
Newsletter   January 2011

From the President

Happy New Year! May all of you have a prosperous and healthy year. The fall luncheon at Borio's was a huge success and we had a great turnout. Many thanks to Kathy Paolini & Rita McDermott for chairing the luncheon. Ann Sedore, Director of Crouse School of Nursing, had a very interesting slide show on her recent trip to Guatemala.

In October I attended the Crouse Health Foundation Tribute Evening honoring the Physicians of Neonatal Associates of CNY. Mary Wilson of the Supremes was the musical guest, and it was a wonderful show and a wonderful tribute to the work of the neonatal team.

Our yearly alumni dues are coming up. Please get on board and support your alumni association and the scholarship fund. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the spring luncheon in June. Meanwhile **keep warm**, spring is just around the corner!!

Joan Warboy Greene, Class of 1957
jgreene6@twcny.rr.com

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Treasurers' Report

Alumni dues will be raised to \$20 this year. We have not increased the annual dues for several years. Due to the decrease in paid members, we feel our mission "to provide scholarships to deserving nursing students" is not being met. This increase will help us to meet our scholarship funding goals.

Donations in memory or in honor of someone dear are always welcome.

The alumni office is usually open on Mondays. Please call (315) 470-7214 with any questions or leave a message and we will return your call. You can also email us at Alumni@crouse.org.




Jo Oliva, Treasurer, Class of 1954
Jean Serling, Co-Treasurer, Class of 1950

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Alumni Association Web Page

The updated Hospital and School of Nursing web pages were launched at the end of October 2010. Included is a newly developed Alumni Association web page. We are very excited! Information is still being added so thank you for your patience. Visit the site and check it out at <http://www.crouse.org/nursing/alumni>. Feel free to check the whole School of Nursing and Hospital web site while you are there!

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50 Year Reunion – Class of 1961

The 2011 spring luncheon will be the time for our 50 year reunion celebration and gathering. We would love to have 100% participation in this event. The date is June 11, 2011. Hope to see you there!

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60 Year Reunion – Class of 1951

If you are interested in celebrating your 60 Year reunion this spring, please email Janet Dellas at Alumni@crouse.org.

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Graduate Convocation Dinner

The graduates of the October and December 2010 classes attended a Convocation Celebration Dinner on December 15, 2010 at Justin's Grill. The graduates received their Associate Degree diplomas and their nursing school pins. Board member Louise Hayes was proud to pin her own daughter, Sheehan McIntosh, a member of the October 2010 graduating class. Formal graduation exercises will take place on May 26, 2011 at Hendricks Chapel on the Syracuse University Campus.

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Alumni Member News

For all the classmates of **Kate Fobare**, I would like to mention the legacy she left in her hometown of Saranac Lake, NY. For several years after graduation Kate worked as a nurse, not only in Syracuse but also at the Saranac Lake General Hospital. She developed an interest in the theater and was a frequent cast member as well as a Board member of the Town Hall Players and Community Theater Players of Saranac Lake. This interest also led to her thirty year commitment to the Winter Carnival Committee, serving as chairwoman in 1980, 1983, 1984 and was crowned queen of the Carnival in 1985. After this time she continued her involvement and was secretary for most of the next 20 years. Needless to say, her recent death from cancer left the winter carnival staff and volunteers with a huge void. Kate will be very difficult to replace. Fortunately she was honored with a plaque at the Coronation that launched the carnival in February of 2010.

A message from Joan **Watson Frederich**, class of 1959. "I was reading the alumni newsletter and read about the cost of a nursing education today at Crouse Hospital. I was at Crouse Irving hospital from 1956-1959. As I remember, the total tuition for three years was \$150. We bought my 12 uniforms from a student who was leaving and my parents bought all my books and other educational materials. The hospital provided our room and board. I must say our housing was very "home-like" in the houses near the hospital and the food was wonderful. Some of our days were long and the training/schooling was intense but the instructors and nursing staff were always there for us. Their love and support was also wonderful! I would not change one thing about my three year diploma nursing experience. I also made life-long friends. Please keep up the good work."



Spring Luncheon

June 11, 2011

Syracuse University Sheraton

More details will be in the May newsletter.



