



Charity Hospital School of Nursing & Charity School of Nursing

Alumni News

Winter 2021

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From the President

By Patrick Brady '83

I clearly remember my first day of classes at CHSN. I sat in the fourth row, **Cathy Elstner** and **Cindy**

Larmeu were seated behind me – and they talked through the entire lecture! Friends of over 40 years that I met for dinner just before this past Christmas. I also remember my first clinical day, exploring Charity Hospital with **Marie “Noonie” Sonnier** and **Missy Luminais**. I’m pretty sure we went places we should not have been. We have all formed bonds that endure over the years. Dear friends and dear memories that hold us close to Charity Hospital School of Nursing.

The past two years have not been the same for the ‘pandemic’ classes and the ‘Hurricane Ida’ class. Online education and distance learning robbed these students of the opportunity to form strong relationships and to have a network to rely on when they needed an extra push to make it through. Many of these students have also missed out on some of the ‘milestone’ moments we experienced in the program – awards ceremonies, on-campus clubs, pinning ceremonies, and graduation.

Forging Bonds

We have to wonder if these students will have the same connection to the school. Will our traditions continue and the Charity spirit survive? I think the answer is yes.

Many students talk about their experiences of meeting a Charity graduate and how this inspired them to become nurses. The Charity Nurse is one they recognized for dedication and excellence in a very personal way, as someone who befriended them or mentored them.

The Alumni Association depends on each of our members to reach out to new graduates. We need to extend the Charity spirit to each one we encounter. It is our standards of excellence and professionalism, advocacy and integrity that will keep the Charity spirit alive.

I was so touched to hear about **Brad Smith**, who just graduated in December, choosing to honor a Charity

alumni who made an impact on him (*see the story on page 14*). That is the kind of inspiration each of us should aspire to provide!

As we prepare to endure a few more difficult months, remember that these new graduates did not have the same opportunities to bond with each other and the school. These graduates deserve the highest praise for their commitment and resilience to make it through a tough program under such trying circumstances. Let us also remember that they rely on us to show them the Charity way. Let us support and embrace them in any way we can.

A warm welcome to our newest Charity Nurses! Best wishes to all for a happy and peaceful new year!

Patrick



Patricia Pankey Memorial

Dr. George Pankey and Dr. Edward Pankey, the husband and son of **Patricia Carreras Pankey '69** (who passed away in March 2020) have committed to a gift of

\$150,000 for a Skills Lab in the new Ochsner Center in Patricia’s memory. The **Patricia Carreras Pankey Memorial Skills Lab** will be the second of two skills labs funded in memory of Charity alumni in the new building.

In addition, the Pankeys expressed interest in creating a meditation labyrinth dedicated to Patricia. This was like a thunderbolt! It was the answer to our conundrum over what to do about the commemorative bricks when we move to the new building.

We presented the family with a proposal: a \$25,000 gift creating the **Patricia Carreras Pankey Memorial Meditation Labyrinth** would be matched with \$25,000 from the Alumni Association to complete construction and maintain the labyrinth. We were so delighted when they accepted our proposal!

A meditation labyrinth creates a space for quiet contemplation, for respite and renewal. The Pankey Labyrinth will also provide a focus point for the Charity School of Nursing identity as we move from our historic location to Delgado's City Park Campus, which just celebrated its Centennial year.

This labyrinth will incorporate the bricks from the current Commemorative Brick Wall at the downtown Education Building into a site that visually and emotionally preserves the distinction of Charity School of Nursing within the wider health care programs at the new Ochsner Center for Nursing and Allied Health.

An octagonal shape will reflect the design of the traditional Charity nursing pin, as will an adjacent fountain featuring a pelican caring for her young. Trees and benches will surround the space, and additional bricks from Charity community donors can be added to the labyrinth over time, continuing to connect Charity students and alumni to their history. We will be sharing more plans for the labyrinth as they take shape.

We are so grateful to the Pankey Family for their wonderful gifts in memory of Patricia and in support of nursing education. With their help, we will continue to celebrate Charity's rich history and bright future. ❖

From the Executive Director

By Lista Hank '97

Well, you were probably wondering what happened to the *Alumni News* that you expected in December....well, here it is, only a month late! Even though you are receiving it in January 2022, we are still calling it the Winter 2021 edition just for chronology's sake. Whatever it's called, it is an issue worth waiting for!

First, you will learn about the new Dean of the School of Nursing on page 3. I had the pleasure of a nice chat with Dr. Ellis, and not only does she seem like a real sweetheart, she thinks Charity School of Nursing hung the moon!

Our Treasured Faculty

Not one, but two members of the faculty wrote wonderful articles about what the last semester was like. If you had any doubt, our faculty are the heart of this school. They have shown a tenacity and dedication to the students that can only be called heroic! They are exhausted and challenged in unfathomable ways, and have suffered their own losses. But they show up every day and teach, counsel, problem-solve, organize and teach some more! They are the folks who make this thing called Charity School of Nursing work. I can only say, "We appreciate you – for everything you do!"

Our Unparalleled Membership

Of course, we couldn't do what we do without you alumni! Throughout all the harrowing adventures of the

past two years, you kept the school in your thoughts, and renewed your memberships and sent those donations! Sometimes it's hard to feel like a few dollars here and there can make a difference, but they really do! And your continued generosity and support has allowed us to help the students in unprecedented ways this semester (*see the story on page 5*). My personal thanks to Charlene Berger who labeled and stuffed 260 envelopes!

Our Hope-filled Plans

Knock on wood and the creek don't rise, we are restarting alumni events with a breakfast on March 26! The reservation form for the breakfast is on page 22!

Then.... wait for it! Homecoming in October! Whooo, whoo! There will be more details about our long delayed Homecoming in the *White Cap* this summer, but mark your calendar for October 22 and 23, 2022!

Of course, anything can happen – what's the next apocalypse in the pipeline? – but that's our plan! Thank you for being there for us through thick and thin!

Take care – and please keep in touch!

Lista

Interim Dean's Last Report

By Deborah Skevington '79

Assistant Dean of Nursing

We've said goodbye to 2021 with the hardships of Hurricane Ida and the continuing pandemic. This past semester saw our students facing adversity on many fronts, from storm repairs to interruption in classes, the frustration of virtual learning, and the remainder of the semester pushed back well past our normal Pinning and Commencement dates.

Charity students persevered! We had 138 graduates in the Fall 2021 class – ready to take their places as valued members of the healthcare team in the New Orleans area, as well as in other parts of the country!

As we ring in 2022, we will still face many difficulties. We will, however, be facing those challenges with our new Dean, Dr. Joan Ellis. The staff, faculty, coordinators, and I welcome her, and we look forward to working with her as our new leader. If you are in the building, please stop by to welcome her to the Charity family. I'm sure you all will be meeting her soon at an upcoming alumni event!

May the Year 2022 bring health and peace to our country and to our world! Please take care and stay safe!

Deborah

Dorm Now a Nursing Home

The old dorm is now St. Jude's nursing home. What a nice re-use for that place so full of memories! ❖

New Dean joins School of Nursing

The newest member of the long line of distinguished Charity directors is **Dr. Joan Anny Ellis**, PhD, RN, CNE. She has been appointed dean of Delgado Charity School of Nursing.

Dr. Ellis has an extensive career in academia and clinical practice. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, with a specialty in pediatrics. She also holds a PhD in Nursing from Southern University in Baton Rouge and possesses over 30 years of teaching and administrative experience at the associate, baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels.

A Nursing Educator and Administrator

Dr. Ellis's professional background includes not only classroom and clinical instruction, but also nursing program development, implementation, and evaluation. She was the founding dean of the graduate nursing program at Our Lady of the Lake College in Baton Rouge, which included nursing education, nursing administration, and nurse anesthesia.

Dr. Ellis has presented numerous continuing education programs on a state, regional, and national level and published articles in professional nursing journals. She has served in many roles, including pediatric staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, clinical educator, nurse researcher, and consultant. She is a member of an extensive array of professional nursing organizations including the National Association of Neonatal Nurses, National Association for the Care of Children's Health, the Louisiana Perinatal Association, and the National Honor Society.

A Time of Rapid Changes

Dr. Ellis takes command of Charity during a tumultuous time, as the school navigates rapidly changing challenges due to the pandemic. Students and faculty are wrestling with virtual learning in a field that demands hands-on skills, and will need to be prepared for a next generation licensure exam anticipated in 2023. Charity is also anticipating the move to a new building on the Delgado City Park campus in 2023, where they will be joined in an interdisciplinary setting with Delgado's Allied Health programs.

Having done her initial nursing training locally,

Dr. Ellis is very familiar with Charity School of Nursing. "I actually lived in the old dorm while studying at LSU!" she remembers. "Everyone knew Charity's reputation – we had the theory and book knowledge but Charity's students were really prepared clinically. As a new nurse I was working with a Charity grad when a doctor told us to set up for a chest tube. I could tell you everything about the pressures and all, but that Charity grad was the one who knew how to set it up!"

Getting Up to Speed

Dr. Ellis lives in Geismar with her husband, Alvin Ellis Jr. and she has a son, Justin. Geismar is close to Baton Rouge, about an hour drive from Charity. "I won't miss the Baton Rouge traffic! I did just buy a little fuel-efficient car to cut down on the gas commuting back and forth everyday. Plus I was afraid a big car wouldn't fit in the school's garage!" she laughs.

Her first day at school was January 3 and she spent the morning meeting with faculty and staff in-person and on Zoom. "I'm also diving into the school's self-

studies to bring myself up to speed. And I have a nice stack of past issues of the alumni newsletters to read so I can learn what you all do!"

