


Newsletter   May 2011

From the President

Spring is here! It has been a tough winter and we're all looking forward to warm sunny days. Now its time to think about the Spring Luncheon coming up in June.

The alumni association is also hosting an informal gathering at the King of Clubs in Armory Square in May. It will give us a chance to reconnect with our alumni co-workers at the hospital and also with our class mates. We are looking forward to a big turnout for both events.

Let's get together and celebrate the uniqueness of our school and profession.

See you there!

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



Treasurers' Report

We currently have 332 paid members to date. Alumni dues provide scholarships to deserving nursing students. We strongly encourage you to pay dues to support the efforts of your alumni association.

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.

Thank you for supporting your alumni association and to help nursing student realize their goal of becoming a registered nurse.

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



Alumni Association Web Page

I hope all members of the Alumni have taken the opportunity to look at the School of Nursing and Alumni section of the new web site. You will find the most recent copy of this newsletter there too. In case you forgot to bookmark the site, here's the address <http://www.crouse.org/nursing/alumni>.

Keep checking out the site from time to time as it continues to grow. As more and more events are planned they will be posted on the site. Email your classmates and make plans to attend!



Important Newsletter Mailing Update

This is the last newsletter that will be mailed to those of you who graduated 1970 or later. For more than a year now, we have requested notification from alumnus that wanted to continue to receive this newsletter via the regular mail. If you have provided an email address, you will be emailed each time a newsletter is published on our website.

We plan to stop mailing the newsletter to those people that have not communicated with us. If you graduated 1970 or later and do not contact us, provide an email address or pay your dues, you will be removed from the mailing list for snail mailed copies of the newsletter. If you would like to receive email notification when newsletters are published, please send us an email containing your email address to alumni@crouse.org.

If you have already requested to have the newsletter mailed to you, we will continue to do so and you don't need to make that request again. No newsletters will be mailed to anyone who graduated 1970 or after unless you have paid dues and specifically requested this service. Any individual can read the newsletter on the Alumni Association web site at any time of day by going to our website listed above.

Thanks very much for your understanding of our efforts to move ahead, reduce costs and join the electronic age.



Regrets....

Name	Class	Deceased
Helen Lero Bentley	1940	11/6/2010
Joanne Lewis Doss	1963	2/15/2011
Helena Voght Elworthy	1935	9/22/2010
Joan Ravas Hunter	1954	1/11/2011
Carol Matteson	1960	3/3/2011
Evelyn Finn Touchette	1955	3/23/2011

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.

Alumni Member News

Meda Kenty, class of 1935 would love to hear from any members of her class. She recently had a stroke and is presently a patient at VanDuyyn Hospital in Syracuse. To correspond by mail, please contact the alumni office to obtain her mailing address.

Dorothy Haag was appointed Director of Quality Resources at St. Joseph’s Hospital, in Syracuse, NY. Dorothy earned an RN at Crouse Hospital School of Nursing, and Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in nursing from SUNY Upstate Medical University. Dorothy is a member of the National League for Nursing, LeMoyne College Nursing Honor Society and CNY-NCARE Nursing Research Forum.

Have You Included the Crouse Hospital School of Nursing in Your Will?

If you have, please let us know. We’d like the opportunity to say “thank you.”

For more information on how to make a charitable bequest, save on estate taxes, or set up a life income plan for a spouse, child or loved one, please contact Carrie Berse at the Crouse Health Foundation at (315) 470-7004 or carrieberse@crouse.org.

All responses are kept confidential and information is provided without obligation.

Financial Aid News

At a recent School of Nursing open house, a number of potential nursing students commented on how the cost of attending Crouse Hospital School of Nursing compared so favorably with the costs of other area nursing schools. So, to confirm what a good value a nursing degree from Crouse Hospital School of Nursing can be, here are some numbers to consider.

Annual cost of attending Crouse Hospital School of Nursing (Including Room & Board):

	<u>Current Cost</u>
• Tuition	\$8,496
• Room	3,500
• Board (Estimate)	3,250
• Fees	870
• Books	1,075
• Uniform & Accessories	285
Total:	\$17,476

In comparison, one year at our local private four-year colleges can cost \$40,000 to \$50,000. One year at a New York State SUNY college would cost over \$22,000.

Put another way, a degree in nursing at a private four-year college would cost you in excess of \$160,000 and a degree in nursing at a SUNY four-year college would cost you approximately \$88,000.

A nursing degree from **Crouse Hospital School of Nursing** will cost \$34,950 in total. That’s less than half the cost of the State colleges and about a quarter the cost of private colleges.

Hopefully those potential nursing students at our open house were recognizing that a nursing degree from Crouse Hospital School of Nursing is a bargain.



