



Beyond the Cap

M G H N U R S E S ' A L U M N A E A S S O C I A T I O N , I N C

Produced by the MGH Nurses' Alumnae Association, Inc. P. O. Box 6234 Boston MA 02114
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*Alumnae Board/
Committee Chairs*
2019-2020

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Message from the NAA President

Greetings,

The MGHNAA Board has had a busy 6 months planning for Homecoming 2019, working with our consultant, Kathy Plazak, and preparing for the planning retreat held on October 19, 2019. Homecoming this year was a success. The altered format seemed to work well, and was enhanced by our speaker, Elizabeth Maclellan, class of 1976, the founder of Partners for World Health, whose talk was very positively received. The Board will be considering having a speaker at next year's Homecoming. Suggestions from members for a speaker are most welcome.

I want to extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone who responded to our recent survey. We had 45% return from active members and 25% from inactive members. Fantastic response! Your feedback was reviewed by the members of the NAA Board at the Planning Retreat. It provided us with information we needed to shape our future mission and vision, a work still in progress.

Unfortunately, some member's surveys were returned by the post office due to an address change. It is important to inform the NAA when you have moved to continue receiving BTC and/or *The Record* in the future. If you have an email, it would be important to add your email address as well.

At the Planning Retreat, the Board developed an expanded mission statement and restructuring plan for the Board and Committees. In Addition, we are planning to redesign our web site in the future for ease paying dues, voting, receiving NAA news, Homecoming registration, plus more. There will be a lot of interesting and exciting changes to report in future publications, particularly in *The Record* in March 2020. Note that only active members receive *The Record*.

If you have been a dues-paying member in the past and would like to rejoin, you simply need to send in your dues payment. The NAA keeps every past and present member's information in a database. The Annual Business Meeting at Homecoming on September 26, 2020 you can expect to vote on all the changes to the by-laws recommended by the Board. The NAA needs both your financial and volunteer support. Dues are our primary income source. Please consider paying dues as a way to support the NAA. We do need to increase our volunteer numbers to assist with the implementation and maintenance of the association's mission and vision.

Those members who responded in the surveys as interested in volunteering will be contacted. The Board is proposing some of the volunteering can be done from home. If interested, contact the NAA office, or via email for more information. Coming up will be the planning for the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the MGH School of Nursing in 2023.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

Best,
Ann Quealy
President
MGHNAA



Visit us on the Web at: mghsonalumnae.org
Email us at: mghnursealumnae@Partners.org
Send news to the NAA either by email or to P O Box 6234 Boston MA 02114

Message From the Editor

Greetings,

The organization feels hectic with more projects and fewer volunteer hours, especially as we try to streamline operations. One of our President's initiatives has been to bring a focus to the future of the organization and to consider various options. This led to the survey and subsequent NAA Board retreat which were enlightening and helpful. A full report will appear in *The Record* in March.

As editor of all of our publications and current keeper of the database I fervently request that if you have email and think we don't have it please email the office: mghnursealumnae@partners.org so we'll be current. Ditto for a class representative or address change. Susan Fisher '66

What's New

NAA News

Once again, Homecoming was a great success, highlighted by **Elizabeth McLellan's** ('76) presentation about her Portland, ME based company, **Partners for World Health**, their work in New England and "medical missions" to Bangladesh and other countries. Their website: partnersforworldhealth.org

The survey many of you completed recently has been analyzed by our consultant. A full report will appear in *The Record* but very briefly, interest in and support of the organization and its mission remains very strong among those who responded.

Donations of \$5000. were voted to both IHP (annual fundraiser) and the MGH Department of Nursing (Endowment Fund).

MGH News

Marianne Ditomassi, Executive Director of Nursing & Patient Care Services Operations, reported to the membership at Homecoming some interesting facts about the hospital. Does the MGH hire new grads? Yes. Starting salary? \$32.50/hr (raise coming soon). Number of students of all types affiliating at MGH? 2500. One major hospital issue currently? Medication & supply shortages, especially heparin (made in China) and IVIG. Growth area? New categories of nursing administration such as Directors for Advanced Practice Providers, Innovation and Associate Chief Nurse covering Ambulatory Care Nurse Practitioners. She also mentioned that the White and Wang lobbies will be undergoing renovation soon.

