

St. Joseph's School of Nursing Alumnae Association Newsletter Editor 184 Toby Crescent Hamilton, ON. L8T 2P2 www.sjsnaa.com

January 2024

Dear Nursing Colleagues,

Greetings to all members from the Executive and Happy 2024! We are hoping this newsletter finds everyone well rested and recovering from the holiday season. The long winter awaits us now and perhaps many are planning some warm destination vacations. However you are spending your days ahead, know that your Executive is back to work and planning the upcoming year's big event, our Annual Reunion Day celebration, taking place on Thursday May 23, 2024 at Michelangelo's Banquet Centre in Hamilton. More details will follow in our April Newsletter and these will also be posted on our website.

I hope everyone who has access, has had a chance to visit our website, <u>www.sjsnaa.com</u>. It is continually updated by Connie Prowse '69, one of our Archivists and Kristine Rogers '69, our President and Website Coordinator. Many memories of our last Reunion Day are recorded there. It is a work in progress as well, with updates to Anniversary Class Celebrations and the Photo Gallery. Be sure to have a look!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings! We are at the start of a new year and are preparing for the work ahead...work that would be easier if the Executive positions were all filled. I support the Newsletter Editor's message, asking for members to come forward and fill the vacant roles to ease the workload of the current Executive. At the same time, we know there is support for the Alumnae by the number of people that volunteer to assist on Reunion Day. We couldn't have a Reunion Day without our volunteers! We need additional members to come forward and join a dedicated Executive group that wants to ensure the Alumnae will continue in the future.

It is important to recognize that there are communication options for anyone living a distance from Hamilton and wanting to participate on the Executive.

Sincerely, Kristine

REUNION DAY MASS AND LUNCHEON 2024

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

THURSDAY MAY 23, 2024 MICHELANGELO'S BANQUET CENTRE 1555 UPPER OTTAWA ST, HAMILTON

MASS @ 10:00 AM LUNCHEON @ 12:00 PM

Kathy Jackson '73 @ sisnaareunion@gmail.com and Jean McGilchrist '72 @ jeanmcgilchrist@gmail.com are the Luncheon Coordinators for Reunion Day 2024.

CLASS ORGANIZERS of the Special Anniversary Years, please let us know who you are! Please contact **sisnaareunion@gmail.com** It is important to contact us for any special requests or notifications.

There is also a call out for **VOLUNTEERS** to assist on Reunion Day. Your help will be greatly appreciated!!! Please contact **sisnaareunion@gmail.com** if you would like to help out.

ANNIVERSARY CLASSES CELEBRATING IN 2024

1974, celebrating 50 years

1954, celebrating 70 years

1959, celebrating 65 years

1964, celebrating 60 years

1969, celebrating 55 years



We are happy to accept submissions by class organizers, of any pictures of life during student days, graduation or past reunion celebrations. Please submit these to Connie Prowse '69 @ connie.prowse@gmail.com or Kristine Rogers '69 @ alumnae@sjsnaa.com . All pictures submitted are put into Power Point Presentations to be shown at our next Reunion Day. These Power Point Presentations will also be loaded onto our website www.sjsnaa.com

MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Unfortunately, the Executive has not received any interest in filling the positions available on the Executive Team. This is a MAJOR issue!!! Without additional support, this Executive will eventually fold and there will no longer be a Reunion Day to attend or a Newsletter to read!

For the last many, many years this team has worked very hard at keeping up the traditions for our Alumnae! Many members of the Executive have held several roles, at times <u>simultaneously</u>, as we aimed to keep the membership fully informed. Even during the COVID years, we held Zoom meetings regularly and worked to inform all of you of our work at updating our Constitution and our Executive Roles, updating the Membership Database and the ongoing major additions to our website <u>www.sjsnaa.com</u>

We have been asking for help for a while now! We work as a team and offer support and mentorship to anyone willing to join us. Experience is not necessary...just a willingness to help! We have several roles to fill.

