When we were young and unseasoned in life, didn't we think, whether 50 years of marriage or 50 years of anything, that those reaching that milestone were elderly and how wonderful that we could celebrate with them. However, when you arrive at such a milestone, you realize age is relative and it is all about perspective. Another important consideration is how we spend the years we are given.

This past October we celebrated the 50th Golden Jubilee of my two friends & classmates - Sister Kathleen McIntyre, RN, '62 & Sister Sharon Ann Walsh, RN '62.

It feels right that I should write and celebrate them because of my privileged witness of what they have given over these 50 years and the differences they have made. How could they ever have predicted the happenings and journey events reaching from 1956 to 2006? Truly we are better off without a looking glass for our life's road and all we need is the grace to say YES! A powerful quote that means so much to me is authored by Ralph Waldo Emerson, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." I think we need a certain number of years

Continued on next page

LCM Alumni Reunion Luncheon 2007
Call Your Classmates ... Reserve A Table!

The Little Company of Mary School of Nursing Alumni Luncheon will be held at the Hilton Oak Lawn on Saturday, October 6. All alumni are invited to attend and take this opportunity to renew friendships with each other. We especially look forward to seeing our Anniversary Classes:

- 1937 (70 yrs), 1942 (65 yrs), 1947 (60 yrs), 1952 (55 yrs), 1957 (50 yrs), 1962 (45 yrs), 1967 (40 yrs), 1972 (35 yrs), 1977 (30 yrs), 1982 (25 yrs)

Gratitude is extended to the Anniversary Classes, especially 1972 & 1957, and the Alumni Board for hosting this reunion and working together to assure a special time for all. Everyone is invited to attend the Mass of Remembrance which takes place in the Hilton's Windsor room prior to the luncheon. It is a prayerful experience and special way to begin our day of celebration.

Celebrant of the Mass:
Fr. Jim Heneghan, Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary, Chicago, Illinois, raised in a large Irish Southside family & well known national speaker on loss and grief.

Musicians:
Andy Perz, Piano
Anna Belle O'Shea, Flute
Peg Schneider, Cantor

Schedule:
Mass of Remembrance 11:00 a.m.
(Hilton Oak Lawn - 9333 S. Cicero Ave.)
Reception 12:00 p.m.
Luncheon and Program 1:00 p.m.
and lived experience to understand the depth of this quotation. Both Sister Kathleen and Sister Sharon Ann entered the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary in 1956. Sister Kathleen was born at LCM and was raised on the Southside. The daughter of Nell and John McIntyre, she is the middle child of three children. She attended St. Leo Grammar School, Mercy High School and then was accepted into Little Company of Mary School of Nursing. Her freshman year in training was put on hold when she decided midway to enter the Little Company of Mary Sisters. Already in the community of LCM Sisters were her three relatives, her aunt Sister Felix Barrett, her two cousins Sister Catherine Barrett,’33, Nora (Sister Kevin) O’Malley,’54.

Sister Sharon Ann was born in Bourbonnais, II to Marguerite and Clifford Walsh and the oldest of four children. Her dad was the Chief Postal Officer in their home town until his retirement. Sister Sharon Ann attended Notre Dame Grammar School and St. Joseph Seminary High School. She, too, had religious in her family and her uncle Father Lawrence was an SVD priest. She began LCM nurses training in fall 1959.

Both Sister Kathleen and Sister Sharon Ann have poignant memories of nurses training. Who can forget the assignments for clinical rotations, team leading, evening and night shifts, Mercyville, NLNS, State Boards to name just a few of the the challenges? The enjoyment of recall with classmates is always delightfully renewed, especially at Anniversary reunions. Over the years I have teased them about their academic class standing - which of them, I would ask, was 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the class? As I posed the question, I already knew the answer. Yet, however amazing their gifted intelligence, more important has been their generosity of dedicated service in leadership during these past 50 years. After completing advanced education at the University of San Francisco (Sister Kathleen) and the University of Iowa (Sister Sharon Ann) - they found themselves serving many years together in Torrance, California, in nursing, as well as directing the spiritual formation of the new candidates to the community.

St. Kathleen returned to Midwest in the early 80's and was appointed to the faculty of Vincennes University School of Nursing. It was a fitting preparation for her assignment to return to Evergreen Park in 1982 to assist Sister Michael Murray, LCM,’38 in directing our School of Nursing until its closure. Five years later she accepted the weighty responsibility as President and CEO of our Evergreen Park Hospital when the Board of Directors gave her a total vote of confidence. They were convinced of her inspiring ability to lead.

Currently, she is the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, as well as the Provincial Leader of the American Province of Little Company of Mary Sisters.

