

BULLETIN**ANNUAL MEETING**

The VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association is required to meet annually to report the operations to the membership. An annual report is then filed with the BC Societies Registry.

The meeting will be held on March 4, 2024 at 10:30 am via Zoom

Those wishing to attend need to notify the Alumnae Office in order to receive the Zoom invitation. Send a message to vghson99@gmail.com

CELEBRATE THE MEMORIES

Since 2022, all classes that are celebrating their 50th and 60th Anniversaries have been invited to apply for funding to assist in planning individual class reunions. Several classes have used this opportunity. If your class has a 50th or 60th Anniversary soon, appoint two representatives with current membership to contact the Alumnae office to receive the application form from Sue Goguen, our Executive Secretary/Treasurer.

SPIRIT of the LUNCHEON

The first Fall Luncheon was held at the Arbutus Club in Vancouver on September 19, 2023 with 102 attending. The successful event will be held again on September 19, 2024. As space is limited, you are encouraged to indicate interest on your Membership Renewal form so an invitation can be sent. Reminders will be sent prior to the event to confirm those attending.

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter is sent by email or regular mail to current 700+ Alumnae members. You are invited to take part by sending articles and photos to the Editor, Mary Watt at marywatt@shaw.ca or the Alumnae Office at vghson99@gmail.com or the address listed below **before January 31, 2024**. Some suggestions are: 1. Reunion plans and reports with photos. 2. Short articles about you or your classmates or articles that you think might be of interest to the association members. Please include photos. Articles will be included as space allows and at the discretion of the editor.

MEMBERSHIP 2024

Membership fees of \$20 are now due and can be paid by cheque, e-transfer, or online with Stripe. Information is on the website at www.vghnursingschoolalumnae.com. Follow the link to Membership for electronic renewal and payment.

Some members have questioned why regular mail is used to remind members to pay their membership fees. This is the only annual mailing and is meant to be respectful of all members' needs. Donations are also gratefully received and all funds will receive a tax receipt.

The fees are the major source of funding to maintain the association. Some of the activities include:

Archives Committee: for the display windows and other requests.

Education Committee: provides bursaries to graduates and their descendants.

Friendship Committee: cares for our members in need through cards, visits, and floral deliveries.

Membership Committee: maintains the membership data base of the 8,768 graduates.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Printing Department at VGH has reproduced, with permission from Beverly DuGas's daughter Barbara, the reprinting of her last book "The Best Damned School in the Country". This can be purchased for \$10 plus shipping from the Alumnae office. The Stained Glass window note cards are also available from the Alumnae office at the cost of \$5 for 5 cards plus shipping.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2023

Membership Report 2022 The total paid membership for 2022 was 625. In addition, there were 47 Special Alums, 7 Honorary and 17 Life Members for a total of 689 active members. Of those 625 paid members 343 donated on top of the \$20 membership fee.

The new form makes it easier to donate to General, Archives or Education fund. Also, now a tax receipt is issued for the total amount. Most our members are from the 1950's and 1960's and nearly all of the Board members are from the 1960's classes.

In 2019 we began the practice of mailing personalized letters to all members of the 50 year classes. This has resulted in four or five new members each year which is hopeful for our future. For those of you who are current members and receive the Newsletter, please encourage others from your class to join or renew their membership.

The benefits of membership are numerous. The many hard-working volunteers keep our organization vibrant. Historical items are acquired and maintained by the Archives committee. The Annual Newsletter contains information about events that have taken place and special achievements of our Alums.

Flowers and cards are sent to shut-ins or those recovering from illness or surgery and sympathy cards are sent to families of deceased graduates. Descendants of graduates who are members can apply for educational bursaries of up to \$2000 per year for pursuing education in the field of nursing. A database of the over 8000 graduates from our School of Nursing is maintained.

If you know of any changes of address or of any deaths of your classmates, please forward that information to the Alumnae office. I was a member of the Alumnae during my working years but did not participate in any activities. One day I bumped into a friend I'd known for years through OR nursing but didn't realize she was a VGH grad. She was on the Board and invited me to come and see what it was all about. I started helping with membership and after a couple of years became the Membership Director. This is an invitation to anyone who is thinking about becoming involved to act upon it. Many doors are opened. Respectfully submitted, *Sue (Cathcart) Kerr F'69 Membership Director*



ALUMNAE OFFICE

The mailing address is 855 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver BC V5Z 1M9
For information call (604) 875-4111 local 62049 or email vghson99@gmail.com
The Alumnae Office is located in the Heather Pavilion B floor, south entrance.

To visit, please contact the office for an appointment.

Archives email vghsonarchives.99@gmail.com

Bursaries email vghnursingbursaries@gmail.com