Even during the COVID Years we celebrated our 50 Year Classes with website additions and at our last Reunion Day, we made sure every 50 Year Class was celebrated marching into the luncheon hall. The Power Point presentation was very inclusive of all five 50 Year Classes!

EVERY CLASS from St. Joseph's School of Nursing deserves to have a **50 YEAR CELEBRATION!** We still have 5 classes that deserve to be honoured! Please let's make this happen for our few remaining classes!

We can't make this any clearer! This Alumnae has been in existence for over 100 years and it would be a very regrettable situation if we can't keep it going for as long as possible! It was decided at our last Executive meeting that we will not hold a Raffle at our Reunion Day this coming year, as we were not able to fill the position. It takes a lot of work to source out and organize the donations and recruit the help required to run the Raffle. That is one major change that will take place for Reunion Day 2024.

Fortunately Karen Martin '69, has offered to take on the role of Liaison to the Sisters. Karen is a long time Alumnae member as well as a previous long time Executive member. We welcome Karen back for her experience and dedication!

The following positions are available and in need of being filled!

Vice President
Mass Coordinator
Raffle/50/50 Coordinator
Luncheon Coordinator (for the 2025 Reunion Day Luncheon)

Executive Contact List 2024

POSITION	NAME	
President	Kristine Rogers '69	
Vice President	To Be Filled	
Recording Secretary	Nancy March '72	
Treasurer	Patricia O'Neill '74	
Membership Secretary	Pat Duxbury '66	
Newsletter Editor/ Dispatcher	Linda Lipsitt '72	
Mass Coordinator	Judy Cleary '67	
Mass Coordinator	To Be Filled	
Liaison to the Sisters	Karen Martin '69	
Archives Coordinator	Connie Prowse '69	
Archives Coordinator	Janny Bruyn '69	
Luncheon Coordinator	Kathy Jackson '73	
Luncheon Coordinator	Jean McGilchrist '72	
Website Coordinator	Kristine Rogers '69	
Raffle/50/50 Coordinator	To Be Filled	

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2024

Congratulations to 7 New Honorary Membership Recipients:

Edda Gris Engel '65 Martha Houser Green '66 Mary Stack Parsons '67 Elaine Poirier Deroo '72

Antoinette Corrado McDermott '66 Patricia Faulkner Duxbury '66 Susan Smith Routliffe '71A

Honorary membership status is awarded for 25 years of continuous Alumnae membership. New Honorary members are awarded a beautiful gold pin at the Alumnae Luncheon in May, in recognition of their dedication to their nursing alumnae. Please let Membership Secretary. Pat Duxbury know if you will be attending the 2024 Reunion Day events, so that we can have your pin and congratulatory letter ready for you. If you are unable to attend and would like a designated member to pick it up for you, also let Pat know at 905-632-3111 or duxburp@gmail.com.

Donations

All donations are gladly accepted, including articles and items of interest from the School of Nursing, pictures and posts of reunion gatherings. Monetary donations can be sent to our Treasurer, PAT O'NEILL. She can be contacted at patriciaoneill@rogers.com or 905-765-6606.

Our Alumnae has made December donations to the following:

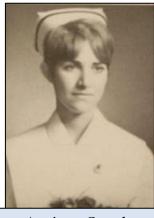
St. Joseph's Healthcare, specifically designated to the Library Renovations, where several Archival artifacts and pictures and books from our School of Nursing and our Alumnae are housed.