"I am thrilled to be here and looking forward to getting to know everyone – faculty, students and the alumni!" We are delighted to welcome Dr. Ellis to Charity! ❖

Fall 2021 Graduation Awards

Charity School of Nursing held the Fall 2021 Pinning Ceremony on December 20, and Delgado conferred degrees on December 21 at the Commencement Exercises. Congratulations to all our new graduates, and to the recipients of these nursing awards:

Highest GPA and the
Sister Stanislaus Malone Award:

Anabel Velazquez Borjas

Honor Pin: **Jennifer Fremen**

Award of Distinction: **Katie Pendergrass**

Sister Blanche McDonnell Alumni Award:

Kimberlie Falcon

Margaret Palmisano Alumni Award:

Rebecca Laurent



Scholarships & Awards

In September 2021, the Charity Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association presented \$11,600 in scholarships and awards to twenty-five Charity nursing students. All awards and assistance are made possible through generous donations from Charity nursing alumni, their families, friends and faculty. We thank all of you who make these awards possible!

Congratulations to these recipients of the Fall 2021 awards (*pictured left to right, top to bottom*):

LEVEL 2

Hannah Babin, Christine Hurley Carbon '71 Scholarship

Charity Brown, Sister Blanche McDonnell Scholarship

Lacy McIntyre,
Class of 9/11/64 Scholarship

LEVEL 3

Qween Amor, Hugh and Maria Garcia Roach '38 Scholarship

Hannah Herrington, Marcelle Jacobs Wright '41 Scholarship

Cherese Mallet, Leona Kruebbe Hilbert '46 Scholarship

Amber Thompson, Barbara Ann Pitre Philipps '61 Scholarship

LEVEL 4

Anabel Velazquez Borjas,
Barbara Ann Pitre Philipps '61 Scholarship

Douglas Colson, Joycelyn Gondolfo Jeansonne '78 Scholarship

Dwanna Ealy,
Sister Camilla Gaudin DC Scholarship

Selam Gavion,
Rose Ella Chenevert Miller '58 Scholarship

Colby Hilliard,
Doris Tucker Burvant '60 Scholarship

Kristelle Joseph,
Rita Bares Raphael '65 Scholarship

Amie Krake,
Barbara Ann Pitre Philipps '61 Scholarship

Katie Pendergrass, Sally Cooper '59 Scholarship

Ryan Sharpe, Nancy Carol Rodgers '83 Scholarship

Kenyatta Trim, Georga Helmer '79 Scholarship

GRADUATION PIN AWARDS (*not pictured*)

Rachael McCain, John and Enola Hoppe Pin Award

Keisha Mitchell, Earline Harris Pin Award

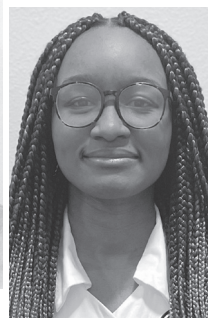
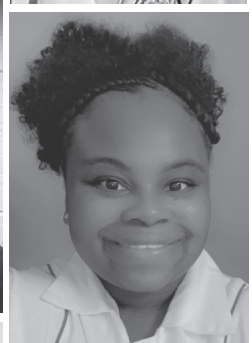
Jennifer Pindall, Jane Hardy Barrow Pin Award

Jennifer Fremen, Gerald Camus Pin Award

Allison Espinal,

Patricia Carreras Pankey '69 Pin Award

Dorreal Jupiter, Lynel Pinkozie '73 Pin Award



Federation of Registered Professional & Licensed Practical Nurses of Charity Hospital Awards (*not pictured*)

Jaziane Smith, RN Program

Ruben Martinez-Serrano, PN Program



Hurricane Ida Aid

Hurricane Ida devastated much of Southeast Louisiana. It was one of the worst storms in history. Many towns were basically destroyed. New Orleans was spared some of the worst, but was hardly unscathed. Our nursing students are spread throughout the affected communities.

Many Charity alumni suffered their own losses, but the nursing students live on much narrower margins at the best of times. We reached out to offer emergency assistance to students who were impacted by the storm. Within days we received close to 300 applications for help, ranging from evacuation expenses to heartbreaking house destruction and homelessness.

Damage and Loss

Roofs were damaged or ripped completely off, large trees crushed houses, homes were flooded. One student lived in an apartment building that burned to the ground. Students are caring for elderly relatives who were displaced from houses and nursing homes. Those that evacuated incurred expenses for gas and hotels. Many businesses closed temporarily after the storm, throwing students out of work for a couple of weeks. Some students lived without electricity for weeks after the storm. Water from above and below damaged furniture, computers, uniforms and textbooks. Driving for miles each day to find an open business with internet access so they could get in touch with their instructors. The stories are overwhelming!

Unprecedented Support

CHSNAA President Patrick Brady said, "We can't make them whole, but we can show them we care about them." We had \$16,000 in the Student Emergency Assistance Fund, and were able to make up the difference from unrestricted funds. So we made \$100 grants to 260 students enrolled in classes this fall, totaling \$26,000.

This was an unprecedented level of support from



the Alumni Association. We thank all of you who generously contributed to the Student Emergency Assistance Fund and for your many donations that made this possible.

Carrying On

We also provided the students with information about other available aid, such as the Disaster Supplemental Nutritional Assistance.

The commitment of these students to staying in nursing school through all they've endured is amazing! Here are just a few of the notes we received from the students:

"I just wanted to express my most sincere gratitude for the emergency grant which I received from your organization. The message of caring that this conveyed truly warmed my heart and gave me a much-needed emotional boost in a difficult time. Thank you so very much." – *Henry M.*

"Thank you so much for the check I received yesterday! I truly appreciate it and it's good to know that Charity is looking out for and taking care of the students. I'm extremely grateful for what you've done for me. Thank you again." – *Sharonda M.*

"I want to thank you for the \$100 grant to me in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida. I know many people were impacted, and your show of generosity and support meant a great deal to me. I sincerely appreciate your help." – *Mickelle F.*

"Thank you so much! It helped me in my time of need. I am forever grateful." – *Lacey R.*

"I want to thank you for being there and caring for me as a student. Thank you from the bottom of my heart." – *Kim J. and family, Kendall, Olivia and Tinleigh*



Teaching in a Pandemic...and a Hurricane...again

By Pat Smart, MN, RN, CNE
Professor of Nursing
Educational Coordinator for Level 2



Oh my, what a semester! Who would have thought that when I wrote my first article in the 2020 *White Cap* about learning to teach online that the pandemic would still be impacting us close to two years later? And when I wrote my article for the *Alumni News* last winter – about adding hurricanes to the disruption – who knew we would be dealing with widespread

storm damage a year later? Here I am again to share how the faculty has managed in some truly challenging times!

Beginning with Optimism

The coordinators had approached the fall semester thinking things were improving from the pandemic. We planned to have classes 75% virtual and 25% in-person for the fall semester since the incidence of Covid cases was decreasing. In June, we returned to working in our offices again and were making ourselves available in person for students – wearing masks and staying safely distanced.

Delta Arrives and IT Worker Leaves

Then, as the fall semester began, the Delta variant surged. Many students who registered for in-person classes requested to remain virtual to protect themselves and their families. Faculty accommodated everyone as much as possible. We did resume test-taking in the building, which took major cooperation between the nursing and allied health programs to use the two computer classrooms in the building.

In August, our only Informational Technology worker left for a different job. On a moment's notice, we were trying to deal with large number of students using outdated school computers and internet service that would overload the server. I got to know many software support service technicians by name as I called them so frequently. But we carried on and made it through the first two weeks of the semester!

Ida Rolls In...

Then August 29 arrived. Hurricane Ida clobbered the greater New Orleans area and nearby parishes. The college closed. I personally had a tree fall on my home, with water damage to two upstairs rooms and my downstairs kitchen. The morning after the storm, when I viewed the size of the tree that fell, I felt very blessed and thankful because



most of the tree landed between my home and garage. It could have been much worse! After getting the wet insulation, bedding and carpet out of the bedroom that was damaged, I traveled to stay with out-of-state family. Looking back, I was in survival mode for several days and suffering from post-trauma stress. It was a comfort to find all my family safe.

Salvaging a Semester

With the spotty telephone service, it took some time, but I contacted the ten faculty from Level 2 and was relieved that all were safe. Several had damage to their homes and were also staying with friends or family out of town.

The coordinators and dean met to discuss how we could salvage the semester's content and clinical time. Faculty began checking contacts at the clinical facilities to see when students could return. The behavioral health unit that Level 2 uses is in St. Charles parish and sustained significant damage, so I reached out to another agency and received authorization to add additional clinical groups to that site.

We had Level 2 meetings via Zoom, so I could communicate the news from the college. As students and faculty returned to their homes, they had to find hot spots in order to use the internet since electrical power and internet service was still intermittent in many areas.

The college reopened after three weeks. Some students had to drop courses. The college revised the calendar. We lost some fall holidays and the semester would end a week later. We realized it would be an intense and non-stop pace to get through the semester, but we accepted the challenge and did our best to help students trying to be successful in school while recovering from the hurricane. When we returned to work, I had to juggle phone calls and appointments with the insurance agent, contractors, and FEMA representatives to start work on my own home.

Loss of a Beloved Colleague

In the midst of the hurricane, we lost one of our faculty,

Ms. Bernice Bonds. Ms. Bonds has taught at the school since 2005. She touched the lives of so many students! She was a true bright spot at the school. We were all shocked by her untimely death while she evacuated with her family. Level 1 faculty had to scramble to cover her classes for the semester. Services were held for her in September. Current and retired faculty, students, and staff attended her services. It was a beautiful tribute to a wonderful person. I sat in front of a student from her first clinical group. She told me that she had Ms. Bonds as a clinical instructor and then, several years later, her daughter had Ms. Bonds too. That mother and daughter maintained a relationship with Ms. Bonds and they got together annually. Everyone who spoke at her service told of her positive influence on them as nurses and people. Ms. Bonds will be missed by everyone.

Unending Stress

By mid-semester, I don't know who looked more exhausted – faculty or students. The stress of nursing school during a multi-year pandemic seemed unending.

I believe the students really miss so much by attending classes virtually and not being in the building to talk and share with their peers and upper-classmates. I cannot imagine the isolation the students feel. I know the alumni remember the camaraderie you felt with your fellow classmates while going through nursing school. Though we did have in-person clinicals and some in-person classes, usually there were very few students in the building, and lectures and test reviews remained on Zoom.