Peter Bullock
Financial Affairs Officer



Upcoming Alumni Events

Wind Down Cheese Mixer – May 12, 2011

On Thursday, May 12, 2011 from 4:30-7:30 pm the Alumni Association will host a gathering for fun and recruitment at the **King of Clubs** in Armory Square, (420 S. Clinton St. between Walton and Jefferson).

Appetizers, snacks and a variety of beverages will be provided. A cash bar will also be available. A “Basket of Cheer” gift basket raffle will take place during the evening. Donations for tickets are set at \$1.00 each or \$5.00 for six tickets.

There will also be a free wine basket raffle for those who pay alumni dues and join the association that evening. You must be present to win either raffle. Please RSVP via email to Louise Hayes: crousegathering@yahoo.com.

Annual Spring Luncheon – June 11, 2011

Please sign up to attend the Alumni Spring Luncheon. Your reservation can be made by filling out the yellow sheet attached to this newsletter.

There will be tables for the Class of 1961 to celebrate their 50 year Reunion and a table for the 60 year Reunion Class of 1951.

A 50/50 raffle will be held at the luncheon and Ann Sedore, Director of the School of Nursing will be the guest speaker.

Class of 1991 Reunion – July 9, 2011

An evening of reminiscing and reconnecting is planned for July 9th at **Coleman’s Irish Pub** on Tipperary Hill. The event runs from 7-11 pm.

Limited seating is available for a fun 20 year reunion for the Class of 1991. Carving Stations and other Irish fare will be served. A cash bar will also be available.

To RSVP, please email Louise Hayes at LHayes5@twcny.rr.com before **June 25**. Cost is \$30.00 per person.

Louise will be making a collage of the class so please email her your graduation photo.

All the above events will be listed on our new and expanding Alumni Association web site.

www.crouse.org/nursing/alumni

Spring School of Nursing Events

Recruitment Open Houses

The School of Nursing held two spring open houses on March 5 and March 24. Both open houses were well attended by prospective students interested in nursing careers.

The Alumni Association was represented at both events with an information table and display.



Graduate Bridging Experience Class

On April 25, 2011 during the Graduate Bridging Class, Alumni President Joan Greene spoke to seniors about joining the Alumni Association after their graduation.

Convocation Ceremony

On Wednesday, May 25, 2011 the graduating seniors and their guests will enjoy an evening of appetizers and desserts at the Sheraton University Hotel. The evening is set aside each semester for a traditional pinning ceremony and to recognize honors graduates.

The Alumni Association presents Bayberry Uniform Shop gift certificates to three lucky graduate nurses. These same alumni board members welcome the grads to nursing with letters of welcome that grant them one year free membership to the Alumni Association.



Graduation Commencement Ceremony

This year’s ceremony will take place on Thursday, May 26 at Hendricks Chapel on the Syracuse University Campus at 6:00 pm. A reception will follow immediately after commencement on the 2nd floor of the Marley Educational Center.

Moving Up Ceremony

On January 19, 2011 the faculty held a Moving Up Ceremony for the class of December 2011. The students and faculty members were individually introduced and then the group recited the Florence Nightingale Pledge. Alumni Association Board of Directors members, Joan Greene and Julie Johnson were also in attendance to congratulate the students for their accomplishments. A class photo was taken and refreshments were enjoyed.

Crouse Health Foundation News

A special gift...

The Crouse Health Foundation recently received an estate distribution of more than \$150,000 from the Estate of Robert H. Basso. This gift was made possible by The Basso Trust, a charitable fund established by his parents, Albert and Esther, in 1980. Per Robert Basso's instructions, proceeds from this generous gift will benefit the Crouse Hospital School of Nursing and its students.

According to a family history written by Robert, his parents were caring, industrious people who sought to provide for their family and their community. Both were committed to education: Albert was an engineer who worked at several institutions of higher learning and was "an unquestionably honest man, of the highest moral character." Esther enrolled in college at the age of 65 to obtain her Bachelor's degree, and she was a "good mother, fine person and keen business person, who supported her husband of more than 50 years through loyalty and deed."

From 1993 until his death last year, Robert was the sole trustee and beneficiary of his parents' trust. To honor them, their hard work and good deeds, he directed that the money in his family's trust establish the "Esther Rita Basso Scholarship Fund" to assist Crouse Hospital School of Nursing students. This scholarship fund is now part of the Crouse Health Foundation's Endowment Fund, making it permanent (the principal of the gift will never be touched; investment income only will be used each year to award scholarships to Crouse students in Esther Rita Basso's name.) We are deeply grateful to Robert Basso and all the members of his family for this gift and their vision, generosity, and meaningful investment in the training of nurses here at Crouse Hospital.