The path of both of their lives during these 50 years has evolved to the 'MORE’ and when Sister Sharon Ann returned to the Midwest in the later 80's, she assumed the leadership of Provincial Leader of the American Province. It was in 1993 when she attended the congregation’s General Chapter, that she was elected Assistant Congregational Leader and moved to the congregation’s headquarters in London, England. For the next six years, her responsibility involved global travel to visit, support, guide Little Company of Sisters missioned throughout the world. She returned to Evergreen Park in 2000 and was welcomed in her new role as a hospital chaplain. Currently she is a Provincial Councilor working closely with her classmate, friend and community member, Sr. Kathleen.

Sister Sharon Ann Walsh, LCM, and Sister Kathleen McIntyre, LCM, are congratulated by friend Reverend Monsignor Kenneth Velo who presided over their Eucharistic Celebration.

“What matters most is what lies within us.”

Emerson

The direction and fullness of both of their lives of service has given credence, I believe to Emerson's words - "What matters is what lies within us." That is what they have trusted and called upon throughout these years. With God's grace and their YES to the gifts they were given, these 50 years have been a gift to everyone.
Have you ever tried to live your life backwards? Work many hours, to get more money, to have more 'things,' so you could do more of what you think will make you happier? Hmmm! I don't think that works. The way it actually works is in the reverse. You first need to discover who you really are within your soul and figure out what is important to you. Then, you can do what you need to do, to have what you want to find happiness.

I was one of those people in a limited sort of way. I worked a lot so we could get the newer furniture, take better vacations, and buy whatever we wanted. I was ambitious, creative, and always looking for recognition and belonging. I didn't need possessions or power. I needed to know me and discover what was important to me. I have a wonderful husband, two beautiful daughters and four (almost six) magnificent grandchildren and a great career. But there was a space in my life that stopped me from feeling truly happy.

I came upon a little Hallmark book called *50 Things That Really Matter*. I made a list: motherhood; loving a wonderful man; summer nights; hugs; courage; a cause to follow; even an 'on time' repairman filled my list as I read this book. I began to experience a flood of memories that helped to fill my void. I began to understand who I really was when I met my “boyfriend.” That was 37 years ago. We have met many times since. Let me tell you how my life has changed since meeting John Kevin Garvey (J.K.) and his family.

The year was 1970. I had returned from my maternity leave after Maria’s birth to work in our LCM NICU. I was assigned to care for a beautiful little boy. His birth history indicated some delivery problems. His cord was knotted and wrapped around his neck. At that time in medical history, ultrasound or fetal monitors were not available or used. If JK had been born six months later, the use of these devices may have changed the path of both him and his family traveled. In the week following his delivery, he had seizures, fluid on the brain and kidney failure. His parents were strong, but he was stronger. With medical interventions and medication, he was able to go home when he was three weeks old.

Challenges for his care were always going to be in his future, but his parents felt ready to take their little boy home. **The diagnosis for JK was Cerebral Palsy with spastic quadriplegia and athetosis (random distortion of muscle mass).**

Ann and Kevin wanted to care for him at home. Suggestions to institutionalize him came from family, doctors and an occasional nurse. His parents rejected this option. Their goal was to remain optimistic and hopeful. With three pre-schoolers, ages 3, 2 and 1, they didn't have time or energy to wallow in self-pity. Because of their passionate commitment to care for their son at home they were able to raise three healthy, successful children who consider JK as a very special brother. Their plan included hard work, sweat, toil, adjustments, family/friend support and faith. I consider myself a part of this family. Along with several of my LCM nurse associates, we were able to help out their home on many occasions. Because JK’s three siblings were born at LCM, his parents returned for follow up at our hospital many times. They always said they loved the doctors and especially the nurses here. I did not get to see my 'boyfriend' again for several years. He had changed! This 4-year-old boy was still beautiful, but there were problems. He could not sit up independently. He could not speak. His athetoid body was becoming more contracted which compromised his breathing. Seizures continued - He was mentally alert but disabled beyond the six-month level.

Ann and Kevin were the parents we would want for all of our pediatric patients. They worked hard to get the best care for their son. They researched care options, sought out the best doctors and returned to LCM with a plan every time JK needed to be admitted.

When his increasing contracture hampered his breathing, resulting in many episodes of pneumonia, they found surgeons who improved the quality of his life by straightening his spine to open up his chest space and make his work of breathing easier.

When swallowing and choking became a problem, they requested a feeding tube so he would be nourished. During his many hospitalizations, his brothers and

*continued on page 4*
A Family’s Faithful Care and our Hospital Responds!

Continued from page 3

sister were encouraged to visit. When they were there with him, I could see his face light up in recognition. It has been exciting to see the love this family has given to John Kevin. This is important to me. It showed me how precious even a fragile life is. Parent love can surpass all obstacles.