Faculty Burnout a National Worry

I attended the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (OADN) national convention in November in Austin, TX. It was great for my mental and emotional health. I continue to serve on the OADN Foundation board. We provide numerous grants and scholarships for faculty and students. I learned that the problems we are seeing at Delgado/Charity are the same throughout the country. It was great to network and reconnect with colleagues I had not seen in person for two years. One session that I attended really was personal to me. It was titled, "Confronting the Specter Among Us: ADN Faculty and Academic Leader Burnout." I see the continued loss of experienced faculty leaving the program and I truly am concerned about how we will have faculty for our students. We desperately need new faculty to mold the next generation of nurses.

Being There for Students

There were so many heart-wrenching stories I heard from students. They lost family members and loved ones, they tested positive for Covid, they had health problems and hospitalizations, they were involved in accidents and had vehicles break down on route to an exam. Stories that saddened me and the other instructors. We tried to remain supportive, referring them to mental health counselors and allowing them to verbalize their frustrations and problems.

On many occasions, I left work emotionally drained from being that attentive ear to a despondent student. We finished the semester, and our success rate was somewhat lower than normal.

Is there any more 'normal' with nursing school during a pandemic?

Christmas...and Covid

In December, I was singing as I walked around the building, "All I want for Christmas is a New Roof" and "Jingle Jangle Jingle, I have my roofing shingles." The weekend before Pinning, I received a text from a faculty member I had been working closely with that week. She had tested positive for Covid, and was notifying everyone she had been in contact with. I suddenly realized I had been extremely tired with headaches the last couple of days. I had attributed the fatigue to the end-of-semester whirlwind! Since I planned to attend Pinning and Commencement, I had to get tested. I spent three hours in an urgent care to discover that I too was positive. A total of seven faculty members tested positive that week. The Omicron variant had hit us right before Christmas.

I was extremely disappointed that I could not see my family for Christmas but remained thankful that my symptoms were mild and I was able to manage at home. I still have low energy, despite sleeping more over the break than I did all last semester. The quarantine and isolation were depressing, but I tried to count my blessings to help me feel better. One blessing was I finally had my new roof installed on December 16 – an answer to my prayers! The interior repairs will come at some point in 2022.

Preparing the Next Generation

I appreciate you letting me share my story for the Fall 2021 semester. The alumni were extremely generous helping students with financial needs following the hurricane. I would like to say THANK YOU. Please know the students are being successful during extreme hardships, challenging times and numerous trials. Nurses on the frontlines are tired and over-worked. We are trying to graduate more good nurses to help us all survive this pandemic. Our graduates are needed at hospitals throughout the community.

Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones. No one is promised tomorrow, but we are still here at the dawn of 2022. We have more nurses to graduate and to proudly wear the Delgado/Charity pin! ❖

Have You Ever Thought of Teaching?

Charity is always in need of part-time and adjunct faculty in the RN and Practical Nursing programs! Please consider joining the Charity faculty! For more information and to apply, visit careers.dcc.edu. ❖

Resiliency in Turbulent Times

By Jennifer Fernandez. MSN, RN, CPN
CSN Assistant Professor of Nursing
Pediatrics Level 3

Fall 2021 will be another semester to live on in infamy for our nursing students, faculty, and staff. We started off the semester joyous about resuming some face-to-face courses and a return of some normalcy for the first time since Covid entered New Orleans in the spring of 2020. But Covid was not our biggest challenge at the school this fall. On August 29, 2021, Hurricane Ida caused devastation across Southeast Louisiana, impacting students, faculty, and staff alike.

Last fall, in 2020, we had more than six Hurricane threats to our little slice of paradise on the gulf coast. I live outside the levee system so, after the longest hurricane season in history last year, I was hopeful that 2021's hurricane season would be kinder to the Louisiana coast. Unfortunately, Ida had different ideas.

Stormy Weather

I evacuated to a friend's house in Covington for the storm and once the skies cleared, we cleaned up the debris and waited to hear from family and friends with power outages across the state. Being married to another first responder, a NOLA fireman, there wasn't much I could do but wait and be of service to others during the storm. When a coworker needed some family assistance, I was quick to offer to bring her husband to join her and their children in Florida.

In true Level 3 style, a few of us faculty ended up evacuated together and we were able to get our families together for dinners and activities to help diminish some of the stress. There were so many unknowns due to the storm! Fortunately, we were able to Zoom conference with administrators and key faculty to plan for the post-hurricane return to classes.

Starting Again

Preparing to resume classes, we needed to reach out to each individual student in our level, see how they fared in the storm, and assess their ability to participate in classwork. This was the most stress-inducing time for me! I have a somewhat unique perspective since I was a student in nursing school myself when Hurricane Katrina



Photos this page: Jennifer Fernandez (foreground) with her Fall 2021 clinical groups

ravaged our area on August 29, 2005. I completely understand the stress, uncertainty, and devastation in our students' personal lives as they rebuild and recover. The students have had to push ahead with unrelenting dedication to join a field where they will be the final line of defense for patient safety and advocacy!

Although Charity was able to resume courses three weeks after the storm, some students did end up dropping one or

more courses to attend to their home rebuilding and families. Thankfully the majority of the Level 3 students were able to carry on in their courses.

Lemonade

With a new surge in the pandemic, the school once again had to cancel the Level 3 students' Honors and



Promotion ceremony. That's where the students receive their promotion bars that become an official part of their clinical uniform, showing that they have completed half of the program.

Instead of letting this milestone go un-heralded, we decided we could create our own little ceremonies during our 12-hour clinical days. We played *Pomp and Circumstance* on YouTube music and I had the honor of pinning the students in my two clinical groups during their Pediatrics rotation. Then we took group selfies (pulling down our masks for a brief moment to take the picture) to mark the end of our celebrations.

Level 3 also tried to boost morale in the week before Halloween by dressing in costumes! Students were allowed to dress up for clinical days if they were in their pediatrics rotation. We also encouraged students to costume for lectures, either on campus or via Zoom. It was our way to make lemonade out of lemons!

The Faculty Committees continued to meet during the

semester, both online and face-to-face. I am currently serving as Chair of the Charity Curriculum Committee, and we continue to collaborate and roll out new curriculum revisions and additions. We are always striving to improve the program and we keep working diligently to achieve academic excellence and unsurpassed nursing education throughout the pandemic and hurricanes. We are now working on how best to prepare students for the new NextGen NCLEX slated for 2023.

Collaboration

I also teach an interdisciplinary simulation with the Respiratory Therapy Program Director **Rene Randall**, combining her students and my clinical students. We were happy to be able to resume the simulations back on campus this year and the students have really enjoyed it. We are working on expanding our interdisciplinary simulations to best prepare our nursing and allied health students to enter the workforce.

The interdisciplinary setting allows us to focus on improving communication between patients, families, and among the healthcare staff. We teach professional and clear communication techniques while focusing on a patient in distress, with anxious parents, in order to provide the best care for our patients. We also use this simulation to emphasize the importance of patient advocacy and conflict resolution. For instance, we will hide incorrect orders in the simulation, requiring students to clarify and to act on the patient's behalf.

Holiday Joy

The faculty were excited to wrap up the year with a Christmas luncheon. This provided such a joyous end to another stressful year. We were able to chat about non-school related events and learn more about each other. We have hired several new faculty and the luncheon allowed many of us to meet face-to-face for the first time!

Yes, 2021 was another year for the record books! Yet, with all the challenges, the students continue to learn and their love of nursing continues to grow. These future nurses have shown incredible drive by forging ahead through all the setbacks, and they will be better equipped to face struggles in their careers.

Despite the fact that I only have the students in my clinical rotation a maximum of five weeks (four weeks this semester due to Ida), the students sure do talk a lot to me and I get to know a lot about them by the time they leave me. I am proud that they are well on their way to becoming the next wave of frontline workers. Whatever the hardship, Charity nurses come back stronger! ❖



Above: An Interdisciplinary Simulation class.

Left: Halloween fun.

Below: Some of the Level 3 faculty at the holiday luncheon.



Faculty Recognition

Charity Nursing Faculty members **Jennifer Fernandez** and **Angela Shoemake** were nominated for the 2021 Seymour Weiss Excellence in Teaching Award, Delgado's highest honor recognizing teaching excellence. ❖

At the 2021 Louisiana Community & Technical College System (LCTCS) Annual Conference in November, two Charity faculty members were recognized for professional excellence and exceptional service: **Beatrice Eweni**, nominee, LCTCS President's Award for Teaching Excellence; and **Angela Shoemake**, Outstanding Faculty Member. Both are Associate Professors of Nursing at Charity. ❖

Memories of Nursing School

By Carol Denson Walls-Anz '66
San Antonio, TX

I love getting the *White Cap* when it comes! As a graduate of CHSN in 1966, I can declare that it was the time in history, and in my young life at 17, that I will always remember with innocent joy and sadness.

Our dorm rooms were cooled by open windows and ceiling fans. There was one sink and closet shared by roommates. At night, the room-mothers would shine a flashlight at our beds to verify that we were there. Catholic nuns were always present to measure how long our uniform skirts were, check us out as we left the building and checking us in on our return. We could stay out until 10:30pm – on weekends only.

“Study Period” was at 9:30 every night. Afterwards, peanut butter & jelly sandwiches and chocolate milk were served in the cafeteria. We could never wear curlers in our hair while eating there.

Joe’s Bar (with the jukebox playing both Tony Bennett and the Beatles) was a favorite hang-out to meet friends. The TB building grounds were a shortcut for the walk from dorm to hospital. I remember one of my classmates contracted TB during that time. If we needed cigarette money, we could work on the weekends as seniors. Our pay was \$8 a shift (cigarettes were \$3.50 a carton).

