



Swedish
Covenant
Hospital

TECHNOLOGY CHANGES.
COMPASSION DOES NOT.

WINTER 2007

THE *Caring* TIMES

A SWEDISH COVENANT HOSPITAL PUBLICATION FOR **ALUMNAE OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING**

Dear Alumnae:

Saturday, June 17, 2006, the Alumnae of Swedish Covenant Hospital School of Nursing gathered once again with hearts of gratitude to the Heavenly Father for the training we had received at our school. We were happily surprised with an attendance of 100.

Dr. Virginia Ohlson, from the class of 1937, joined us along with her sister, Dorothy Lundbom. Dorothy Erickson, 1938, Verna Isaacson Fogel from the class of 1940, and Solveig Syverud Pedersen, 1942, were among our older classes. Grace Nelson, Covenant missionary from 1946 celebrated 60 years of graduation as the only representative from her class.

Ten hearty souls from the class of 1951 celebrated 55 years since graduation. Twenty-four from the class of 1956 turned out in full force, enjoying fellowship at the home of Marilyn Leet Simon on Friday evening and had a good time at the luncheon on Saturday. You wouldn't guess that those gals graduated from nursing 50 years ago!

The class of 1961 was represented by 13 classmates from California to New Jersey. They did mourn the loss of their first classmate, Jeanie White Whitwam, missionary to Kenya and Zambia for 30 years.

The class of 1966 did well with 17 classmates and some friends from North Park as they marked 40 years since graduation. We were pleased that instructors Janet McBride, Pat (Sandbloom) Grovatt and Joan Zetterlund were there to greet the younger class!

Nine missionary nurses were present to line up for a picture. We are thankful for the regularity of dues payment by our Alumnae, which makes it possible to give missionary gifts each year. No application came in for a scholarship this year.

Sincerely,
Carol Cromley Olson '61





SWEDISH COVENANT HOSPITAL
NURSING ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

Dear Fellow Alumnae,

I would first like to thank all of you for being patient in getting this issue of the *Caring Times* out to you. We may be a smaller alumnae association, but we are persistent!

June of 2006, we met once again as a group. As I recall we were over 100 in number! The class of 1956 was honored for their 50th anniversary. The tea, chapel and hospital tours were again a positive start to a day of renewed friendships, and the stirring up of old cherished memories.

We were able to finish our pledge to the Nursing Division for their NICHE program. There is an update on that project later in this issue. There is also more exciting news for Nursing as they strive to become designated as a Magnet Hospital. Ms. Mary Shehan RN, Vice President for Nursing has shared that news in our newsletter as well.

As we look ahead to celebrating in 2007, mark your calendars for Saturday, June 23rd for our annual Nurses Alumnae Reunion. We will begin the day with tea in the English Room of the Anderson Pavilion. Tours of the hospital and a chapel service will also be available. There will be a separate mailing in the spring with the luncheon reservation form and dues notice.

I look forward to us gathering once again and celebrating with our classes and praising God for the education and training we received at Swedish Covenant Hospital.

Warmly,

Maggie Henneberry '68
President, SCHNAA

Photo Review from 2006 Reunion



Friends enjoying the Luncheon



Dr. Virginia Ohlson ('37)



Doris (Granstrom) Johnson, Ruth (Roehrs) Kemnitz, and Grace Nelson



Laura Luc Gorby



Verna (Isaacson) Fogel and Dorothy Erskine



Carol Olson & Susan Tanner ('68)



Ruth (Roehrs) Kemnitz, Doris (Granstrom) Johnson



Class of 1946

Grace Nelson



Class of 1951

(Attendees in alphabetical order)

Julie (Holmquist) Klint, Shirley (Starr) Klint, Karilyn (Dykstra) Masselink, Maxine (Gustafson) Nordahl, Ione (Johnson) Potter, Adele Richardson, Elaine (Johnson) Suter, Marjorie (Roskam) Taylor, Martha (Maxwell) Vandevort, Yvonne (Nuyen) Veldt



Class of 1956

First Row: Vivian (Hoyt) Brown, Marilyn (Leet) Simon, Carol (Rozema) Knapp, Helen (Henning) Johnson, Joyce (Ringstad) Schmidt, Nancy (Johnson) Thorell

Second Row: Ann Elise (Erickson) Lindgren, Marjorie (Holmquist) Scheltema, Mary (Hotchkiss) Henson, Marilyn Mol VandenAkker, Eleanor (Nelson) Claus, Joan (Anderson) Matson, Shirley (St Clair) Johnson