St. Joseph's Villa for Patient Services

Margaret's Place Hospice



Edda Gris Engel'65



Antoinette Corrado McDermott'66





Duxbury'66



Mary Stack Parsons'72



Susan Smith Routliffe'71A



Elaine Poirier Deroo'72

Recommended Reading

The Jazz Club Spy by Roberta Rich (2023) A young girl and her Jewish family were driven from their Russian village by the Cossacks in the 1920's. She now works in the glittering New York jazz club scene as a cigarette girl where she moonlights as a spy and attempts to bring justice to her family on the eve of WW II.6



EILEEN HUNTER KELLY '47 written by Janny Bruyn '69

Eileen's son's dog, Riley, greeted us noisily at the front door as we arrived. Ok, he didn't so much greet us as warn us! He kept an eye on us until he determined whether we were friend or foe. Then he warmed to having company and displayed his favorite toy for us to admire and possibly toss for him to retrieve. We felt reassured that he is there as companion and guard for our cherished alumnae member, Eileen Hunter Kelly '47.

At 98, Eileen lives with her son Paul, in the house on East 31st St, that she and her husband bought in 1955. She says being the last of the generation of families that lived in her neighbourhood, she has seen much change. The view from her front window no longer stretches all the way to Upper Gage, some 6 blocks away and the busy times of being a wife and mother of two sons, volunteering with her church group and at Macassa Lodge are now fond memories. Theirs was a vibrant neighbourhood of families of mostly the same station in life. They were close friends and help mates, socially active and members of the euchre club.

Eileen was born on her family farm near Freelton on Dec. 16, 1925. She was the fourth of five brothers and sisters. In 1943, at 18 years of age, she left home to enrol at St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Hamilton.

There were 8 lay nursing students and two Sisters in Eileen's class with another cohort of 30 students that took classes separately, but all 40 graduated together at the Cathedral of Christ the King in May of 1947. Escorts and sweethearts attended the ceremony and all stayed for the celebratory dance that followed.

Residence for the first 3 years of the Class of '47 was in the Undermount building, but for their senior year they moved to the newly purchased more elegant accommodation, an estate house.



Eileen is 4th from the right

named Marygrove. Several unmarried nurses, hospital and administrative staff also lived at Marygrove and the students enjoyed more freedom and responsibility. The routine for nursing students included getting up early to attend mass in the chapel, a cafeteria breakfast then ward duty and a class in the afternoon. Students were granted a half day off per week but were generally not informed of it until the day of, which made it difficult to make plans. In 1945, the entire class travelled to Detroit Michigan to begin their Pediatric affiliation at the renowned Detroit Children's Hospital. It was quite an adventure!

After graduation, Eileen as employed through an agency for private duty nursing. However she was soon needed elsewhere. In the early 1950's, the number of Polio cases, after declining during the Second World War, exploded to become the worst national epidemic since the 1918 Spanish Flu. Nurses were desperately needed and Eileen was recruited to work at a specially isolated building near the Hamilton General Hospital. There were large windows overlooking the street and separate wards for women, men and children.



Reunion Day 2023



Reunion Day 2011



It was during this time that Eileen began seeing more of Richard Kelly, a veteran of the Second World

War and on September 16, 1950, Eileen and Dick were married. They were able to buy the house on E 31st Street on June 10, 1955 and a month later in July, welcomed their firstborn son, Brian,

At 98, Eileen is engaging, quick of wit with an easy laugh. She enjoys doing crossword puzzles, a

collector. She had a friend who lived in Vancouver who wrote to pen pals all over the world and then sent Eileen many of her stamps which Eileen added to her collection. She still has these albums

today! Eileen is also an avid sports fan. She follows the Blue Jays and for years, she and Dick had

a fall two years ago. Riley keeps her company as her son Paul is away at work during week days.

able to go about for groceries or to visit family on her own. Eileen is also blessed with 2

She has no debilitating health problems, although she is bothered with back discomfort as a result of

Just a few years ago, Eileen relinquished her driver's license and misses the independence of being

Eileen's niece. Jeanne Jamieson Sutton, a St. Joe's graduate as well from 1978, lives nearby and is

supportive. She accompanies Eileen to our Reunion Day celebrations. So circumstances permitting.

celebration! Thank you Eileen, for a very enjoyable visit and some wonderful glimpses of the Class of

we are all very much looking forward to getting together with Eileen at our next Reunion Day

little reading, and visiting with family and friends when able. For many years Eileen was a stamp

Riley, her companion



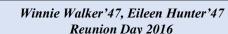
1947!