There was a time in those early days when I questioned their "interference" in JK’s care. I wondered why they chose to put him through so many painful procedures. He had many problems and I wasn’t able to see a quality to his life. One day, I observed them from a distance. I watched Kevin slowly lift his son to his lap. He rocked him and talked to him for almost an hour. I watched Ann fuss over him, straightening his clothes, wiping his mouth, getting him to smile. (They continue to do this every time he is a patient, and he is 36 years old.) I saw him get excited and laugh when his brothers and sister came to visit him. He seemed to recognize my voice and sometimes respond with a smile. My associates in Pediatrics invented games for his enjoyment like "Kick the Can" or "Flick the Light" which always elicits his gleeful laughter.

I spoke to Ann about the choices they made throughout the years for his care. She told me that her son was no different than her other children. He is a soul in need of care and nurturing, just like the others. The interventions they chose were not life saving but made his life easier, better. Their lives are difficult because of these choices. Kevin, an attorney, was turned down for a position because the firm felt that he would not be as available with a handicapped child at home. I am in awe of this family. God gifted them with a son whose body is flawed but whose spirit is pure. They envelope him in love and he returns his love in so many ways. God gifted John Kevin with parents and siblings who saw beyond the flaws and found a human being. God gifted the nurses in Pediatrics with the opportunity to work with and love a young man who has taught us so much. He is really a boyfriend to all of us.

Ann shared some of her feelings about returning to LCM and the choices she and Kevin have made. "We have always been blessed with good insurance for JK’s medical needs. We wanted the best professionals to care for him. We needed to adjust our own personalities to get, sometimes to demand, that our son receive the best care possible. At times he needed extensive orthopedic interventions which were handled at other larger hospitals. We always found ourselves comparing the nursing care at other institutions with that at LCM. We found out that LCM always comes out on top! Over the years we have gotten to know the nurses and staff at this hospital and always feel like we are as special to them as they are to us. It is important, when you have a special needs child, to have people who can be there for you through all that this complicated life brings. Many nurses were new LCM grads when JK arrived and they are still there.

We have all grown up together. We wouldn’t dream of switching hospitals. We know and appreciate a good thing.”

My life is so abundant with the simple pleasures of family and friends and the spiritual values have, easily within my reach. I love my job. Every day in my department at Little Company of Mary enriches me. There is so much to discover, a problem to resolve, a task to complete, a boyfriend to love.

---

Little Company of Mary Alumni Nurse Scholarship Award 2008

Applications for the coming year of 2008 are now being accepted until December 2007. To obtain an application and the criteria papers, please contact:

The objective of the scholarship program is to provide monetary assistance for alumni and relatives of alumni beginning or continuing their nursing careers through approved educational courses at accredited institutions.

Mary Cronin,
Secretary of LCM Nurse Alumni Association
2800 W. 95th Street
Evergreen Park, IL 60805
708-229-5066
Remember the excitement of a new home or apartment? Fresh paint, bright shining floors, so much space you just didn't think you'd ever find enough 'stuff' to put in all those closets and cabinets. Well, four areas of the hospital have just had a recent transformation.

**Endoscopy Center**

The G.I. Lab, now referenced as the "Endoscopy Center" has arrived to its new 'home' on the ground floor, which once upon a time was the old emergency room. Inviting blends of colors and rich, warm paneling accents, make it a less intimidating place for patients and their families. Expanded procedure rooms and suites make those close quarters of yesterday, a thing of the past. The work of this department has expanded over the years. The comfort of our patients; the new location for ease of entry into the hospital; as well as the professional satisfaction of our doctors in providing a 'state of the art' facility, was the priority of its relocation and renovation.

**The Doctors' Lounge and Library**

The Doctors' Lounge and library received a much needed face-lift. Better lighting, space for dictating as well as improved computer access, allows for physicians and the medical staff to complete their records as well as participate in the functions of the hospital and surrounding communities. It offers a comfortable space for quality of time and visits with physician colleagues. Its comfortable sitting area offers an opportunity to relax after hospital rounds; have a snack or beverage before heading to begin office hours or catch up on their mail and reports.

**Behavioral Health**

When patients come to our Behavioral Health Outpatient Services for treatment of depression or addiction, the atmosphere of welcome and warmth means a great deal to them and enhances their courage to accept needed help. This department has a new home on the 5th Floor (many alumni will remember it as 5th Floor Surgical) and the staff is delighted that this new area provides adequate space for the variety of services of this department, i.e., therapy, spirituality, AA, EA, NA, dual-diagnosis groups and the many ways the program addressed the holistic needs of the patients.