Third Row: Daune (Sturdy) Mackenstadt, Gunvor (Holmquist) Sparrman, Lois (Cooper) Gerakinis, Annette (Nelson) Anderson, Elizabeth Merington, Ruth (Longman) Pontier, Yvonne (Hunter) Wolfenberger, Bette (Klingler) Obinger, Audrey (Helder) Jansen, Helen (Lindroth) Vaporis, Anita (Pullen) Swingle

Class of 1961

First Row: Faith (Weber) Newberg, Lowayne (Larson) Arnquist, Pat (Rasmussen) Oswald, Cathy (Erb) Cousins, Carol (Cromley) Olson

Second Row: Mary (Balbach) Ohman, Joyce (Peterson) Anderson, Patricia (Sandbloom) Grovatt, Elaine (Marschman) Gorton, Karen (Van Steenwyk) Hearl, Phyllis (Palmberg) Friesen, Ethel (Franson) Steffey, Marjorie Johnson



Class of 1966

First Row: Lynne Rae (Peterson) Springer, Martha (Johnson) Frisk, Phyllis (Dahl) Bruce, Ruth (Lindskoog) Halverstadt, Nancy Arsenault, Karen Benson

Second Row: Charlotte (Couleur) Anderson, Joan Zetterlund, Janet McBride, Karen (Essen) Ramick, Judith (Schreiber) Upson, Mary Anne Ahlgren, Linnea (Carlson) Johnson, Nadine (Wycinsky) Campbell, Sonja Voss, Sue (Webb) Hilt, Judy (Gordon) Benson, Jeanette (Austin) Myra, Mary Johnson

Missionary **UPDATES**

Mark & Beth Trimble

C.P. 004
69908-970 Rio Branco, AC
Brasil, S.A.

Our Seminary graduation is about 2 months away, and things are starting to pick up speed here in Rio Branco (Capital of the state of Acre near the Bolivian frontier). We praise God for a good year, and ask you to pray for a good number of students for next year. The school year starts at the end of February or beginning of March, depending on Carnival, which is based on the 40 days of Lent. We continue working on the development of our campus, as well as Seminary administration. We just elected an interim Director to take over while we are on furlough from July 2007 to January 2009. We are anxious to see our Brazilian brethren assuming responsibilities, since our time is limited. The most difficult task for them is the building, and because of finances, we are doing what we can.

Our kids are all doing well, Kim and David just moved off of the property where they work with street boys in Belem. Their mission is trying to turn the work over to nationals, and in the near future they may be involved in another ministry. Tiffany and Jeff are working on a support system for their ministry with street kids, here in Rio Branco. Melany and Elias are busy

pastoring and working in the Seminary. They just had their 3rd child (a boy), so now our grandchildren are an even dozen. Emily and Sancler have been invited to pastor a congregation, so pray for them as they serve the Lord. Randy is on his way to becoming a paramedic, and Amey continues her work as a nurse. We are grateful to God for what He has done in our family, and pray He will continue to use each of us according to His will.

Karen Benson

Bangui, CAR
Karenbenson1@juno.com

I returned to Bangui the beginning of July after spending the cool month of June in the U.S. I had the opportunity to spend time with family, attend my 40th nursing class reunion and visit friends. My medical exams were all negative. Thank you for praying.

Now that the security in the country has improved, I will be visiting the village where I lived before we evacuated in 2002. I want to encourage the work Denise is doing at the nutrition center, plus assist with vaccination and prenatal clinics. Again, I ask that there will be opportunities to share my faith with the Fulani people living there.

I have become the accountant and manager of the property that the Covenant and Free Church own together. Those of you who know me, this could be a very scary situation! Fortunately, Thelma, Karen and Bob Andrews were very good teachers. The accounting has been simplified and I have a good support system among the missionaries that remain. I would appreciate your prayers during this transition.

Betty (Kolkman) Sterkenburg

Dick and I are still active volunteering at the Radio Bible Class. Dick also teaches an adult Sunday School class at church. Since we wrote you last, we traveled to Portugal where he gave a seminar for pastors as well as spoke at a missionary conference there.