Canal Street was a short walk, then we could catch the streetcar to all the finest shops in New Orleans, and to the French Quarter – a forbidden area for us! We managed to find our way to Pat O’Brien’s with its Hurricane drinks and to the St. Louis Cathedral.

It was while we were crossing the street from the drugstore in front of the hospital that the news of our beloved John F. Kennedy’s assassination reached us. We raced to the dorm and gathered in front of the only television on the 12th floor, and talked and prayed for his recovery.

The hospital was not integrated at the time. It is chilling to remember how all the products – from blood to sheets, were marked C or W to designate their destination. The year I was a senior, CHSN accepted two brave African-American girls into the school.

The beautiful Sister Blanche, with her huge Daughters of Charity winged coronette and habit, was ever-present and beloved by all.

I lovingly remember the bridge games on the dorm floor, sharing letters from home, and saying goodbye on graduation day. Tears and laughter shared by life-long friends are my best memories! ❖



Adventures of a Nursing Pin

By Janet Foret Lococo '56
Raceland, LA

After my graduation in 1956, I always wore my CHSN pin to work without fail. From June 4, 1960, until April of 2018, I lived right outside of the town of Lockport, Louisiana. Wilton’s Grocery Store was a quarter-mile south of our house on LA 1.

In 1978, I stopped by that small local grocery store before going home from work. Later that afternoon when I changed out of my nursing uniform, I noticed my pin was missing. I searched my car, to no avail. *Oh my God*, I thought. *It must have fallen inside the grocery store or the parking lot.* Back to the store I went. I searched every aisle and the check-out counter. No pin anywhere. Then I searched the parking lot. No pin there either.

I cried all the way home. I had worked so hard and learned so much to earn that Charity pin in wards without air conditioning and filled with indigent patients. We joked about the black bands when they were added to our



caps at the beginning of our senior year and our pins at graduation to envious under-classmates, “Do you see the vomit, blood and gore, and shit on it?” When they appeared unperturbed, we added, “Don’t worry. Your day will come too.”

Needless to say, I was despondent for at least two weeks. My husband said, “Janet, it’s only a pin and probably only 10K gold.” He thought only of the financial value and that it was no big deal. I rolled my eyes at him and wagged my head from side to side. “It is most definitely not *just* a pin! You will never understand.” Then, as they say in all stories, time passed.

Five years later, and I still missed putting on my Charity pin when I dressed for work each morning. I worked at Saint Anne General Hospital in Raceland, Louisiana, in the operating room and recovery room. One day, I got a call from a nurse who worked on Med-Surg at the same hospital.

She said, “Miss Janet, what was your maiden name?” I said, “Foret. Why do you ask? Are you taking care of one of my relatives up there?”

“No,” she responded. Her next words had my heart racing. “I think I have your Charity Hospital School of Nursing pin here. *J Foret* and *1956* are engraved on the back.” I’m sure my eyes doubled in size and my mouth dropped open. “Oh, my God! That is my pin. I lost it five



years ago. Where on earth did you find it?"

"Where the lumber yard used to be on Highway 308," she responded. (This is about three miles north of the grocery store and on the opposite bayou bank.)

"My husband and two boys were clearing out trash, and one of the kids saw something shiny in the dirt, picked it up, and brought it to my husband saying, *Dad, I think I found a treasure.* My husband brought it home to me. I cleaned it up. When I saw the pelican, I recalled you telling me stories about your nursing school days at Big Charity. Then I saw *J Foret* on it, and I wondered if it belonged to you. I can bring it to you at work tomorrow."

I could only imagine someone had found it at the store and had taken it home. God knows how it got to the old lumber yard site. Perhaps the person had thought it to be worthless and had pitched it.

I was almost speechless, and my friends know that is hardly possible. I was so excited. I offered a reward for the child who found it, but my colleague refused. So, I gave her a big hug and many thanks.

I got back my pin. I still have it. You can see the worn edges in the photo. But because I feared losing it a second time, I never wore it again! ❖

Alumni News & Notes

"My 91-year-old mother, **Janice May Brock '51**, lives in Pensacola, FL, and receives your newsletter. She always looks forward to reading it!"

– *Carla Brock*



Marion Thibodaux Gatti '54 (*Metairie, LA*): "Thank you for sending the *White Cap*. I always love reading news of the old Charity Hospital and the new nursing school."

Anna Deatherage Montaney '54 (*Gauthier, MS*):

Anna stopped by the School of Nursing in early



December. Her son and daughter-in-law were driving her from longtime home in Seattle to her new home with her daughter in Mississippi. She shared some fun memories. "We used to sunbathe on the 10th floor roof of the dorm – I'm sure that drove the soldiers over at the VA crazy. We would go to Café du Monde after church on Sundays and there was a

waiter there named Pops who would give us coffee and donuts for free because he knew how poor nursing students were! My roommate and I would take walks in

the afternoons and one day we found a whole dollar on the ground! So we went to see a 35 cent movie together. That was a real treat! I don't remember much about the movie though, because the guy sitting next to me kept putting his hand on my leg! I'm from Arkansas, and when I mailed my application to the School of Nursing, I addressed it to *Cherry Hospital*. Somehow it got to the school. I arrived at the dorm six days early, but everyone was so nice and they gave me a room and fed me. My Big Sister showed me around. I wrote a poem about that. I published a book of my poetry. After graduation, I worked at Charity Hospital for several months, then I got married and we moved to Seattle. Psych nursing was my career. My life has been a bed of roses – not without thorns, but a good life!" As they left the school, Anna and her family were heading for Café du Monde!

Gym Philipps, husband of the late **Barbara Pitre Philipps '61**, shared this memory: "**Marilyn Schultz Connor '61** was pregnant when she graduated from Charity. So when their daughter **Caroline Connor Liuzza '84** also graduated, Marilyn's husband Paul liked to say that Caroline graduated from Charity twice!"

Ursula Allain '65 (*Kenner, LA*) evacuated to Houston for Hurricane Ida. "Ten hours there and ten hours to return. Worse, it was my birthday! I have spent better birthdays. I've woken up in Rome and gone to sleep in Florence, woken up in New Zealand and gone to sleep in Australia. Also some really great ones at home! On the plus side of the evacuation, I brought Dr. Ciaravella's book (*Charity's Children*) with me. It was especially interesting since I worked with most of the doctors he is talking about in the book, and I remember many of the situations he describes. I found that I was mentioned as *Ms. Elaine*. Wow, I am in a book – even if misspelled. The simplest things can shine a light when things are rough!"

Beverly Poche Chapoton '67 (*Kenner, LA*): "I am sending a donation for the Emergency Assistance Fund. I am glad the Alumni Association can give the students in need some help! I hope you have all been well in these troubled times. Hope brighter days will be coming soon!"

Jo Ann Rizzutto '71 (*North Lauderdale, FL*): "Hope all is well with the Alumni Association. This past year was the 50th anniversary for the Class of 1971. I know my classmates feel like me, regretful we could not celebrate together. I never got a degree, but I did get certified in Medical Flight and Peds. My diploma enabled me to work from New Orleans to California and now in Florida. My advice to graduates is find a field you love and go for it. Mine was the Emergency Room Trauma Center. I loved every moment. Enclosed is my donation – as always, I leave it to you to choose where it is most needed. Thank you for all you do."

The **Class of 1975** enjoyed their yearly beach reunion in May 2021. **Jan Samson** (*Baton Rouge, LA*) sent us these great photos. "We had so much fun! We love keeping connected with our Charity sisters!"



Above, left to right: Jan Breaux Samson, Kathy Ibert Imel, Claudia Launey Ortego, Genie Leblanc Woodring, Julie Munster Joyce, Donna Blanchard Landry, Maureen Gray Guevara, Ronnie O'Donnell Els.



Above, left to right, top row: Donna Blanchard Landry, Claudia Launey Ortego, Maureen Gray Guevara, Kathy Ibert Imel, Carolyn 'Tuttie' Chauvin Hubbell; Bottom row: Julie Munster Joyce, Jan Breaux Samson, Anita Barras Landry, Genie Leblanc Woodring, Ronnie O'Donnell Els.

Georga Helmer '79 (*Lacombe, LA*) asked us to correct a piece of information that was in the last *Alumni News*. She was actually President of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Anesthetists Political Action Committee (Louisiana LANA-PAC) for ten years.

Beverly Anderson '80 (*Gretna, LA*) posted on Facebook, "Loved living in the dorm! What fun we had." And **Erin Daniels Lambert '80** (*Ponte Verde, FL*) responded, "The best years of my life were spent in the dorm!"

Congratulations to the LSNA 2021 Nightingale Awards Winners, including these Charity Alumni: **Stacey Wisniewski '87** (*New Orleans, LA*) for Outstanding Community Achievement by a Registered Nurse, and **Lisa Hickey '92** (*Metairie, LA*) for Contribution to Quality.

Trenee Mustache Maechling '93 (*New Orleans, LA*): "I would look at all the pictures of graduates on the walls at school, knowing one day I would be on the wall too. So proud of my days spent there. I love doing my part in the community dealing with Covid – educating the public and giving the vaccine per CDC guidelines. I am blessed to be able to do this for our profession." ❖

Snowfall in 1958

Pat Kucera Ammon '58 sent us these wonderful photos of her classmates in the snowfall on February 12, 1958, at Charity.

Left to right, Beverly LePre Epling, Althea Sweeney (who died in 1986), Marilyn 'Jody' Jacob Klein, Anne Matthiesen Daigle and Dorothy 'Tiny' Tuberville Stuckey.



Charity Hospital in the snow.

Virginia Holmes Shepard with the TB building in the background. ❖





Goodbyes

An Advocate for People With Autism

By Richard Sandomir

Reprint from the New York Times obituary, edited for length. Ruth Christ Sullivan was a 1943 graduate of Charity.

Ruth Sullivan, a nurse who became an influential advocate for autistic children and adults after one of her sons was diagnosed with the disorder in the early 1960s, died in September 2021, at 97.

For more than 40 years, Dr. Sullivan was a tireless champion for educational and other opportunities for people on the autism spectrum.