**Pediatrics**

How scary for a little child to be wheeled up to Pediatrics to be admitted as a patient, but then how relaxed and exciting as they think that they have just arrived at LCM'S Brookfield Zoo. The totally family-sensitive & colorful motif is a brilliantly portrayed menagerie.

Elephants, monkeys, hippos, birds of every description are just a few of the animals that decorate every inch of wall, creating a delightful and welcoming animal world. From the minute you step off the elevator and enter Peds you are welcomed and surrounded by the new decor. It is the hospital's best hope that this friendly environment will calm the fears that often accompany admitting a child to Pediatrics. The department also provided a parent room complete with microwave, refrigerator, free internet access for research and lounging chairs. For the often long hours at the bedside of their sick child, this is a wonderful backdrop for the incredible care offered by our nurses and physicians.
"It is both amazing and humbling to think that more than a quarter of a century has passed since I first became a nurse. Where has the time gone? I can honestly say I have never regretted this career choice decision I made so long ago. Nursing has never been a job to me. I feel in awe each day of the great responsibility we each carry. We are truly blessed as a profession. We have the ability to make such a positive difference in the lives of others. Isn't it truly amazing that our patients and their families place so much trust and confidence in us? We have the opportunity to touch the lives of others with our hands as well as our hearts. I think about each of these things each time I place my stethoscope around my neck to start another day as a nurse. "I think of the many doors that have been open to me because of my profession.

Eight years ago I spent several weeks in Kenya traveling through the bush administering to the Masai tribal people. We traveled to several different villages and practiced under the most rudimentary of conditions. Dirt floors, makeshift dwellings (usually not much more then a one room building constructed of sticks and mud) and only the donated supplies we had brought with us. No labs. No X-ray machines. No operating room. No doctors. The majority of Africans who attended our medical clinics had traveled on foot, some for as many as 50 miles. Their needs and wants were so very simple compared to the complexities of care in our country. We had the opportunity to meet a few Kenyan nurses who invited us into their hospitals. We saw for ourselves what a professional day in their lives entailed. How little supplies and equipment they had. How much of the decision making was up to them as the presence of doctors was very rare. Back then a Kenyan nurse made $140 a month plus he/she was given a one room dwelling to share with another nurse. I look forward to hearing from anyone who has participated in a medical mission trip. I would love to hear the details of your trip.

(9106 E. Hobart Street, Mesa, Arizona, 85207)

I have worn many hats during my nursing career. The one I truly have enjoyed is that of bedside caregiver. I have absorbed massive amounts of knowledge and learned skills too numerous to count along the way. By far the most valuable of all has been taught to me by my patients. I think of the many mentors (patients as well as nursing peers) I have had over the years. I am so very grateful to each of them for all they have selflessly shared with me. I think of the many friends I made while working there at LCM. I hope that each of them are feeling the same about nursing as I am. I hope that each of you has as many stories to tell and as many memories to recall."

Little Company of Mary Hospital Choir - Command Performance!

It was a long time dream of Dennis Reilly, President/CEO (Husband of Christine Mrowca Reilly, '76) that the hospital have it's own choir. Clearly aware that there was plenty of discovered and undiscovered talent and enthusiasm on 95th Street, the call (e-mail) went out seeking interested singers. Not only was the response positive, but the new choir represented many departments and voice qualities that singing in parts was a given. For our debut, what better occasion then in 2005, the 75th Anniversary of the Hospital. Since that time, invitations have been plentiful. In the fall the choir sang for the opening of the Annual Assembly of CHA/Catholic Health Association. Soon after the choir was privileged to sing for the 50th Jubilee Mass for Sister Kathleen McIntyre, '62

And, we learned about and treated diseases one never encounters in the USA.

On June 20, the choir headed to Navy Pier to sing at the MCHC/ Metropolitan Chicago Hospital Council Luncheon. Under the organization of Mary Jo Quick, RN, Mission Coordinator and Mr. Andy Perz, a masterful Choir Director, the spirit and love of music is alive and the choir's repertoire is expanding, as well as its membership.
Mary Viola French Hansen, '35 - Her son, Ken Hansen, former Chief Operating Officer at our hospital, wrote from Florida to share that his mom had died this past year. That was very sad news for the Alumni to receive. Our earlier conversations with her about the beginning days at the School of Nursing were so engaging. It was the Alumni Boards delight to invite Mary Viola and her classmate, Sarah Farley McGrane & their families to be our guests for the Alumni Luncheon in 2001. We were certain that celebrating their 65th Anniversary made them our SENIOR Nurse Alumnae.

Sarah Farley McGrane, '35, Yorktown, Va. - Her nephew, Fr. Dennis O'Neill, shared that Sarah is in very poor health and bedridden. She lives with her husband 'Dr. Mac' McGrane. On the occasion of Mary Viola Hansen's and Sarah's 70th Anniversary (2005) as LCM Nurse Alumni, flowers were sent to both of them.