Gift Basket Fund Raiser

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Alumni Board held a fund raiser to help with the declining numbers of Alumni member dues paid to support scholarships. The Board was able to put together seven gift baskets to raffle. The baskets were displayed in the hospital cafeteria over a five day period from November 1-5, 2010. We sold tickets from 9 am to 5 pm each day. We also participated in the Hospital's annual Christmas craft show that was held for one day during this same time period. We sold hundreds of tickets to staff, students and visitors from both Crouse Hospital and Upstate Medical Center. The raffle also included one small basket that was donated to the Alumni by the Ambience Spa and Salon.

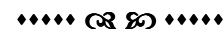
Congratulations to the winners!

- Cheers Basket
Mary Beth Barrett - Crouse Hospital
- Spa Basket
Yolanda Withers - Crouse Hospital
- Ambience Basket
Carol Fitzgerald - Upstate Medical Center
- Slow Cooker Basket
Irene Christopher - Upstate Medical Center
- Coupons & Gift Cards Basket
Joanne Humphrey- Crouse staff
- Toys Basket
Helen Martin – Hospital Visitor
- Thanksgiving Basket
Ann Morales - Crouse Hospital
- Christmas Basket
Debbie Fiorni - Crouse Hospital



A special thank you was given to Linda Savage and Jackie DeCecco for their wonderful assistance in using the cafeteria for this event.

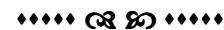
The raffle was extremely successful, we earned about \$1,700 for the effort, and it was a great addition for the nursing scholarships.



Alumni Dues

The yearly bill for Alumni dues is included with this newsletter. The dues have increased to \$20 per year. The dues are used to provide scholarships to many nursing students every year.

Please contribute to this very worthy cause and mail your yearly contribution today.



Regrets....

Name	Class	Deceased
Olinda Ackles Boggie	1957	9/1/2010
Helen LaMott Brennan	1935	10/19/2010
Beatrice Schriber Ciotoli	1955	9/08/2010
Kate Morgan Fobare	1951	7/14/2010
Jane Lawton Kee	1958	8/15/2010
Julia Ralston Maroney	1938	11/15/2010
Helen Pidkaminy Miller	1944	12/06/2010
Dorothy Whalen Varrichio	1941	8/11/2010

When informing the Alumni Office of the death of an alumnus, please send an obituary from the newspaper, notification from a family member or friend or a link to an obituary published on line. Please include your name and address as well.

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School of Nursing Reaccreditation Visit

Crouse Hospital School of Nursing wishes to announce that it will host a site review for continuing accreditation of its Associate Degree nursing program.

You are invited to meet the visit team and share your comments about the program in person at a meeting scheduled at the School of Nursing for **Wednesday, February 9 from 4-5 p.m. in Room 208, Marley Education Center.**

Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted directly to:

Dr. Sharon Tanner, Chief Executive Officer
NLN Accrediting Commission
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30326

Or email at sjtanner@nlac.org. All written comments should arrive at NLNAC by February 1, 2011.

Thank you for your comments and support of the School of Nursing.

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Welcome New Alumni

Alumni board members spent time introducing grads to the alumni association during their last nursing course. Louise Hayes spoke to students on Monday, October 4, 2010 and Julie Johnson spoke to students on November 17, 2010.

We continue to encourage all graduates to become members of the Alumni

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Crouse Health Foundation News**Crouse Health Society Campaign**

Community and Medical Staff volunteers are soliciting Crouse Health Society memberships for 2011. Barbara and Foundation Board Trustee John Gaal have graciously agreed to co-chair the Community effort again, and Dr. Craig Byrum is once again overseeing the Medical Staff drive.

Society membership is open to anyone wishing to contribute a gift of \$1,000 or more to the Crouse Health Foundation, and our goal is to net \$140,000 from this year's campaign which will run through April 30th.

Brown & Brown Empire State/Crouse Hospital Hockey Classic

The Crouse Health Foundation is pleased to announce that the inaugural Brown & Brown Empire State/Crouse Hospital Hockey Classic will be held on Saturday, January 15th at the War Memorial in conjunction with a regularly scheduled Syracuse Crunch/Rochester Americans hockey game. The Classic will be held at 3:30 pm, featuring the Brown & Brown Selects versus the Syracuse Fire Department. A reception will be offered afterwards, with the Crunch game to follow at 7:30 pm.