Eileen turned 98 on Dec 16, 2023

followed 9 years later by Paul.

season tickets to the Hamilton Tiger Cats.

Grandchildren and 2 Great Grandchildren.





Eileen is 3rd from the right

Marie Rose Andrevchuk Yakimoff '54

Many of our members will remember Marie Yakimoff '54 as a dedicated educator of many nursing students at St. Joseph's School of Nursing Hamilton, Chedoke Hospital and Mohawk College for several years. Marie was born in Grimsby ON. to parents Stephen and Frances Andreychuk. She was one of four daughters, three of whom were St. Joseph's School of Nursing graduates.

Upon graduation from Grimsby High School, obtaining awards for high proficiency in her studies, Marie was accepted into the nursing program by the Sisters of St. Joseph at St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Hamilton. Graduating in 1954 she became a Registered Nurse and an Instructor at the School of Nursing. While on staff, she also attended the University of Ottawa and received a BSc.N. She later earned a M.Sc. ED at Niagara University. Marie taught several subjects in her nursing career and was

named the recipient of the Mohawk College President's Award for selfless dedication and exceptional performance as a faculty member to Mohawk College and the Nursing Profession! She was a role model for co-workers and students and was known as a smart, generous and dedicated educator! She co-developed clinical evaluation forms for students that were used across Canada and beyond. Her enthusiasm for teaching never waned!

She was an avid reader, particularly mystery novels. She had a strong and special devotion to her religious faith. She was C.W.L. President and Lector at St. Charles Garnier Parish. Marie was also a Lector at St. Joseph's Hospital Chapel and was a member and a previous Executive Member of the School of Nursing Alumnae Association. She also loved to be entertained by the Arts. Marie's pursuits included Operas, Concerts, Broadway Musicals and Plays. She was an avid Tiger Cat football fan. As a member of the Mohawk Retirees Association, she was able to enjoy these events with family and friends.

Marie passed away peacefully on March 14, 2023 after an illness. She was a devoted wife to Paul Yakimoff for 62 years and sister, friend and beloved aunt to several nieces and nephews.







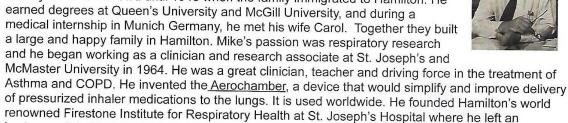




Reunion Day 2015

Dr. Michael Newhouse (1935-2023)

Born in Vienna, Austria in 1935, Mike fled the Nazi's in 1939 with his family to Henley-on-Thames U.K. until 1948 when the family immigrated to Hamilton. He



immense global legacy in Respiratory Medicine, in his research, education and clinical work. He

created an environment of excellence for clinical care and a vibrant academic program. He was a

dedicated patient advocate. Many of us will remember Dr. Newhouse, with his white lab coat and his

entourage of clinical followers walking the halls and units of St. Joe's. Dr. Michael Thomas Newhouse passed away peacefully at home on December 25, 2023 at age 88.

The Official Opening and Dedication of the Regional Chest and Allergy Unit 1979



Dr. Peter Knight (1928-2023)

Dr.Knight was born in Auckland New Zealand in 1928 and graduated from Medical School in Birmingham U.K. in 1953. As a Fellow at Harvard University, he worked at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital on Kidney Transplantation. In 1965, he performed the Southern Hemisphere's first successful kidney transplant when he and his wife Gwyn lived in Adelaide, South Australia. At St. Joseph's Hospital Hamilton, where he was a General Surgeon, he performed the first kidney transplant in 1970. He then served as Chair of the Section of Chronic Dialysis and Transplantation for the OMA. He served as advisor to the Canadian Kidney