Mary Gartner Dean,'46 Grand Rapids, Mich. - "What a marvelous incentive and financial aid for these young people beginning or advancing in their education in the nursing field. My congratulations to you for the vision and generosity in the promotion of nursing excellence." (Christine McKeiver, a scholarship recipient, is the granddaughter of Mary & great niece of Anne Gartner Sims '55).

Mary Jane O'Sullivan, '47, Evergreen Park, Ill. - "Enjoyed the AlumniLink! The Class of 55 were great nurses and fun-loving. In the earlier years we had monthly meetings. The note about Jane Clark reminded me of the fun night the Class of 55 entertained us. Jane actually washed her hair in the bucket. I can still see her stretching her body to the floor up and down as her classmates sang. The AlumniLink brings back many memories. Keep it coming!"

Shirley Czosek Borhauer, '48, Bella Vista, Ark. - "Always happy to get the AlumniLink and read what the alumni are up to. I would like to hear more about the Class of 48. As for me, I am finishing my 3rd term as an Arkansas State Representative. Am term limited, so rather then retire, I'm running for City Council. I got a bill passed last session to make it easier to vote to become a city. Wish me luck. Nurses - run for office, we need you!"

Mary Miller Nelson, '48, Crown Point, Ind. - "Have been living in Indiana for 20 years and retired from Methodist Hospital. Have a daughter, Laurie Nelson Miller, RN, who graduated from LCM also. She manages a Pediatric Dept. at St. AlexiS Hospital in Schaumburg, IL. I'm a mother of five and a grandma of 15 and a great grandma of almost three. I ask the dear Lord to continue to bless LCMH."

Margaret (Peggy) McCabe, '49, Glendale, Ariz. "I am writing to your organization because I received the announcement of your reunion luncheon sent to Peggy McCabe. Peggy is now living at 7886 W. Pine, Glendale, AZ, 85308. This is an assisted living facility. Peg lived alone most of her life. I met her in 1997. We became great friends. She had her home in Sun City, Az. In April 2005 she had a stroke. She was never the same again. She then received care in a nursing home. I took her out of the nursing home on June 2nd 2005. I brought her home and cared for her until August 17, 2006. She has Parkinson's disease and it had progressed to the point that I just could not handle her any longer. I am 84 years old. I hope you will relay this information to her classmates. She always had such great memories of Little Company of Mary Hospital."

Sincerely, William P. Marchino, Sun City West, Arizona

Julie Eigelsbach Scott, '49, Seattle, Wash. - "I volunteer at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center."

Gladys Dubrick Linsenbardt, '50, Las Vegas, Nev. - "I feel bad that there is never any news about my class, but I still enjoy the "Link." I'd give my eyes and teeth to be able to come back there for a luncheon."
Elizabeth Juszczyk Mientus, '51, Chicago, Ill. - "Enjoy the news and especially the photos. Wishing everyone good health and happiness. P.S. Love and respect to all of the good LCM Sisters."

Marion Stoller Walles, '51, Mokena, Ill. - "As always I read the AlumniLink on it's arrival. Thank you! I retired in '95 after working 13 yrs. At the residence of the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Frankfort, but they kept me in their computer & I've been a 'fill in' 1-2 days a week at the motherhouse infirmary. It's great! My big family with 17 grandchildren (many live near), volunteering at St. Mary's (funeral luncheons) & the Sister's huge garage sale, some traveling and quilting keeps me busy. I'm sorry to have missed the luncheon. Pat Allen, Mary Zita O'Shea and I had a vacation treat to New England."

Virginia Schomig Krass, '51, Arbdale, Wis. - "Hi to all of my classmates. Can next year really be our 55th? Pray God we can see some dear old friends at that reunion."

Shirley Rodemeyer Glinke, '52, North Port, Fla. - Shirley's cousin, Richard Myers, was awarded an LCM Nurse Alumni Scholarship and these are his words after attending the 2006 luncheon. "Please cascade this to the LCM Nurse Alumni Scholarship Committee that I had the great fortune of meeting a week ago. Both my wife and I were very pleased to be in the company of a very dynamic and close-knit group, such as the LCM Nurse Alumni. With the history on the screen and the historians surrounding us, it was easy to see and feel what makes this group a very special one. It was our honor to be your guests and both my wife and I extend gratitude to the Association and for the pleasant time we had in your company."

Marie Vilona Wilt, '52, McHenry, Ill. - Enjoy the newsletter. I am an active member of the McHenry Civil War Round table and give talks on Civil War Nursing and Dress. I'm also a Landmark Commissioner for the city of McHenry. Celebrating our 50th Anniversary.