Tickets for the package of the Classic game, reception and Crunch game are \$25 per person. Sponsorships are also available starting at \$500, and they include tickets to both games and recognition during all three activities. A portion of ticket sales will benefit Crouse Hospital's Baker Regional NICU. For tickets or more information, contact the Crouse Health Foundation Office at (315) 470-7702.

Syracuse Auto Dealers Association (SADA) Charity Preview

The 2011 Syracuse Auto Dealers Association (SADA) Charity Preview will be held on Wednesday, February 9th at the Pirro Convention Center at Oncenter, and invitations were mailed in December. Crouse is one of 12 charities that benefit from the SADA preview, and 100% of proceeds from the tickets sold by Crouse come back to our organization. Tickets will once again be \$125 per person, with sponsor packages starting with the purchase of five tickets. This is a great night and a great cause so please keep the Crouse Health Foundation in mind if you are thinking about purchasing tickets.

**Carrie Berse, President,
Crouse Health Foundation**

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Crouse Hospital News

Happy New Year!

As we begin a new year, I want to take this opportunity to give you an update on Crouse Hospital activities and progress – and also thank you for your contribution to help us deliver on our mission to provide the best in patient care and promote community health.

2010 was a busy year for our hospital. Patient volumes over the past several months in particular have been very high. This is a good thing, as it means people are choosing to come to Crouse for their care. It also means staff in *all* areas have been very busy staying on top of all the activity. We continue to recruit qualified team members who support our mission, vision and values. In fact, more than 300 nurses, clinical and support staff members joined the Crouse family last year.

We have made great progress over the past year on many fronts. Perhaps the most visible is the brand new Witting Surgical Center, which replaces our current 35-year-old OR. We can all take great pride in the new OR, the most modern facility of its kind in the region. The project will be fully completed later in 2011. Having the new OR ensures that we're able to provide the most advanced surgical care to patients in an environment that is appealing to both surgeons and staff.

Our focus on quality continued to be a top priority in 2010. Crouse received "gold plus" status from the American Stroke Association, the only area hospital to earn this designation. We also became a nationally accredited Chest Pain Center – one of just 11 in New York State – for our ongoing effort to reduce the amount of time it takes for heart attack patients to receive life-saving care. And we again received the Exemplary Outcomes Award from the American College of Surgeons as a result of our participation in the National Quality Surgical Improvement Program.

More quality awards and recognition received this past year can be found on our new website at crouse.org. If you haven't already, please take time to browse around the site. In addition to greatly enhanced navigation and ways to promote our services and quality care, the new site has a number of features including a patient pre-registration option; a comprehensive health information component; an expanded careers section; a newsroom featuring Crouse coverage; and the first online hospital gift shop in Syracuse.

While we had a good year, there are many challenges ahead. The state's financial condition has not improved, which means we can expect continued pressure on the legislature to further reduce reimbursements to hospitals. On the national scene, healthcare reform will present its own set of challenges to hospitals over the next few years. We don't yet have a clear picture of all the elements of reform, but we do know that hospitals that do a good job of reducing complications and readmissions while increasing overall patient satisfaction will fare better than those that do not. At Crouse we've been working on a number of initiatives, such as our Lung Partners and Care Transitions programs that will help us prepare for many of these changes.

From a strategic standpoint, we continue to be guided by our vision statements, developing and enhancing centers of excellence, such as urology, neurosurgery and OB services, and strengthening our relationships with other community providers to enhance the range and scope of care we offer. Equally important, we continue our work to forge closer relationships with our doctors. The recent formation of Crouse Medical Practice and its purchase of Internist Associates is one example of this.

As Alumni we greatly appreciate your ongoing support of our hospital and our mission of providing the best in patient care and promoting community health.

Sincerely,



Paul Kronenberg, MD
President & CEO

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New Grads and Local Area Alumni

A special event/gathering is being planned by the Crouse Hospital Nurses Alumni for all our new members in April. It will be a great chance to get together with your classmates, new and old, and catch up on news and careers. Please watch the web page site for more information about this new event planned just for you.

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