Foundation, was President of the St. Joseph's Hospital Medical Staff Society and was a member of the hospital's Board of Directors. In the 1980's, Dr Knight became an expert in motor vehicle trauma and its prevention. Together with the Canadian Automobile Association and the police, he presented a successful plea to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario that the province's in-vehicle restraint laws should be upgraded to include all passengers, especially children under six. As a member of the Global Traffic Safety Trust (GTST), an elite global team of vehicle experts, he

co-authored a book called "Reducing Road Trauma: A Global Challenge" which received the Volvo Traffic Safety Award in 1988. GTST continued to work across several countries to promote road safety and the prevention of road deaths and injuries. Dr. Knight received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award and also the Canada Volunteer Award, to name a few.

Dr. Peter Read Knight passed away at age 95, on June 8, 2023 at his second home, St. Joseph's Hospital, where he worked as a General Surgeon, teacher, mentor and colleague for 25 years. He was known for his very big heart, his marvellous sense of humour, his operatic singing voice and vast musical song book and his grand example of a long life well lived!



Reunion Day 2008

ALUMNAE INACTION

St. Joseph's School of Nursing Alumnae Association Newsletter Editor 184 Toby Crescent Hamilton, ON L8T2P2 www.sjsnaa.com

Dear Nursing Colleagues

Happy Spring! It's always a pleasure to have the warmer weather and the longer daylight hours after a very dark winter. Spring brings hope with the renewal of Mother Nature and all that she brings to our world! Spring also means that we have been working on our upcoming Reunion Day celebrations taking place on Thursday May 23, 2024, at Michelangelo Banquet Centre in Hamilton. Included in this newsletter is the Reunion Day Flyer with all the information on the Mass and Luncheon to follow, as well as ticket information and the cost. Also, this information is posted on our website, www.sjsnaa.com.

April 2024

Monsignor Murray Kroetsch will be the celebrant for Mass this year.

As before, I urge everyone who has access, to have a look at our website. There is updated information being added frequently. Be sure to look at the Anniversary Class presentations and the Photo Gallery. The power points for the classes celebrated in 2023 are now posted on the website. So mark your calendars...and hope to see many of you on Reunion Day!



1915 - 1978

All St. Joseph's School of Nursing Grads, St. Joseph's Campus of Mohawk College Nursing Grads, Nursing Instructors, and Nursing Friends of the Alumnae

ANNUAL REUNION DAY MASS and LUNCHEON Thursday, May 23, 2024

a

Michelangelo Banquet Centre 1555 Upper Ottawa St., Hamilton ON L8W 3E2

Time of Mass: 10:00 am
Celebrant: Monsignor Murray Kroetsch

Time of Luncheon: 12:00 noon

Ticket Price is \$65.00

For ticket information, please contact: Kathy – Luncheon Coordinator sisnaareunion@gmail.com

All tickets must be purchased by Monday, May 8, 2024

President's Message

Hello everyone! This message comes to you as my last newsletter message as President of St.Joseph's School of Nursing Alumnae Association. As I reflect over my term, I think back to the 2019 Reunion Day. Little did we know then, we would not be together again in that venue until May 2023! Covid arrived the winter of 2020, preventing large group gatherings.

As I reflect over the past three two-year terms (2018-2024), I am proud to say the Alumnae has remained strong. This is due to the commitment of the executive and to all of you, our faithful Alumnae members! Your executive remained busy during the Covid years with online "Zoom" executive meetings. These meetings centred around revisions to our governing documents, our role descriptions and upgrades to our membership database and our website.

If you attended the 2023 Reunion, you know what a huge success it was! We celebrated loud and long with all the classes that missed their "special 50 Year celebrations". We are currently planning for the 2024 Reunion Day to be held on May 23 at Michelangelo Banquet Centre. Your new President will be announced and introduced at that time.