Eileen Lundy Collins, '54, Crestwood, Ill. - "What a beautiful tribute to Betty DeTamble. Barb 'Murphy' Rooney & myself were active with the Alumni and we could not have done it without Betty's help. Also, 'Kudos' to all of you who have kept the alumnae tradition going on."

Patt Reidy Stapleton, '54, Crestwood, Ill. - "I thoroughly enjoy receiving the AlumniLink, especially this last issue. It was great to see the pictures of the Class of 55 celebrating their 50th Anniversary. I knew and liked so many girls in their class. Several classmates and I still meet monthly for lunch. Friendships forged in nurses training are forever."

Mary Huppenthal Mazzocco, '55, Mesa, Ariz. - "Yes, I'm still volunteering with Mesa P.D. and Banner Health Care Wellness Program as well as Mesa Community College. I've cut back on travel due to back problems but do plan on visiting a brother in Virginia this fall and the Midwest next year. I do enjoy games, reading and soduko."

An AlumniLink Story - Mary Huppenthal Mazzocco, '55
"About a week ago I had a message left on my phone from Joanne Lepley Rupprecht, Class of 56 - saying she saw my name in the AlumniLink and thought we might be neighbors. I returned the call and yes, we are almost neighbors living one mile apart and where we both moved about 9 years ago. Not only are we almost neighbors, we attend the same Church, though different Masses. I called her this evening to set up a date to meet and have lunch - in our conversation we discovered we knew some of the same people from Church, at which time I shared I had gone to Mass last evening with one of these women, at which time she said, "I did too, I was in the same pew with her." And I couldn't believe it as I said, "So was I." Yes, there were two women at the end of the pew that I did not know, but now look forward to meeting Joanne next Wednesday for lunch. P.S. "It is a small world- Mesa has a population of over 400,000 people and has many Catholic Churches and we ended in the area wonderful and amazing."
Joanne Lepley Rupprecht, ’56, Mesa, Ariz. - "It's been 15 years since I saw anyone from my class. It was the time of our 35th Anniversary and I was able to come. Since then I have retired (was working in home health for 15 years) and moved to Arizona in 97. Since my husband died two years ago, I am moving to New Mexico where I have family - as soon as I have finished radiation for treatment of breast cancer. I am feeling well and am maintaining a positive outlook."

Lorraine Berg Alexander, ’57, Pensacola, Fla. - "I graduated in 1957, so our 50th Anniversary is this year and I plan to be there. If you send out a newsletter prior to then, I would like to give some information to my nurse friends who I haven't seen since our 25th. I am presently living in Pensacola, Florida, where my husband Bill and I are retired. In 1975 when we were living in Tacoma, Wash., and living at Ft. Lewis where my husband was stationed in the Dental Corps, I took a refresher course and went back to work after the last of our five children was 11 years old. I worked in geriatrics and surprised myself by really liking it. After his retirement we moved to Jackson, MS where he taught at the Dental School and I was Director of Nursing at two different nursing homes in that 16 year period. Now for the past 12 years, I have been the Chair of the Volunteers at the Naval Hospital. It's always good to hear from my classmates. I hope to see all of you in '07."

Audrey McGuire Munin, ’58, Dallas, Tex. - "Congratulations to the Class of 1956. My Sister, Joan McGuire Poots, ’56, will be there to celebrate her 50 yrs. Living so far away - AlumniLink helps keep me in touch with my classmates from 1958. I love the pictures and look forward to my 50th Reunion."

Helen Anne Walsh Marbury, ’58, Temecula, Calif.- "Alive and well. I love living in the West. I'm now retired and loving it. My best to all."

Cecily Prieve Higgins, ’59, Allegany, N.Y.- "Enjoy all the pictures."

Collette Delaney Kelly Goble, ’60, Rockford, Ill. -" Please let me know how I can order the cap charm in yellow gold and see it, if possible."

Joanne Dinga Wentz, 61, Whispering Pines, N.C. - "Greetings from a small village in N.C. Enjoy the AlumniLink and the news and photos."

Christine Dubiel Lovero, ’62, Bolingbrook, Ill. - "Always good to hear wonderful news about LCM and the terrific nurses and their accomplishments. We are blessed."

Marilyn Lolli Vybiral, ’62, Suring, Wis. - I was able to receive a B.A. in Healthcare Management in the late 80's. Continue to work part-time in a small nursing home and enjoy it. We have ten grandchildren and one great grand child. I still enjoy snowmobiling, hunting, fishing and gardening. Mom is still alive and will be 91 year's young. She has a 93-year-old gentleman friend."