She started and ran the Autism Services Center, which provides residential, therapeutic and community services, and for several years offered information and referrals by telephone from her home in Huntington, where she and her husband, William, raised seven children.

“Our dinners were often interrupted by hysterical parents calling,” daughter Lydia Sullivan remembers, “and my mother would spend the evenings talking to desperate parents from around the world.”

A Mysterious Disorder

Dr. Sullivan was once that parent desperate for information about autism. When her son Joseph received his diagnosis in 1963, at the age of 3, autism was a mysterious disorder that most pediatricians knew little about. She took Joseph to a doctor in Lake Charles, LA, where the family was living at the time, and he quickly recognized that Joseph was autistic.

“I said, *What is that?* He said, *Joseph will always be odd.* But he couldn’t offer anything else.”

Nearly as disturbing to Dr. Sullivan was a prevailing psychological theory that cold and distant parents - most notably those who were referred to as “refrigerator mothers” - were responsible for causing their children’s autism.

“I knew it wasn’t true,” she said. “I didn’t love Joseph any less than the others. I treated him differently because he didn’t behave like the others.” She added: “I’m the oldest of seven. I have seven children. I was a nurse. I knew something about children.”

Research led her to read the book *Infantile Autism: The Syndrome and Its Implications for a Neural Theory of Behavior*, by Bernard Rimland, a psychologist with an autistic son. He rebutted the claim that neglectful parents

caused autism in their children and argued that autism was a result of genetics and possibly environmental factors.

Dr. Sullivan wrote to Dr. Rimland about starting a national network of parents that would receive the latest research about autism. In 1965, the two of them and a group of parents who had also written to Dr. Rimland met at a house in Teaneck, N.J., and founded the National Society for Autistic Children (now the Autism Society), a support group that would have numerous local chapters throughout the country. Dr. Sullivan was elected its president in 1969.

Overcoming Resistance

Around that time she was also trying to overcome a local school board’s resistance to providing an education to autistic children like Joseph. She brought a prepared statement to a school board meeting, and local newspapers wrote about her campaign to educate Joseph.

“For almost six weeks I was on the phone every day trying to persuade them to set up a special class,” Dr. Sullivan remembers. “The next week,” she added, “there was a class for Joseph and 12 other children. With the help of some dedicated teachers, they’ve been attending school ever since.”

Dr. Sullivan lobbied for the passage in 1975 of what came to be called the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, which required public schools that received federal money to provide equal access to children with disabilities. When the law was amended 15 years later, she helped write the language to include autistic children.

Dr. Sullivan was one of the first to talk about medical comorbidities associated with autism, like seizures, sleep problems and gastrointestinal problems. She was one of the first to advocate providing services to adults with autism.

She became a technical adviser to *Rain Man*, Barry Levinson’s 1988 film about an autistic man, starring Dustin Hoffman and Tom Cruise. Mr. Hoffman thanked Dr. Sullivan from the stage when he accepted the Oscar for best actor.

Ruth Marie Christ was born in 1924, in Port Arthur, Texas. Her family moved to Louisiana when Ruth was very young. After graduating from Charity Hospital

School of Nursing in 1943, she served in the Army Nurse Corps, treating soldiers during World War II at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.

After the war ended, she attended Columbia University,



Top, Ruth Sullivan in 2018

(Photo credit: Rick Lee, Huntington Quarterly); left, Ruth at Charity in 1943.

on the G.I. Bill, earning bachelor's and master's degrees in public health. She married in 1952, and worked part time as a nurse until her fourth child was born, in 1958. Joseph, her fifth child, was born in 1960.

In 1984, at 60, she earned a PhD in special education, speech pathology and psychology from Ohio University. Her relentless but gentle style of advocacy continued until her retirement in 2007.

Today, Joseph lives in a group home run by the Autism Services Center and works at the Autism Training Center. Another daughter, Julie Sullivan, is writing a book about her mother. ❖



The Power of One

By Bradley Smith '21

*In August 2021, Brad Smith contacted the Alumni Association. He was a senior at Charity School of Nursing and wanted to establish a scholarship fund in memory of his friend and mentor, **Leah Valerie Boudreaux '93**, who had recently passed away from a breakthrough*

Covid infection. Brad made a stunning donation of \$500 to start the fund and plans to support the scholarship yearly. We are proud and humbled that – while still a student! – he wanted to honor an alumni who affected him so deeply, and chose to support future Charity students. Brad graduated in December 2021.

I first met Val in 2018 when I began volunteering at the University Medical Center Emergency Department. I was in the process of applying to nursing school but wanted to test the waters to make sure I knew what I was getting into. Volunteers there are assigned to work with liaisons, and Val was one of the liaisons at the UMC ED.

All the liaisons were very experienced and nice, but there was something about Val... she was exceptional. It didn't take long to notice her compassion for patients and her dedication to the profession. I loved working a shift with her. Her presence alone was comforting.

Val never made you feel 'lesser than' or dumb for asking a question. She was very protective - like a momma bear. If Val heard anything she perceived as bullying with any staff, she would quickly jump in to resolve the situation.

Val was never one to shy from even the toughest duties. I personally witnessed her handle very difficult 'Room 4' situations with dignity and grace. She had an infectious positive attitude and a wonderful sense of humor that could make anyone laugh.

Val had been an ED nurse starting at Big Charity. She loved being "Nurse Bandaid" for the Camp Abbey Retreat

Left, Valerie Boudreaux in 1993; right, new graduate Brad Smith.



Center in the summers.

Impacting the Future

Once I was accepted into Charity nursing school, Val suggested I stop volunteering and focus all my efforts on school – she knew the challenges that were ahead. I liked the environment and staff, so I didn't really want to stop. I cut back from two shifts to one. But I soon realized she knew what she was talking about, and I did stop. She was right – nursing school was beyond challenging!

Even though I wasn't around the ED anymore, Val kept in touch. She always had a funny nursing meme to share or mnemonic to help me memorize something like lab values.

Caring truly just ran through Val's blood. So much so, that the last time I heard from Val was on August 4 to let me know another liaison's family member had passed away. Val was hospitalized with Covid herself at the time, but was still thinking about others. She passed away 8 days later.

Val's funeral was held on August 27, and I was especially proud to see so many white caps and Charity alumni in attendance.

As nurses, I don't think we realize how big of an effect we can have – on the lives of the patients we serve as well as on other staff and the volunteers we work with. Val was so special and had an impact on so many people.

The Alumni Association was very gracious in setting up a scholarship fund in Val's name and if you are looking for a scholarship to donate to, I would appreciate your consideration for hers. Through this scholarship, she will continue to have a positive impact on future Charity nurses yet to come!

You can donate to the Valerie Boudreaux Scholarship by using the form on page 23, or on our website:

www.CharityAlumni.org.

A Beloved Nurse and Educator Remembered

Charity faculty member **Beatrice Bonds-Riley** passed away on August 29, 2021, while evacuating Hurricane Ida. She was 81 years old. Her death was a tremendous loss to the nursing program, to students past, current and future, and to her colleagues on the faculty.

Starting out as a LPN, Ms. Bonds went on to become a RN and earn a Master's Degree in Nursing. She was a graduate of Amite County Training School, LSU School of Nursing, University of South Alabama and University

of Phoenix. She worked at Hotel Dieu Hospital, later LSU Interim, in Oncology and Chemotherapy. She retired from clinical practice in 2005 and joined the Charity faculty, teaching in Level 1.

A few years ago, when Delgado had a workforce reduction, she chose to retire so younger faculty could keep their jobs and benefits. She became an adjunct and would take two or three clinical groups each semester. She continued to work as if she were still fulltime, keeping her office and attending faculty meetings.

Bonds was a longtime member of Chi Eta Phi, a professional nursing sorority, and was recognized by the group for her "Service to Humanity." She was active in community healthcare fairs and outreach efforts, often bringing her students, and she would share health information at events from Night Out Against Crime to the Bayou Classic games.

A Legacy for a Great Educator

The Charity faculty donated over \$1,000 to the Alumni Association in Ms. Bonds' memory. The Level 1 faculty sponsored a Pin Award, and remaining funds will provide scholarships in Ms. Bonds' name starting this spring.

Ms. Bonds was a prolific writer of enthusiastic recommendations for her students applying for Alumni Scholarships. Scholarships in her name for Charity students are a fitting legacy for a remarkable teacher.

A Love of Nursing

We received many heartfelt testimonials to Ms. Bonds' professionalism, dedication to nursing, giving nature and selflessness. Here are a few from her colleagues:

"Ms. Bonds was a wonderful mentor to students and a knowledgeable peer to the faculty. She wanted to influence students and was an excellent role model to them. She was always positive and a tireless care provider to all at the school." – *Cynthia Hoppe*

"I heard nothing but good things about her from students. Some might have expected her to be easy on them in clinical, but I have to say she was tough in the hospital setting! Her students learned a lot and appreciated her for the educator she was. Whatever was needed at the school, she would volunteer to help. She always had a smile and was an inspiration to all of us!" – *Deborah Skevington*

"Ms. Bonds was the epitome of nursing. When asked why she continued to work into her 80s, she would tell you she loved the work – the people, the students, the teaching. There was a special presence about her. You always felt loved when you talked to her. She was an icon at Charity."

– *Stacey Thompson*



Beatrice Bonds-Riley

"Ms. Bonds was a strong supporter of Charity's students and staff. I loved her energy! She never tired when it came to working with student organizations, particularly Spectrum." – *Johnnie Mose*

"I can think of very few people who have affected the future of our profession so positively and touched so many lives for the better." – *Pamela Kemp*

"We all loved Ms. Bonds and will miss her terribly."

