Johns was recognized as a Person of National Historic Significance by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 2009. The nomination for this award was prepared by Glennis Zilm from the BC History of Nursing Society and it was supported by many other nursing organizations. After approval of the plaque



wording and presentation of the plaque in 2015, the plaque was unveiled on February 26, 2019 in the garden adjacent to the UBC hospital. This event was also in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the UBC School of Nursing which was the first to offer a university degree in Nursing in the whole Commonwealth.

The picture shows the plaque surrounded by some of those involved in the process of recognition.

She became interested in local history as she moved with her husband Peter, living and working in BC. She became editor of *British Columbia Historical News*, later researching and writing *Fort Steel-Gold Rush to Boom Town*. For her work writing biographies of nurses from around B.C. she was named an Honorary Life Member of the BC History of Nursing Society.

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Note: donations received in December 2019 will be listed in the 2020 newsletter.

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VGH SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

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More Luncheon Photos



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IMPORTANT! This box needs to be checked each year

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**Registration for the School of Nursing
 Alumnae Association Luncheon**

Sunday May 5, 2019 12: noon to 3:00 pm
 Cost \$25.00.
 Register by **April 19**, 1969 class no charge.

Name:.....

Name at Graduation:.....

Address:.....

Email:.....

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Grad Class:.....

Return this form with your cheque by **APRIL 19, 2019** payable to:
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855 W. 12th Ave., Vancouver, BC V5Z 1M9
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Newsletter:
 Mary Watt (MacKinnon) '54
 I appreciate your input!