The Crouse Health Foundation's Endowment Fund was established through a \$5 million community campaign in 1983 to serve as a permanent source of monies for equipment, programs and services at Crouse Hospital. Today, through new gifts and prudent investments, the market value of the Endowment Fund stands at more than \$20 million in assets. Additionally, with a disbursement of \$900,000 in investment income from the fund this year, more than \$16 million has been given back to Crouse Hospital for high-priority needs since 1988.

Endowment Allocation Committee

The Foundation's 2011 Endowment Allocation Committee met March 29th to distribute the aforementioned investment income to high-priority needs at Crouse Hospital. Kathy Paolini represented Nursing Alumni on the Committee, and a list of the 65 grants made that day is posted on our website at www.crouse.org/foundation (in the Giving to Crouse/ Endowment Fund section).

Events

On Wednesday, April 13th, Crouse Health Foundation was one of eight charities that benefited from an evening for the public on the lanes recently built within the Convention Center at OnCenter for the *US Bowling Congress Women's Championships*.

Registration is underway for the July 18th *Crouse Classic Golf Tournament* and both the morning and afternoon fields are filling up fast. To register to play or to sponsor a contest, hole & tee, or other aspect of the event, please contact the Foundation Office at (315) 470-7702 as soon as possible.

Planning continues for the *Friday, September 16th Tribute Evening* gala honoring the physicians of Cardiology, PC. Details on leadership, entertainment and other aspects of the event will be available soon.

Major Gifts

The Foundation recently received the following major gifts:

- ✓ More than \$44,000, representing the final distribution of the Estate of Crouse friend Saul Schneider;
- ✓ \$20,000 from a grateful patient (who wishes to remain anonymous); and
- ✓ More than \$10,000 from a Pooled Life Income gift established by the late Ron and Mary Goddard. These monies will be added to an endowment fund already established by the Goddards, with investment income used to underwrite the work of the Hospital's Healing Environment Committee.

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

Marley Education Center Renovations Expanding the Collaborative Simulation, Technology and Learning Center

After two months, renovations on the fourth floor of Marley Education Center are almost complete and include the addition of simulation space, expansion of the Mock OR functionality and completion of phase I of library redesign. The project, partially funded by a grant from the Higher Education Capital Matching Grant, focused on enhancing the educational and informational resources offered to the staff and students of Crouse Hospital and Crouse Hospital School of Nursing.

Addition of Simulation Space

The simulation capacity of the nursing skills has been expanded to include two new rooms and an adjacent control room. The patient care rooms are state-of-the-art design and were built to support interactive, group learning. The Reisman foundation provided funding to expand our simulation family including the addition of a pediatric manikin.

Expansion of Mock OR Functionality

In addition to the two new simulation rooms, the Mock OR has also been reconfigured to allow use of the area for critical care simulations as well as use by perioperative academy participants.

Phase I of Library Redesign: Library Learning Commons

The library transformation from a traditional set up to one of a learning commons model provides a welcoming, technology-infused environment where learning is collaborative and interactive. Responding to generational trends and student-centered learning that supports social aspects, the new learning commons optimizes opportunities for communication and discovery. The new "Ask a Librarian" reference desk faces the entrance and provides area for librarians to consult with several students at a time. The new inviting entrance welcomes customers into a comfortable environment for discussion, discovery and assistance. There are comfortable seating pods throughout the library space where students can study in groups, work collaboratively on projects, or read quietly. Students also have access to a refurbished computer lab opened 24-hours per day.

Students and staff are able to access the Library's collection of electronic resources as well as traditional reference materials important to the practice of evidence based healthcare. However, the new learning commons transforms the traditional library function of housing materials into one of a space where active learning and collaborative study take place. Students become active participants in the acquisition and production of knowledge and the learning commons becomes a place for people to gather and create. Another feature includes a new glass display case at the entrance which highlights Crouse's unique and long heritage of excellence in nursing education.



Ann Sedore
Director, School of Nursing

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How To Contact Us

If you have questions or suggestions for articles in the newsletter, email us at alumni@crouse.org. Or, you can go to the alumni web page and go to the "inquiries and transcript requests" page. Under Alumni inquiries, click the blue "email" link and send us your comments or suggestions.

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Cholesterol Screening

Did you know? One in six Americans ages 20 and older, almost 36 million people, have never had their cholesterol levels checked!



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Satisfaction vs. Retirement

46% of those surveyed by AMN Healthcare, a staffing firm, said working as a nurse has become less satisfying in the past five years. The top job frustration for those surveyed was nurse staffing shortages.

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