Mary Ciszek Bourne Collo, ’65, Phoenix, Ariz. - "Hiked Machu Picchu, Peru in August 2006 - what an exhilarating 'high'. Working full time- doing a diabetic study to end summer of 2009 and begin my retirement. Trying to keep work and relaxation balanced."

Michaelleen Cahill Fisher, ’70 Our family is very grateful for your generosity. Emily is an energetic, enthusiastic and hard working person. I know she will make all of you proud." (Emily was awarded a 2007 LCM Nurse Scholarship).

Mary Kay Welter, ’72, McHenry, Ill. - "Still working full time at Northern Illinois Medical Center in McHenry."

Kim Piotrowski Opalacz, ’82, Tinley Park, Ill. - "Thank you for the great job that you do - I'm eager to invite an instructor(s) and Mrs. Jablonski to our next year's 25th Anniversary."

Mary Ellen Jacher Lyons, ’83, Ingleside, Ill. - "In September 2006, I made the move out of the city to the Chain of Lakes."
Karen Hagemaster - Granddaughter of Deloris Meinhart Hagemaster, '53

"What a wonderful surprise when I received your note that I was a recipient of a scholarship from Little Company of Mary Nurse Alumni Association. Your generosity will help me to realize my dream of acquiring a bachelor of science degree from Northern Illinois University. Your kindness is greatly appreciated and will long be remembered."

Following this semester, I have three more to finish, and I am certainly looking forward to the day when I can be back as a financial contributor to my family once again. Thank you for your generosity in helping us get through.

Richard Myers - Cousin of Shirley Rodemeyer Glinke, '52

"I am extremely grateful for your help in getting through my program at Western Michigan University. This award could not have come at a better time. My wife's position at the local pharmaceutical company was eliminated recently. The scholarship helped us immensely in weathering some hard economic times in the state of Michigan."

Emily Fisher, Daughter of Michaelene Cahill Fisher, '70

"Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of the LCM Nurse Alumni Scholarship. It is an honor to be recognized for my hard work and dedication in my years at the College of Nursing at Marquette University. I am extremely passionate about nursing and am confident I will excel in my nursing career."

The 2006 Reunion hosted by the Class of 1956 and the untiring devotion of Gloria Falbo Adamonis, '56, (pictured), and the generous help of the Class of 1961, was months in preparation for our annual gathering. The Mass of Remembrance, was celebrated in the Windsor Room by Fr. Bill Kenneally, (pictured pg. 13) Pastor Emeritus of St. Gertrude's on Chicago's northside and long time friend of Marie McFadden Ruff, '56. The room was filled to full capacity. Fr. Bill affirmed in his homily the deep appreciation he has for Little Company of Mary Hospital, where he has received his healthcare for many years. His personal experiences as a patient facing serious illnesses, had only confirmed in him the significant contribution woman have made to our nursing profession, as well as to the world. He was so generous and effusive in his remarks, that at one point he said, "I guess I had better stop while I'm ahead." Many of the Class of 55 participated in the liturgy. After the Mass everyone gathered into the Astoria Grand Ballroom for the Reception. The delight of greeting classmates, not seen for many years, gave great hilarity and raised the noise level significantly. The luncheon was nicely prepared and enjoyed. A beautiful fall flower arrangement adorned every table. The gift presented to each alumni was a book that the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary had commissioned to be authored by Merrie Ann Nall, entitled WOMEN OF HOPE - The Story of the Little Company of Mary Sisters in America. For many alumni, especially of the early years, they will find poignant accounts of the courage and vision of the Sisters. The Anniversary Classes out did themselves in providing a full back table with over 25 wonderful gifts. It was a delight for many to have their winning number called and be able to claim their prize. Nancy Rita Means Kaz, '62 and Chair of our LCM Board of Representatives, always has the challenge every year to gain the attention of the alumni for the program. She not only shared the accomplishments of the Alumni Association over the year, but also introduced two of our three scholarship winners. Richard Myers, nominated by his cousin of Shirley Rodemeyer Glinke, RN, '52 and Molly Flaherty, daughter of Sara Nestlehut Flaherty, RN, '61. The pictures shown in the next pages will give you a glimpse of the enjoyment shared by all who attended LCM Nurse Alumni Luncheon 2006.