– *Ann Dieck* ❖

In Memoriam

Geneva Trahan St. Germain '45 (11/27/21)
 Ruth Christ Sullivan '45 (9/16/21)
 Pearl Guilbeau Peterson '46 (1/2/22)
 Joyce Delatte Kelly '49 (8/27/21)
 Katie Boone Brandt '50 (12/30/21)
 Lois Fabre Gwin '50 (12/18/20)
 Freddie Adele Bashaw Utsman '51 (11/16/11)
 Shirley Dickinson Van Herpen '51 (8/20/21)
 Helen Struck Samaras '53 (6/12/18)
 Edith Sweeney Baehr '54 (7/31/21)
 Billie Jo Moll Stall '55 (7/3/21)
 Janet Hanley Stelzmann '55 (6/26/21)
 Verline Chapman Olinde '56 (9/15/21)
 Edna Joan Sigmond '57 (8/29/21)
 Janice Fussell Valladares '59 (1/2/22)
 Bobby Nell Torbert '60 (9/9/21)
 Patricia Healy Kyte '64 (8/19/21)
 Carolyn Kerner Gassiot '65 (10/24/21)
 Catherine Richard Verdone '67 (12/26/21)
 Diane Ayers Candebat '68 (1/8/22)
 Cynthia Steinkamp Michel '72 (8/20/21)
 Rose S. Allen '75 (6/11/21)
 Victoreen "Vikki" Sylve Dixon '82 (9/10/21)
 Ross William Cunningham '84 (12/20/21)
 George P. Terrebonne '85 (8/15/21)
 Nancy Ann Claret '86 (9/2/21)
 Carolyn Brown Repath '87 (12/27/21)
 Kim Monique Paulin '89 (6/13/21)
 Leah Valerie Boudreaux '93 (8/12/21)
 Cynthia Pendergrast Dufour '97 (1/3/22)
 Tabitha Hingle Duvernay '06 (12/1/21)
 Veronica Peel '15 (3/17/21)

Faculty/Staff

Dolores Ranatza Branan, counselor (11/23/21)
 Winniefred Jones, faculty (12/21)
 Bernice Bonds-Riley, faculty (8/29/21)



Goodbyes

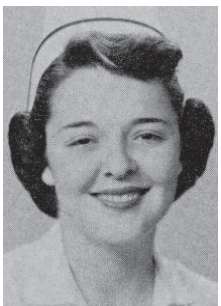
Geneva Trahan St. Germain '45 worked as a RN at Touro Infirmary for 30 years. She passed away in November 2021.

Pearl Guilbeau Peterson '46 worked at the original Prytania Ochsner Clinic as well as other New Orleans area hospitals, finishing her career as a public health nurse and nursing supervisor. She passed away in January 2022.



Katie Boone Brandt '50 grew up in Georgia and attended Auburn University before moving to New Orleans to pursue a career in nursing. After graduating from Charity with honors, she completed her BSN a year later at Auburn. Returning to New Orleans to work at the VA Hospital,

Katie met her late husband Ronald Brandt and they married in 1954. After a stint in New York, where Katie worked as a nurse at the VA hospital while Ronnie attended dental school, they returned to River Ridge, LA. Katie went on to work at the Jefferson Parish Health Unit for ten years where she became the head nurse.



Freddie Adele Bashaw Utsman '51 began her career as a surgical nurse at the VA Hospital in Houston. She met her husband on a blind date and they married in 1957. They lived and worked throughout Texas: She was the school nurse in Mission, a surgical nurse in Colorado City, and a nurse in Premont. She retired from the VA

Hospital in Big Spring in 1977. Moving to Midland, she began a nurse consulting business that served several West Texas counties. In the early 1990s, Freddie and her husband founded Mission Adult Day Care in Midland, which still operates today. Freddie passed away in November 2011.



“Our mother, **Shirley Dickinson Van Herpen '51**, died after a long battle with Alzheimer’s in August 2021. I would like to thank you for lending us a Charity nursing cap from her generation. We are returning it to you. We displayed it in a curio box, along with other items, outside the door of her room as a memory aid and to help

her find her room. We will also send her cape from her student nurse days. It is in remarkably good condition –

she took great care of it over many moves as an Air Force nurse and later an Air Force wife and mother. She constantly talked about being a nurse and how much she enjoyed it.” – *Stephen and Terri Van Herpen*



Edith Sweeney Baehr '54 graduated from Charity and married in October of that year. She worked at Charity Hospital in New Orleans until she assumed her role as mother and homemaker in Metairie, LA, and Pensacola, FL. She subsequently worked in day care in Webster Groves, MO, and in the burn unit at Barnes Hospital, until moving to Export, PA,

in 1970. Edith resumed her education, graduating as a CRNA from Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh, in 1974. She finished her career as an anesthetist at Braddock General Hospital and Jeannette Hospital, retiring in 1992. Edith and her husband Fred moved to a retirement community in Keowee Key, SC, where they lived until the summer of 2013, then moved to Vincentian Villas in McCandless. She was a sailor, clog dancer, cross country and downhill skier, bridge player, and reluctant golfer with her husband until his death in 2016. Edith passed away in July 2021 at the age of 87.



“My mother, **Janet Hanley Stelzmann '55**, was born in New Orleans and raised in Lockport, LA. She graduated from Charity in 1955, and worked at Charity Hospital until 1958. She moved to Tampa, FL with her husband, and raised five children. She resumed her nursing career at University Community Hospital from 1979-1986, where she participated in

writing the first *Chronic Pain Syndrome Care Plan*. She also worked at Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Tampa, FL where she published her booklet *Pre/Post OP care for Ilizarov External Fixator Patients*. She retired from nursing in 1995 and passed away in June 2021. She is survived by her five children, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Her daughter and two of her grandchildren became nurses. Janet was a proud Charity Hospital alumni and carried the traditions of professionalism and devoted care throughout her long career.” – *Juliet Varnedoe*

Verline Chapman Olinde '56: After her graduation from Charity, Verline earned her BSN from LSU, worked at Big Charity, became a CRNA and worked as a Nurse Anesthetist before retiring to raise her three children. She spent most of her life in New Orleans, then moved to

the Northshore. She spent her summers in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Highlands, NC. Verline had an active civic life which included the Opera Association and serving as president of the Slidell Symphony Society and as chairman of the Medical Auxiliary. She loved Mardi Gras and was Queen of Alexis in 2008. Verline passed away in September 2021 from breast cancer.



Suzy Andry '59 shared this memory: "I first met Verline when I was a senior

student rotating into the Contagion Building. There to greet us on the first day was Verline – this small, thin Charity graduate who was the head nurse. It was a hard service. In the Contagion Building, we cared for the sickest patients you ever want to see. It was children mostly, in trouble with everything from intestinal worms to newborn tetanus. Verline was kind and responsive to the students and a standout as the model graduate who was working her magic, healing everyday. I graduated, passed the state RN exam, and entered Charity's nurse anesthetist school. In that learning world on the 12th floor, students longer in the program often helped the beginners. Verline entered the anesthesia school when I was halfway through the 12-month program. One day she mentioned to me how roles change in our profession - one nurse always giving the next one a boost of her time, knowledge and understanding. This all came back to me as I read her obituary. I salute our Charity sisterhood."

Edna Joan Sigmond '57 worked as a nurse in New Orleans and in Los Angeles until she moved to Oceanport, CA, in 1966. In 1975, she opened Oceanport Nursery School where she taught and cared for local children. She always helped out friends and neighbors in need and welcomed in folks with nowhere to go on holidays for her amazing Cajun cooking. Joan passed away in August 2021 at the age of 85.



Janice Fussell Valladares '59: "Janice was my dear friend, sat in front of me in all of my classes at Charity. She lived in the dorm and she and her neighbors named their wing McBurney's Point. In 1966, Janice became the Director of Nursing for the small, new Lakeside Hospital in Metairie. She continued in that role as Lakeside grew into a 94-bed

hospital for women, and was bought by HCA. After a few more years as Director, her employer decided the RN diploma was not sufficient for the job that Janice had performed successfully for many years, and relieved her of the position because she did not have a college degree. Janice moved to the Pathology Lab as the administrator

and worked there until she retired in her 70s. She had one daughter, **Suzette Valladares '87**, who is also a proud graduate of Charity. Janice was loved and will be missed by many! – *Newell "Suzy" Hooks Andry '59*



Bobby Nell Torbert '60 followed in her mother's footsteps and graduated from Charity Hospital School of Nursing. She later returned to receive her CRNA degree from Charity Hospital School of Anesthesia. Bobby devoted her entire self to the medical profession. She retired with both Houston Methodist Hospital and the renowned Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center. She loved traveling the world. "Bobby always came in from Houston to attend all the alumni breakfasts and luncheons and she always helped at the registration table," says **Ursula Allain '65**. "She was a Charity Alumni through and through!" Bobby passed away in September 2021.



Carolyn Kerner Gassiot '65 continued her education after Charity by earning her BSN from Holy Cross College. She worked as a RN at Ochsner Hospital and retired after 49 years of dedicated service. "I have many fond memories of my classmate and friend," writes **Ursula Allain '65**. "I always thought Bunny was a childhood nickname. It wasn't until after Hurricane Katrina that Carolyn told me she hated that nickname and that no, it wasn't from her childhood! It was bestowed upon her by her Charity roommate, **Kitty Zeringue '65**. I asked her why she had never told us in nursing school that she hated the name, but she only smiled. I made a definite effort to always try to call her Carolyn after that! I will miss our times meeting for lunch and our conversations, listening to all the stories about her family and her travels."

Rita Bares Raphael '65 passed away in 2018, and **Vivian Larkin Manes '70** made a donation of \$600 to a scholarship honoring Rita. "It was a blessing that **Kathy Hynes Hug '65** took the initiative to establish the scholarship. Adding to the fund was very important to me," says Vivian. "Rita and I were lifelong friends since 8th grade. We both wanted to be nurses, and we chose Charity. We took the entrance exam together and were roommates for a brief time prior to my leaving to marry and have children. Rita was godmother to my second daughter. I resumed nursing studies at Charity in 1967 with lots of encouragement from Rita! She was a friend to so many!"

Catherine Richard Verdone '67: After graduating from Charity, Catherine joined the Air Force in 1969. During basic training she met her future husband, Dr. Anthony Verdone. Catherine was a proud graduate of Charity.