Then we went onto Switzerland where our oldest son and wife are living temporarily on business for his company. After seeing some of the sights there we joined them in a five day visit to the Netherlands, home of our ancestors. That was really fun – we saw the dikes, Corrie TenBoom’s home and many museums. The Delft factory and cheese factory were also interesting. We especially enjoyed visiting with a Brazilian gal, former member of our church in Sao Paulo, who had married a Dutchman. We visited their church and discovered it was one of three Baptist churches in their little town. So God still has His people even in that liberal country of Holland.

Marianne Kopanke Bohr ‘58

Once again, your check for \$100.00 came to me. Please accept my heart felt thank you. This helps with our continued ministry with International students and myself in my counseling ministry. The people who need counseling the most are often the ones who can’t afford it. Any money that I do receive, like the \$100.00 from the SCHNAA, goes to buy books. A recent book that I believe will minister to married, about to be married, those thinking divorce or those who have difficulties in their relationships, is *Sacred Marriage* by Gary Thomas.

Pat Shea

637 Atherton Way
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Pat is preparing to serve in the SIM USA medical office in the next state (five miles from SIM International!) three days a week, beginning in July. She’ll help care for SIM US office staff, missionary applicants such as son Alan’s new wife Cheri and missionaries on home assignment. This may require a refresher course to renew her nursing license.



Missionary Nurses at the 2006 Reunion

Shirley (Anderson) Bermudez ‘53

Calle Roger de Lluria 19, 1^o1^a
07014 Palma de Mallorca, Spain

I have no idea how other people like me respond to the alumni checks each summer, but I can tell you they always come when I need them, like a basket of grace. Please convey my gratitude to the association for this remembrance each year that I think is spectacular. I was also the recipient of a scholarship in 1993 which helped to finish my doctorate in Clinical Health Psychology, combining the careers of psychotherapy and nursing.

I came to this beautiful place that is like a large summer resort because my youngest daughter married a Mallorquin. Now the whole family comes here to see us as if the nicest place in the world to take a vacation. When I walk down the avenues of the port front close to my apartment with its multitude of palm trees, vegetation, old and new architecture...I always shed a few tears that once we were told we would someday be in the street. But here I am on a luxury island living with my youngest adopted son in a small apartment with a large patio for potted flowers and garden furniture. My life is a round of receiving and keeping contact with family and old friends, cooking, shopping, reading and just relaxing. Information of the larger world is very important to me because it helps me empathize with the world’s suffering and increases my faith in God...

Update on the Geriatric Nursing Initiative (NICHE)

LAURA LUC GORBY

Geriatric Resource Nurse Group:

Currently there are 2 staff nurses certified through ANCC as geriatric nurses. These 2 nurses and I have created a non-pharmacological sleep protocol for use with older patients. We also designed a monthly roving geriatric journal club that we call Evidence and Edibles. Each month all nurses are invited to discuss a geriatric article on a different nursing unit. The article is pertinent to particular issues related to care of older patients on that unit. Since it is at noon, we share lunch or snacks together too.

There are also 3 staff nurses actively studying to take the geriatric certification exam. They meet with me once per month to go over various areas of study and discuss issues. When these nurses pass the exam, they will become part of the Geriatric Resource Nurse Group.

Power Pudding:

I have been working with Catrine Guzik from nutrition services to design a study related to patient satisfaction with and effectiveness of Power Pudding on constipation. Our design has been approved by the IRB and we will begin to collect data in January 2007. Anecdotally, staff and patients really like the Power Pudding. We give the recipe to patients who have used it upon discharge from SCH. One patient told us that not only does she eat it but “it’s all over the neighborhood.”