IHP News

Inez Tuck, Dean of the IHP School of Nursing, resigned her position at the start of the school year. **Elaine Tagliareni**, RN, has been appointed interim Dean for the current year.

Our four scholarships were presented by Board members at ceremonies in August and October, 2019.

The IHP magazine informs us that the Institute has just launched a Master of Science in Genetic Counseling program, a 21 month course of study with 20 students in its first class. Also noted in the same magazine were the dedication of the Ruth Sleeper Nursing Center for Clinical Education and Wellness made possible in part through a donation from **May Chin** class of 1958 and her husband, Tom) and the Marjorie K. Ionta Center for Clinical Educational and Health Promotion. Both giants in their fields (Sleeper in Nursing and Ionta in Physical Therapy) they were long-time heads of their departments at MGH and both part of the formative years of the IHP.

History/Archives News

The Nursing History Committee has purchased an institutional membership in the American Association for the History of Nursing, paid for jointly by the NAA and the MGH Department of Nursing. This gives us four memberships, whose benefits include their quarterly journal and discounted tickets to their annual conference being held next year in England to honor the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth.

We are in the early stage of planning to submit an article for consideration for posting in the *Online Journal of Issues in Nursing* (ojin.nursingworld.org), a publication of the ANA which is devoting its Spring issue to nursing history.

Sadly, the long-time chair person of our group and our friend, Georgia Peirce, has left the MGH Nursing Department. We miss her unique skills and the good energy she has always brought to our table, as well as her expertise. The Committee will now be co-chaired by Marianne Ditomassi of Nursing and Sarah Alger of the Russell Museum and is open to new members if you have interest.

Tech Notes

Membership application and Homecoming registration forms now are available on our website, mghsonalumnae.org

We still struggle to become technologically competent. It seems by the time we learn one thing something new has replaced it! Our member database has been updated and we have email addresses on more than 80% of active members, which will greatly aid communication. If your class does not have a representative please identify someone who can be a contact person and let us know. A good many (over 90) of our recent mailings were returned indicating a different or unknown address. We have attempted to contact everyone to confirm the address and for those who did not respond we have simply entered the address the post office gave us as current. You may not receive mailings if our information is not current.

~ ~ ~ Spotlight ~ ~ ~

MGH SON Magnolia Tree

Magnolia
Gift of the last class of the
Massachusetts General Hospital School of Nursing
(1873-1981)
upon their graduation, May 29, 1981



These photos show the Magnolia tree (L) at the time of planting in 1981 (from the *MGH Hotline*) and (R) in Spring, 2019. Can you recognize Miss Craig and Miss Keely at left in the 1981 photo? Reliable sources tell us that Miss Keely, in her nineties, still walks Revere Beach every morning. The plaque, a gift of the MGH Department of Nursing, was installed just prior to Homecoming in September. The tree will receive a comprehensive evaluation from the tree doctor with possible surgical pruning in its future. Many thanks to the class of '81 - it does feel good to go by and notice the tree.

Dues Note

Dues are \$30.00 per calendar year. Some members prefer to pay with their homecoming registration; some pay at the end of the calendar year; and some even pay more than once. It has been confusing at the office which year to assign payment for. Kindly note on your payment coupon the year for which you are paying.

Dues Reminder

Annual dues of \$30.00 makes you an active member of the association. Membership benefits include *The Record*, which is our annual magazine, two issues of this newsletter, *Beyond the Cap*, ready access to the association's scholarship and loan funds and current information from the Board.

Dues are used to support philanthropic efforts and member activities such as Homecoming. Kindly clip and enclose this coupon with your membership check and mail to: PO Box 6234 Boston, MA 02114

Dues _____ for (year) _____

Name: _____ Graduating Class: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

**Massachusetts General Hospital
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