Cynthia Steinkamp Michel '72: After graduating from Charity, Cindy earned a BSN from Loyola University in 1988. She was recognized by the New Orleans District Nurses Association as a Great 100 Nurse in 1989. She received the City of New Orleans Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Service and the City of New Orleans Certificate of Appreciation in 2000 as

well as the New Orleans Federal Executive Board Distinguished Service Award. She retired from the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in 2004 after 32 years of service, and relocated to Franklinton, LA, after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Cindy's family and friends made generous donations which will be used to create Pin Awards in her memory. **Kathy Ayme**, a retired Charity faculty member, wrote: "Cindy and I were best friends since college and remained in each other's lives." Cindy passed away in August 2021 due to Covid. Several of Cindy's Charity mementos have been donated to the Alumni Association by her family.

Rose S. Allen '75 served in the U.S. Navy Reserve in the Persian Gulf. She worked for Charity Hospital and for the Dept of Health & Human Resources. Rose was retired and passed away at the age of 66 in June.



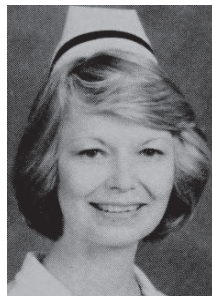
Victoreen "Vikki" Sylve Dixon '82 passed away in September 2021 after a long battle with MAC lung disease. Vikki had been Director of Nursing at Kindred Healthcare and was an endoscopy nurse at Touro Infirmary for several years. She was 63.

Ross William Cunningham '84:

Ross served in the United States Navy as a Hospital Corpsmen and went on to become a RN. He spent 20 years working at the Veterans Hospital in New Orleans. Ross was past Master Mason, taught scuba diving, loved riding his motorcycle, and volunteered with Second Harvest Food Bank. Ross was a gentle giant, very active with the Charity alumni, and a member of the Advisory Committee. He always pitched in to help at alumni events, and with AORN and his Parkinson's Disease support group.



Nancy Ann Claret '86 earned her BSN from Loyola University. She worked in the ER and ICU at Charity Hospital and University Medical Center. She loved traveling and studied French to use on her trips to Paris. Nancy passed away suddenly, a few days before her 61st birthday in September 2021.



Carolyn Brown Repath '87 passed away in December at age 66. She earned her master's degree at the University of Southern Mississippi. She worked for Charity Hospital, Northshore Hospital, and Northshore Psychiatric Care as a Psych Nurse and Nurse Practitioner and later as a Home Health Nurse.

Kim Monique Paulin '89 passed away in June 2021. Kim graduated from Charity Hospital School of Nursing, and continued her education by earning a Bachelor of Science



Degree in Nursing in 2000 from Loyola University. Kim quenched her desire for the law profession by earning a Legal Nurse Consultant Certification and later a Certificate in Regulatory Compliance in addition to graduating with a Master's Degree from Washington University School of Law in June 2021. Her nursing career expanded over thirty-three years. She was an

expert in crisis management and concluded her nursing career at Jefferson Parish Correctional Facility. Kim was a committed health care provider and proficient with health care and employee policies.

Cynthia Pendergrast Dufour '97 passed away in January 2022, after a courageous six year-long battle with breast cancer and Alzheimer's, at the age of 71. She proudly graduated - late in life - from Charity School of Nursing with a RN degree. She was ordained as a Eucharistic Minister in 2016.

Tabitha Hingle Duvernay '06 was a Registered Nurse and Supervisor at Ochsner Baptist Labor and Delivery. Tabitha dedicated her life to helping others, not only as a labor and delivery nurse, but also as a teacher and mentor to many. She passed away in December 2021.

Dolores Ranatza Branan was a counselor and tutor at Charity School of School of Nursing. She earned her BA in Education from Southeastern Louisiana University, and a Master's in Counseling at Loyola University. "She was a very special person," says **Doris Burvant '60**. ❖

Progress at Charity Hospital

Our friends on the rehab team at Big Charity sent us this update.

We reported in the *White Cap* this summer about the future of the former Charity Hospital building. Its season of revitalization continues. The exterior appearance will remain much the same – thanks to the developer's historic preservation efforts and goals – and the interior will retain many important features too, such as the entrance lobby, the white coat room, and the autopsy amphitheater. The building will still be a place to learn, educate, and provide knowledge to future generations as the recently completed lease with Tulane University provides for medical classrooms and labs in the LaSalle Street tower of the building.

The spirit long embodied by Charity will remain representative of New Orleans - the city she calls home. She is a shining reminder of how the creative abilities of a team of people saw that they could adapt the building, restore its luster, and see it breathe life into its neighborhood and city.

As another phase of the development quickly approaches, time is drawing close to get yourself a piece of Mother Charity. We are not sure how much longer the pieces will be available to purchase. As with any restoration, the time comes when parts will have to be removed to make way for her rebirth.

We still have items available to purchase - engraved marble squares as well as the irregular sizes and tiles. You can email us at info@cpmconstructionllc.com to check availability.

We want to take a moment to thank everyone for their continued support of the project. So many have come forward to share their memories and keep the spirit of Charity alive. Your enthusiasm is priceless to everyone involved in the project. The vision for the rebirth remains the same and the love for restoring her grand beauty has not wavered. In this new year, more changes will be seen in the building, and we will continue to update you on the progress.

You can find photos of the marble chunks, engraved squares, and tiles, plus an order form, on the Alumni website, www.CharityAlumni.org ❖



Label your Piece of Big Charity

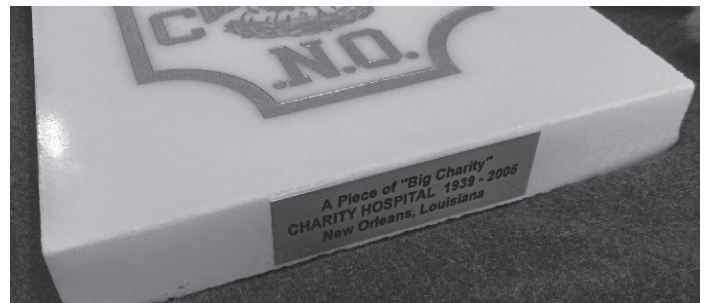
Mary Smith Singletary '49 contacted us to suggest we offer brass plates to identify the marble pieces of Big Charity. "I'm worried that when alumni pass away, their children won't understand the significance of the chunks of marble," said Mary. What a great suggestion!

So we are selling self-adhesive brass-colored, metal plates, 3/4" x 2-1/2", that will fit perfectly on the side of your marble square, or can go on top or bottom of your chunk. The plate reads:

A Piece of "Big Charity"
Charity Hospital 1939-2005
New Orleans, Louisiana

It's a great addition to your unique souvenir of Big Charity. Only \$6 (includes shipping and handling). Order from our website at

www.CharityAlumni.org



Buffalo Sauce Benefits Charity

We were delighted to receive a generous donation from Buffalo South Sauce, LLC! This father and son team started their company with two goals in mind: "To get the great taste of our wing sauce to as many people as possible, and to give back to the community. This year was the first year in ten years that we finally made a profit and were able to make donations to local charities. Our beloved Charity School of Nursing Alumni Association was on top of our list!"

You can find out more about the sauce (and order some) on their website at www.buffalosouthsauce.com or follow them on Facebook at Buffalo South Sauce. Help out Charity while enjoying some great sauce! ❖

Thanks for Nothing, Huey

By Robert V. Cazayoux, MD

A line in the article about Charity Hospital in the 2021 White Cap credited Huey Long with building Big Charity. Dr. Robert Cazayoux wrote to set the record straight.

Before Huey Long was elected Governor of Louisiana, he promised he “would not permit the efficient management of the hospital to be subordinated to the ugly exigencies of partisan politics.” After his 1928 inauguration, Long finessed state policy to allow himself to appoint four new members to the eight-member Charity Hospital Board of Administrators with himself as ex-officio President. At a special meeting, by a 5 to 3 vote, he successfully replaced the existing hospital superintendent - whose father happened to be the attorney for Standard Oil, an ongoing target of Long’s populist antagonism.

Huey Long’s policy was revenge and patronage. He provided free medical care for well-to-do political friends. His orders, whether emanating from the Governor’s mansion or later from the US Senate (to which he was elected in 1932), were carried out explicitly without regard to patient care. Funds flowed to his campaign chest by a systematic 5% deduction from employees’ salaries.

When Loyola University refused to allow him unlimited time on their radio station, Senator Long sought revenge by establishing a rival dental school. To allow for its construction, he ordered a five-story hospital building moved 162 feet, and another demolished, displacing patients to inadequate facilities. (The rival dental school never materialized.)

By 1935, replacement of Charity Hospital’s 1832 facility was long overdue and a viable plan was formulated using funds available from President Roosevelt’s Works Progress Administration. Senator Long had sought to discredit Roosevelt by preventing passage of the Works Progress Administration appropriation. That effort failed, but Long succeeded in having the Louisiana Legislative Act of 1935 prohibit “the expenditure of any public funds appropriated or made available by Congress.”

So it took his assassination in September 1935 to allow for the construction of the new hospital. Long’s political heirs patched up the adversarial relationship with the Roosevelt administration, the President gained support for his 1936 campaign, and Louisiana got its full share of the Works Progress Administration funds. Construction began on Big Charity in 1937 and was completed in June 1939.

Robert V. Cazayoux Sr., MD, was a 1959 graduate of LSU School of Medicine, a 1960 CHNO intern and 1963-66 OB/GYN resident, and was in private practice in Houma, LA, until he retired in 2008. He has been married to Beverly Lind Cazayoux ’61, for 56 years. ❖

Drysdale Angel Revealed

Charity School of Nursing has two lovely landscape paintings by Alexander Drysdale - a gift from the artist to the school in appreciation for the care he had received as a patient at Charity Hospital.