I want to express my gratitude for you, the faithful members, that continue to support your Alumnae and keep us strong. I want to give my sincere thank you to my fellow executive members for the generosity of their time, commitment and skill.

Be well and I will see you in May!

Kristine

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are always grateful for those who offer assistance on Reunion Day! We are still looking for volunteers to help out on Reunion Day.

If you can offer any help, please contact Kathy Jackson'73 @ sjsnaareunion@gmail.com or Jean McGilchrist'72 @ jeanmcgilchrist@gmail.com

As well, you can also contact anyone on the Executive. (Contact list is available in the newsletter). We will gather and share information in our planning.

For Your Information...



Do you need to create or update your Will?

A Will is essential in helping to ensure your wishes for loved ones will be realized. We know, a Will can sound like a BIG job. Complex, too. But thanks to St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation's partnership with **Willfora**, the process of creating a Will is both FREE and easy.

Willfora is a guided, on-line Will service for Canadians. Using templates created by experienced, professional legal experts, it empowers you to create a simple Will online and it even includes the option to add Power of Attorney documents at no extra cost. Willfora also gives you the option to leverage your estate to support charities and causes that are close to your heart. There is absolutely no obligation to include St. Joe's in your Will, but we hope you may consider doing so.

Contact us for more information or to get started on your Will today.

Lisa Gonnering, Manager, Estate and Gift Planning

Cell: (905)536-9073 Email: lisa@stjoesfoundation.ca. Website: www.stjoesfoundation.ca/legacy

ANNIVERSARY CLASSES CELEBRATING IN 2024

1974, celebrating 50 years

1949, celebrating 75 years

1954, celebrating 70 years

1959, celebrating 65 years

1964, celebrating 60 years

1969, celebrating 55 years

Class Organizers, please submit any pictures of student days, graduation, or past reunion celebrations to Connie Prowse '69 @ connie.prowse@gmail.com or Kristine Rogers '69 @ alumnae@sjsnaa.com

A Power Point Presentation is being prepared to be shown on Reunion Day and will also be included on our website.

Also contact sisnaareunion@gmail.com for any special requests or notifications.

Contacts for Special Anniversary Classes Celebrating in 2024

Please contact the following Class Representatives for Reunion Activities

Class of 1974, celebrating 50 years – Teresa Mass

Class of 1954, celebrating 70 years – Betty Lemon Lush

Class of 1959, celebrating 65 years - Lorene Smith Martell

Class of 1964, celebrating 60 years – Dorothy Maridan Thomson or Suzanne Klein Duffy

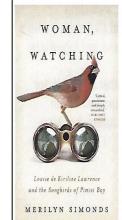
Class of 1969, celebrating 55 years – Karen Wilson Martin





Retreat

Sister Virginia Hanlon '45 Sister Patricia Hanlon '50 with their cousin Sister Mary Austin Reding '43



By award-winning Merilyn Simonds

A remarkable biography of an extraordinary woman, a Swedish aristocrat who survived the Russian Revolution, as a nurse with the Red Cross, only to have her husband murdered by Bolsheviks. She became an internationally renowned naturalist, one of the first to track the mid-century decline of songbirds. Referred to as a Canadian Rachel Carson, Louise de Kiriline Lawrence, lived and worked in an isolated log cabin near North Bay. She joined the Canadian Red Cross, visiting her Northern Ontario patients by dogsled. She became the Dionne Quintuplets' nurse. Becoming repulsed by the media circus, she retreated to her wilderness cabin where she devoted herself to studying birds that nested in her forest. A chance meeting sparked this story.