2006 LCM Scholarship Winners

Richard Myers
Molly Flaherty
2006 LCM NURSE ALUMNI REUNION

PRIZE WINNERS

Carol Johnson Kurucar, '57
Sonicare Toothbrush

Helen Byrne Brett, '55
with Laverne Strelecky
Koch, '56 Nurse Lladro
Statue

Sally Deacon Faucher,
'61 Personalized LCM T-
Shirt

Rosella Nibaur Walters, '57
LCM Cap Pendant and Chain

Sarah Nestlehut Flaherty, '61
$100 Cash Prize

Genevieve Majerus
O'Connell,
'53 Wine
Caddy w/2
Bottles of
Wine

Kathy Riordan
full '66
Waterford
Crystal
Candy
Dish

Mary Alice Egan
Higgins, '44 Navy
Blue Travel Blanket

Mary Cronin, Sec. LCM Alumni
Holiday Candle Collection

Gloria Skvarce Askew, '62
Lenox Winter Candy Dish

Barb Malinowski Bertucci,
'58 Framed Christmas
Original Art by Evelyn Flynn

Sharon Ochota
Madderon, '66
Handmade
Gingerbread House

Elizabeth Berg Spannraft,
'70 clutches her new Vera
Bradley-Black Floral Bag

Helen Hogan Flynn, '56
$100 Cash Prize

Jackie Vinlove King,
'56 Split the Pot of
Gold Winner

Mary Brown Randich,
'56 "Hurry, win a
prize."

Mary Cronin, Sec. LCM Alumni
Holiday Candle Collection

Gloria Skvarce Askew, '62
Lenox Winter Candy Dish

Barb Malinowski Bertucci,
'58 Framed Christmas
Original Art by Evelyn Flynn

Sharon Ochota
Madderon, '66
Handmade
Gingerbread House

Elizabeth Berg Spannraft,
'70 clutches her new Vera
Bradley-Black Floral Bag

Helen Hogan Flynn, '56
$100 Cash Prize

Jackie Vinlove King,
'56 Split the Pot of
Gold Winner

Mary Brown Randich,
'56 "Hurry, win a
prize."
Class of 1966

Front: Sr. Kathy Scott, Kathy Riordan Full, Pat Golaz Webster
Back: Sharon Ochoa Madderson, Kathy Govert Schmidt, Janet Boland Reed

Class of 1957 & 1958

Seated: Barbara Mattinson Bertucci, ’58, Dorothy Stefanis
Augustyniak, ’58, Diane Mazurski, Kruczyk, ’58, Violet Nibaur Hucy, ’58
Standing: Barbara Gavin Murphy, ’58, Marilyn Ryan Dorgan, ’57, Rosella Nibaur Walters, ’57

Class of 1959

Seated: Marilyn Malone McDonald, Edna Wooding Standing: Roselynn Kreher Wosniak, Ann Heineberry Foley, Mary Ross McCormack, Maureen Lynne McCarthy, Carmella Forlenza McCurrie

Class of 1955

Front: Florence Sliska Nicola, Barb Fleming Gieserich, Joanne Janowski Barowsky, Maureen Cahill McAuliffe, Helen Byrne Brett Standing: Florence Smeskai Lundy, Barb Hopkins Higgins, Anne Garrett Sims, Pat Hennelly Mulloney
Wishing all alumni a peaceful and joyous year!
To all of our Nurse Alumni

We are always so grateful for your generous donations and the timely return of your yearly dues. It is solely because of these funds that we are able to offer these scholarships.

Eleanor A. DeLucia
Chairperson and LCM Nurse Alumni Scholarship Award Committee
Mass of Remembrance

Nancy Means Kaz, ’62, Welcome and Call to Worship

Eucharistic Minister: Edna Wooding, ’59 offering Wine to Mary Jane O’Sullivan, 47’


Fr. Bill Kenneally, Celebrant Offering Eucharist

Carol Doyle Heenan, ’69 Lector

Andy Perz & Anna Belle O'Shea
We Want to Hear From You

Please contact us so we can stay in touch with you. Annual dues for 2007 are $15. Please mail as soon as possible. For those attending the October 6 Alumni Reunion Luncheon, dues will be accepted with registration or at time of luncheon.

Please PRINT
Name: ___________________________ Maiden Name: _________________________ Class: ____________
Street Address: ___________________________ State: _________________________ ZIP: __________
City: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
News or Comments: _____________________________________________________________

Please return your valuable news, comments and dues to:
Little Company of Mary Nurse Alumni Association ● 2800 W. 95th Street ● Evergreen Park, IL 60805

AlumniLink is an annual publication of the Little Company of Mary Alumni Nurses Association. Please notify us if your address has changed.

Leadership: Little Company of Mary Nurses Alumni Board of Representatives - Nancy Means Kaz '62, Chairperson
Logo Design: Mark Scott, artist and teacher
Layout Design: Elida Solis, Public Relations and Marketing at Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers
Newsletter Committee: Peg Schneider, Chairperson, ‘62; Janet Tuohy Terra, ‘65; Mary Demchuk Gulley, ‘78

Paid
Postage
Paid
by
Organization
U.S.
Postage
Authorized