Drysdale (1870-1934) was a painter of New Orleans scenes, best known for landscapes and Louisiana bayous. The Charity paintings depict oak trees overlooking the water. For many years, both paintings hung behind the housemother’s desk in the dormitory. In the 1990s, the paintings were moved to the Education Building. In 2005, they were damaged by water intrusion during Hurricane Katrina.

In 2010, an alumni offered to have both paintings refurbished, requesting that her donation remain anonymous. The paintings were restored by the New Orleans Conservation Guild.

The “Drydale Angel” recently revealed herself. She is **Myra Lee DiGange ‘77**. “My grandparents received two Drydale paintings as wedding gifts,” says Myra. “The painting were lost in Hurricane Camille in 1969. In 1974, I was a freshman at Charity Hospital School of Nursing and discovered those two paintings there in the dorm! They reminded me of my grandmother who wanted to be a nurse, but wasn’t able to attend school. The paintings were a source of encouragement to me when I was feeling overwhelmed!”

“When I heard the Drysdales needed restoration, I was very happy to pay for it in honor of my mother and aunt. I am glad to know the paintings will be displayed in a place of honor in the new building.”

What a testament to the power of art, linking together the gratitude of a patient for his nursing care almost a century ago, and the comforting of a young student nurse who would see that his paintings were returned to their original beauty. ❖

Part-time caregivers sought to help with morning home care

Mary Marzoni ‘07 is seeking alumni or students who might be interested in a part-time caregiver/PCA job. “My husband is 45, a spinal cord injury and stroke survivor. He has no cognitive deficiencies, but requires total care. I need someone to assist me with his morning care and getting him into his power wheelchair, at our home in Old Jefferson.” Choose the days that work for you, 8am-noon, \$60/shift. No previous experience needed; Mary can train you in many nursing skills: intermittent catheterization, PEG tube feeding/medication administration, use of a lift, skin protection, range of motion, adaptive technology, and more. If you are interested, please contact Mary Marzoni msmarzoni@gmail.com or 504-473-8465. ❖

2022 Election Candidate Biographies

SECRETARY CANDIDATE - Unopposed



Joycelyn Gondolfo Jeansonne '78: Active in the Alumni Association since the 1980s, Joycelyn has served on the Board, as President, and currently as Secretary, a position she has held since 2012. She is on the Scholarship Committee, and she and her husband Kevin sponsor the Jeansonne Scholarship every semester. She has a BSN from Northwestern, a MN from LSUMC, and a post-graduate NNP certification from LSUMC. She was Supervisor of PICU at Big Charity before moving to Alexandria where she taught Pediatric Nursing at LSU Alexandria. Joycelyn guest lectures at Louisiana College, volunteers at the Alexandria Museum of Art, and has been Secretary, President and Captain of the Krewe of Medea, an Alexandria Mardi Gras krewe.

BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES - Two positions - Unopposed



Vivian Larkin Manes '70: Vivian is a board certified nurse case manager with twenty-plus years of experience, currently working for a private rehab company. She has been a board member of the Case Management Society of America and a member of the American Society of Pain Management Nursing. She has been an active member of the Alumni Association for many years, serving on the Nominating Committee, Advisory Committee, and currently as a Board Member. "I remain committed to a strong and dynamic alumni, focusing on support and encouragement of Charity students." Vivian lives in Metairie, LA.



Judy LaFleur Ross '68: Judy worked full time for thirty-four years at Charity Hospital in the Medical ICU, Infectious Disease unit, and in Nursing Education and Staff Development. After retiring she worked as a pool nurse two to three days a week for thirteen years in Charity's various outpatient clinics. Judy has been an active member of the Alumni Association for many years, was on the Alumni Association's Advisory Committee, and currently serves as a Board Member. Judy lives in Harahan, LA. ❖

Renew Your Membership!

Your membership dues fund our Alumni office so we can continue to publish newsletters twice a year, keep up our database, and maintain our website. We stay in touch with you and thousands of other Charity graduates throughout the country, and help keep the spirit of Charity alive across the many generations of alumni. All that for only \$15 in annual dues!

As a paid member, you are entitled to vote in elections for new Board members and officers. You receive the *White Cap* each spring, and the *Alumni News* each fall.

Renew your Alumni Association membership at the \$25 level or above and you will be listed in the 2022 *White Cap* as a "Member of Note," plus you'll receive your choice of gifts: a 2022-23 pocket planner, a blue pelican coaster, a handy 3" x 5" notepad, or a vintage postcard of the dorm. Use the form on page 23, or pay securely online at our website:

www.CharityAlumni.org

Top to bottom: left: 2022-23 pocket planner, flip-top notepad; right, vintage postcard of old dorm, pelican coaster.





Spring 2022 Alumni Breakfast

Thank you for being a friend!

*Picture it: Charity Alumni
together again after two long years!*

A Tribute to ALL the Golden Girls (and Guys) among us!
Relive your favorite **Golden Girls** moments!
Rock those 80s fashions! Or maybe a chicken costume...

Saturday, March 26

At The Ridgeway, 2431 Metairie Road

Metairie Road at Ridgeway Drive

(Plenty of free parking around the building and across Ridgeway Drive)

Buffet Menu: Eggs Benedict, Shrimp and Grits,
Fruit Salad, Veggies, Coffee, Tea, Juice
And, of course, CHEESECAKE!

*Great food, great friends & great memories –
Plus souvenirs, costume contest, door prizes...
and so much more!*

**Registration and Cash Bar open at 9:30am,
Buffet opens at 10am, Program at 10:30am**

\$40 per person

Reserve early to guarantee your seating!



Spring 2022 Alumni Breakfast Reservation Form

Use this form and mail to: CHSN Alumni Association, Delgado Charity School of Nursing, 450 S. Claiborne Ave, New Orleans, LA 70112
Or purchase tickets online at **www.CharityAlumni.org**

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY!

Name _____ Class of: _____ Phone: _____ Cell Home
First name Graduating name (if different from last) Last name

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Total number of people _____ @ \$40 each.....\$ _____

Bringing a Guest? Please give us the name for their Name Tag: _____

Please attend only if you are healthy, and at your own risk. We are hoping the worst of the Omicron variant will be over by this date, but we will be adhering to any current state and local mandates regarding venue capacity and vaccination status. Any cancellations by us or you (prior to event) will be fully refunded.

CHSNAA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Check your mailing label for the year your membership expires. Use this form to renew, or to make a donation.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY!

Class of: _____

Name _____
First name Maiden/graduating name Last name

Address: _____
 _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Home

Email: _____

I Want to Contribute to:

Alumni Scholarship Fund.....\$ _____
 Student Emergency Assistance Fund.....\$ _____
 Art & Archives Preservation Fund.....\$ _____
 Valerie Boudreaux '93 Scholarship Fund.....\$ _____
 Bernice Bonds Scholarship Fund.....\$ _____

Other: _____

Annual Membership Dues:

- ☐ \$15 Regular Membership
☐ \$25 Blue Ribbon Member
☐ \$50 Silver Star Member
☐ \$100 Sr. Stanislaus Member
☐ Sustaining Member: a one-time gift of \$500
 (and never pay dues again).*

If you renew at a level of \$25 or more, or make a donation of \$25 or more, please select your choice of:

- ☐ 2022-2023 Alumni pocket calendar
☐ Pelican coaster ☐ No gift, please.
☐ Alumni notepad
☐ Vintage postcard of the old Charity Dorm

Mail to: **CHSN Alumni Association**

Delgado Charity School of Nursing
 450 South Claiborne Ave, New Orleans, LA 70112.

You can write one check for your membership dues, any donations, and the breakfast. You can mail your ballot in the same envelope as well. You can also do everything (except vote) online at **www.CharityAlumni.org**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING

Candidate bios are on page 21. Circle your selections on the Ballot at right, cut it out along the dotted lines, and fold it in half to protect the privacy of your vote. Place it in an envelope and mail to the CHSN Alumni Association.

You may include the membership form and your dues in the same mailing envelope. Your Ballot will be placed in a secure ballot box immediately upon receipt. Ballots must be received in the Alumni Office no later than March 4, 2022, to be counted.

CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL

Only current members are eligible to vote. Check your mailing label for your membership status. The four-digit number adjacent to your name on your mailing label indicates the year your membership expires. If you see "2021" beside your name, it means your membership expired at the end of 2021. You can vote in this election, but please renew your membership for 2022.

If your label has a "0" or a year earlier than 2021, you are overdue to pay your membership, and you should send a check along with your ballot.

If the number on your label is 2022 or greater, or if it is 9999, 8888 or 7777 (special membership categories like Lifetime or Sustaining), then you do NOT need to renew your membership and you can go ahead and vote. ❖

2022 ELECTION BALLOT

DIRECTIONS: Circle the names of the candidates of your choice. Cut out the ballot, fold and mail. You can include in the same envelope with your dues.

SECRETARY CANDIDATE

JOYCELYN JEANSONNE '78

BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES
 (Vote for Two)

VIVIAN MANES '70

JUDY ROSS '68

Check one:

- ☐ I am current on my membership dues.
☐ I am renewing my membership today.

Mail your ballot to: **CHSN Alumni Association**,
 Delgado Charity School of Nursing
 450 South Claiborne Ave, New Orleans, LA 70112

Charity Hospital School of Nursing ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Delgado Charity School of Nursing
450 South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**If you received this newsletter
in error, or need to
change your address,
please let us know at
chsnaaoffice@gmail.com**

*What is that number
by my name?*

The four-digit number following your name on your mailing label indicates the year your membership expires. For example, "2021" next to your name means your membership expired at the end of 2021. Please consider renewing your membership now for 2022. A renewal form is on page 23.

*Construction of the
new building on Delgado's
City Park campus has begun*



**Charity Hospital
School of Nursing
Alumni Association**

Delgado Charity School of Nursing
450 South Claiborne Ave
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
Phone: 504-571-1395
Email: chsnaaoffice@gmail.com
Website: www.CharityAlumni.org
Facebook: Charity Alumni NOLA