Recommended by Teresa Maas '74

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2024

Congratulations to 6 New Honorary Membership Recipients

Edda Gris Engel '65 Martha Houser Green '66 Susan Smith Routliffe '71A Antoinette Corrado McDermott '66 Patricia Faulkner Duxbury '66 Elaine Poirier Deroo '72

Honorary membership status is awarded for 25 years of continuous Alumnae membership. New Honorary members are awarded a beautiful gold pin at the upcoming Alumnae Luncheon in May, in recognition of their dedication to their nursing alumnae. Please let Membership Secretary, Pat Duxbury know if you will be attending the 2024 Reunion Day events, so that we can have your pin and congratulatory letter ready for you. If you are unable to attend and would like a designated member to pick it up for you, also let Pat know at 905-632-3111 or duxburp@gmail.com

Donation

We have received a donation from Joyce Melhado RN (Associate Member) for \$100.00 in memory of Sister Patricia Hanlon '50 and Sister Giovanni (Angelina) Finoro.

All donations are gratefully accepted.



St. Joseph's School of Nursing



Sister Celestine, Sister Maris Stella, Sister Mary Grace



Alumnae Past Presidents

For Your Information...



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Contact us for more information or to get started on your Will today.

Lisa Gonnering, Manager, Estate and Gift Planning

Cell: (905)536-9073 Email: lisa@stjoesfoundation.ca. Website: www.stjoesfoundation.ca/legacy

Alumnae Membership Renewals

If you have received a Membership Renewal/Application Form with your newsletter, it means your Active Membership is ending and this will be your final newsletter. For Memberships or renewals, please contact Pat Duxbury @ duxburp@hotmail.com or 905-632-3111.

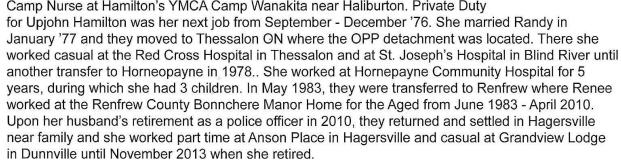
Please send your cheque for \$20.00 made out to S.J.S.N.A.A. (St. Joseph's School of Nursing Alumnae Association) to Pat Duxbury, 515 Hillfair Place, Burlington ON L7N 2W4.

For a membership card, please send a **self-addressed stamped envelope**, with your cheque and/or Membership/Renewal Form.

Marie-Renee (Dube) Reid Class of 1974

Marie-Renee graduated from Cathedral Girls High School in Hamilton. She entered St. Joseph's School of Nursing, but lived at home and commuted to Fontbonne by bus. After overcoming some fainting challenges throughout her training, "Renee" graduated with the Class of '74.

She worked at St. Joseph's Hospital on 4 Surgical, Orthopedics, from September '74- August '75. She went on to work for Medical Health Services and Welfare in Manitoba from August '75 - December '75, where she was posted to Percy Moore Hospital on the Peguis Reserve, then to outposts on the Berens River and the Poplar River. She returned to Hamilton after experiencing unsuitable working conditions. From June to September '76, she was the Camp Nurse at Hamilton's YMCA Camp Wanakita near Haliburton. Private Duty



As a child, Renee was very involved in Brownies, Guiding and Cadets. She continued after her move to Thessalon and after her daughter joined Brownies, she returned to Guiding, Pathfinders and Rangers, becoming Commissioner of the Renfrew District, Kintail Division for 3 years. Camping was always an interest and strength as she guided girls in camp...teaching outdoor skills, gadget building, fire lighting, outdoor cooking, meal planning, hiking, including map reading and compass use. She also taught First Aid. She was a leader for 22 years, during which time her husband also led Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Her 3 children kept her busy with other activities, such as figure skating, bowling, soccer, t-ball, hockey and swimming. The family billeted Exchange Students from the Canada World Youth Program several times. The first students, one from Edmonton and the other from Honduras were billeted for 4 months. The next year there was a student from Digby Nova Scotia and a student from Red Harbour Newfoundland and two young girls from Thailand. As a result one Thai student has kept in touch all these years visiting the family twice in Canada since. Renee had the opportunity as well, to visit Thailand last November for 3 weeks, spending time with her Thai student (now grown up and running a housekeeping and maintenance business) and visited on the Island of Ko Samui and on the Mainland spending time at floating resorts in national parks near Puket! Renee has always been very involved with the church parishes wherever they lived. She has held various positions, such as Lector, and as a member of the CWL, decorating the church for Christmas and Easter and volunteering for all functions the group planned, such as catering for social functions and the living rosary. She also has been Eucharistic Minister and Cantor. She was involved in music ministry, singing during Mass, weddings and funerals. She also started a Children's Liturgy of the