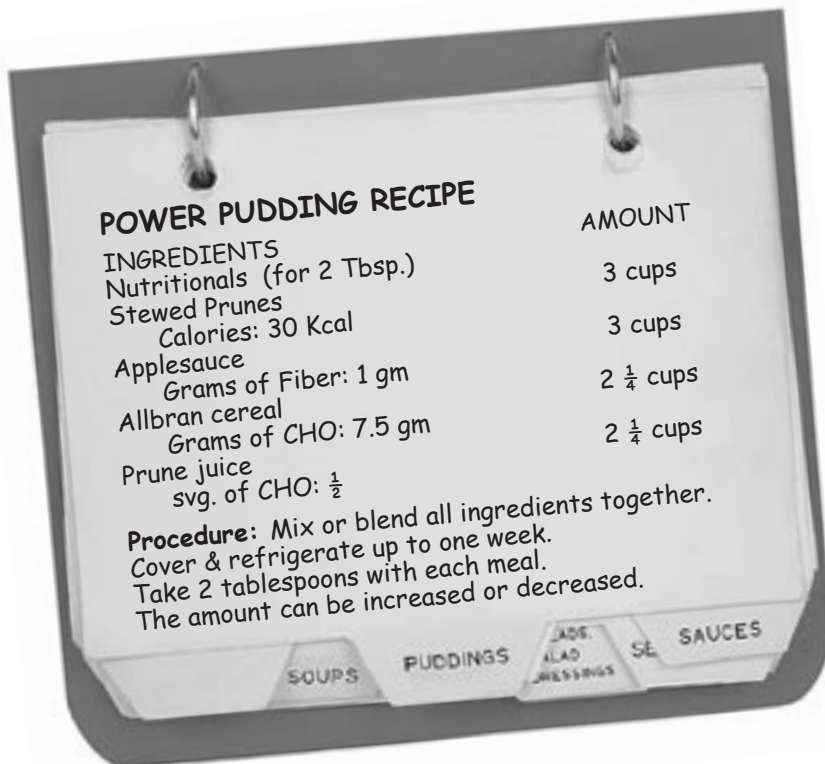
Nursing Clinical Education Day:

I continue to integrate geriatric education into the monthly Nursing Clinical Education Day. Last year the topic was delirium. This year I want to focus on analyzing patient behaviors and creating individual patient interventions which will keep patients out of restraints.

Falls Prevention Program:

Geriatrics is closely linked with Nursing Education in the continued development of the Falls Prevention program. We have been working with nurses on various units to develop strategies to decrease fall occurrences. We have also created a multidisciplinary group (environmental services, engineering, food services, transportation, lab, nursing, legal) which help identify other problems which can contribute to patient falls.

For more information, please contact Laura at (773) 878-8200, Ext. 5679.



SCH Emergency Room Construction Update

Last March, Swedish Covenant Hospital embarked on a journey of expanding and renovating its Emergency Department due to recent increases in emergency room patients since the closings of two other area hospitals, as well as an increasing need for emergency care in northwestern Chicago. The 11,000 square foot expansion will provide increased exam and waiting space, and increased Fast Track exam space to speed care for patients in need of treatment for minor ailments—such as a rash, broken arm, or earache—by providing quick, non-invasive care. A newly designed family waiting area will double the size of the current space, featuring a more home-like atmosphere and a children’s play area. Expanded triage space and ten additional exam rooms will allow patients to be routed more quickly, decreasing the wait times for rooms. This essential initiative will enable the Emergency Department’s outstanding doctors and nurses to continue to deliver the best medical treatment in an



environment designed for optimum care and compassion.

If you are interested in giving to the \$10 million ER Expansion Project or learning more information, please visit www.SwedishCovenant.org or contact the Development Department at 773.878.8200, Ext. 6256.

From the Desk of **Mary Shehan, RN** *Vice President, Nursing*



Journey to Magnet Status

As you know, Swedish Covenant Hospital is currently preparing to apply for the Magnet Recognition Program®, which would recognize the hospital and nursing staff as leaders in nursing care. The program, developed by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), recognizes healthcare organizations that provide the very best in nursing care. It has become the recognized seal of quality for nursing excellence.

This is not an easy process, but our nursing leadership has stepped forward in big and little ways to make this a reality that every staff member, nursing and nonnursing, can take pride in.

During most of the month of May, all 600 hundred nurses on staff here at Swedish Covenant Hospital with direct patient care responsibilities were invited to participate in a voluntary survey. The purpose of the survey was to gauge opinions, as received directly from our nursing staff, on important issues such as job satisfaction and nursing leadership.

The anonymous volunteer survey was returned by more than 62 percent of the nurses who received it—a milestone in and of itself.

Results of the survey are allowing us to look at strategies and actions to make our difficult jobs easier. Just as importantly, we’ll be able to use the feedback to strengthen the voice of nursing throughout the Swedish

Covenant organization.

As the first step on our way to demonstrating our leadership in nursing care through the Magnet Recognition Program®, these surveys have proven to be extremely important.

Following the surveys, we held several sessions on all shifts to communicate the results to all interested nursing staff members. I thank all our nurses who participated with their honest and candid feedback, and I look forward to sharing more results regarding our journey to magnet status with you, the Nursing Alumnae of Swedish Covenant Hospital.



SCHNAA Financial Statement for 2006

Disbursements in 2005:

- I. Missionary Gifts: 37 @ \$100 each
- II. Page in the SCH Benefit Gala Ad Book: \$500
- III. One scholarship for \$750 in June 2005

Dues Received:

2003 – 150
2004 – 186
2005 – 140
2006 – 165

Current Funds:

General Fund: \$12,064.00
Missionary Fund: \$4556.77*
Scholarship Fund: \$3387.15
Darline hasn't any current candidate

NICHE Project:

Goal: \$10,000

We presented a check for:

\$7,000 in 2004
\$1,500 in 2005
\$1,500 in 2006

We are completing the project from the General Fund, but contributions are still welcome.

**This is the account that will be disbursing about 35 missionary gifts of \$100.*

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Cromley Olson '61

Save the Date

Make plans to join us for the 2007 Nursing Alumnae Reunion!

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2007

Breakfast and tours at Swedish Covenant Hospital

Luncheon at Skokie Holiday Inn

Featuring the classes of 1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, and 1967

JEANIE WHITE WHITMAN (Class of 1961) was the most loving people-person I ever knew. She loved people and people loved her. Her passing last November was a loss for all of us. She personified perfectly the beauty of a life fully surrendered to Christ. Material things never mattered to Jeanie, because working for His Kingdom was her passion.

I knew Jeanie as a smile, upbeat Probie. Her vital walk with Christ was evidence in many ways to the rest of us in the dorm. She became class President in her first year, and a member of the Student Council and Religious Activities Committee, as well as being active in the NCF meetings. When she graduated in 1961, she left behind a sparkling testimony.

The following December 22, 1962, she married Neil Whitman, her sweetheart from her home town of Grand Haven, MI, in a church decorated red and green for Christmas. They seemed like sweethearts during all their 44 years of marriage. Two children were born to this blessed union: Dawn and Neil Jr. (better known as Dusty). Neil had a barber shop in Grand Haven, and life was going well for them outwardly. But inwardly, they were not satisfied. In 1973, they had what they call “a revival in our Christian lives.” They expressed it this way: “Up to that time, we were too bogged down with material possessions and things of this world. We wanted our lives to bring honor and glory to God. We no longer wanted to live just for ourselves.” They sold their business, their rental properties, even their home and left for Africa, to see what the Lord had for them. After that 3 month stay, they returned to the US, enrolled in Tennessee Temple University to study to be career missionaries. Neil took Bible and missions courses; Jeanie got a diploma in Christian Education. After those 4 years, they were on their way.

Very sure of their call to return to Africa, they left with their two school-aged

children in May 1979. In Kenya, they did church planting and taught in the Bible School. It was a remote rural location with very little of this world’s comforts. They were isolated, with only one other missy family nearby. The Africans loved them, and constantly were knocking on their door. Many came to know their Christ, and then were discipled. Jeanie loved working with women and kids, and personal discipling was her delight. She was always surrounded by black faces, drawn by her Christlikeness. Besides her numerous ministry demands, she home-schooled their two kids all the way through high school; they loved it for she was an excellent teacher. And most of all, she was the ideal Biblical helpmate for Neil, an invaluable treasure he now misses terribly.

In 1993, Neil and Jeanie moved to Zambia, a country in the south of Africa, doing the same type of ministries—church planting and teaching in the Bible School there. Africans sought her out for counseling as well as personal mentoring. She was a jack-of-all-trades – attending to her home, playing her accordion for services, giving of herself to her disciples and students, always available to any and all. Jeanie loved everything she did!! She always entered whole-heartedly into all challenges the Lord sent her way. That same delightful spirit we all knew years before at SCH characterized her total life.

Jeanie and Neil retired in September 2003 to Sanford, FL where their two grown children and two grandchildren live. Whether in Africa or the US, they served Him with their whole heart and all their energies. Suddenly in November of 2005, Jeanie discovered she had a large, inoperable brain tumor. Her home-going was 5 months later, where she heard “Welcome, well done, good and faithful servant” from the Lord she so beautifully served.

Written by Joyce Houck '59



Jeanie White Whitman and
Joyce Houck

THE *Caring*TIMES

is a publication of Swedish Covenant Hospital's Nursing School Alumnae Association and the Development Department.

Mark Newton, President and CEO

Editor: Tara Anderson

We try to be as accurate as possible with the information that we have available. Please inform us of any misspelled names or inaccuracies by calling (773) 878-8200, Ext. 2492. We value your input.

Please send any class notes or address updates to

Attn: Tara Anderson
Swedish Covenant Hospital
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