Word program. She and her husband were part of a marriage preparation team in Hagerville for 2 years. She is very involved in her parish's activities volunteering for many activities, including sponsoring a child in Haiti, through CHALICE. She also helps out with the Knights of Columbus where her husband is Grand Knight and plans, organizes and prepares the wine and cheese get togethers after the installation of officers and helps out for Charter night held in December.

During Covid, she helped her granddaughters with online schooling while looking after their toddler brother. She is also called upon for babysitting duties for PA days and during the summer when needed. She is very dedicated to looking after her elderly mother, with household duties, banking and appointments, especially after her mother's recent MI.



M. R. DUBE







Still looking to fill the gaps...

Our search continues for members to come forward to fill the roles vacated on the Executive Committee. We are in need of a **Recording Secretary**, a **Raffle 50/50 Coordinator** and a **Vice President**. We will not be holding a Raffle at this years' Reunion Day as we were not able to find a Raffle/50/50 Coordinator. We will still hold a 50/50 draw using the volunteers that have come forward to offer their help on Reunion Day 2024. No experience is necessary. Mentoring can and will be offered to anyone interested in helping out. We will also be experiencing some changes in the next fiscal year, starting July 1, 2024.

Please consider helping out if you want to see our Annual Reunion Days continue and read the newsletter that is provided with membership. The Executive Committee meets once a month in September/October, November (when needed), January, February, March and April when the Annual Reunion Day planning gets underway. Exceptions can be made for those who are unable to attend some of the meetings. We want to keep our Alumnae alive and thriving!

Alumnae Membership Renewals

If you have received a Membership Renewal/Application Form with your newsletter, it means your Active Membership is ending and this will be your final newsletter. For Memberships or renewals, please contact Pat Duxbury @ duxburp@hotmail.com or 905-632-3111.

Please send your cheque for \$20.00 made out to S.J.S.N.A.A. (St. Joseph's School of Nursing Alumnae Association) to Pat Duxbury, 515 Hillfair Place, Burlington ON L7N 2W4.

For a membership card, please send a **self-addressed stamped envelope**, with your cheque and/or Membership/Renewal Form.

Submissions for the October 2024 Newsletter are requested by October 1, 2024.

Executive Contact List 2024

POSITION	NAME
President	Kristine Rogers '69
Vice President	To Be Filled
Recording Secretary	To Be Filled
Treasurer	Patricia O'Neill '74
Membership Secretary	Pat Duxbury '66
Newsletter Editor/ Dispatcher	Linda Lipsitt '72
Mass Coordinator	Judy Cleary '67
Liaison to the Sisters	Karen Martin '69
Archives Coordinator	Connie Prowse '69
Archives Coordinator	Janny Bruyn '69
Luncheon Coordinator	Kathy Jackson '73
Luncheon Coordinator	Jean McGilchrist '72
Website Coordinator	Kristine Rogers '69
Raffle/50/50 Coordinator	To Be Filled



St.Joseph's School of Nursing Alumnae Association Newsletter Editor 184 Toby Crescent Hamilton, ON L8T2P2 www.sjsnaa.com October 2024

Dear Nursing Colleagues

The summer of 2024 has flown by and here we are enjoying the cooler days and the colours of Fall. I hope this newsletter finds everyone well. After a summer break, we the Executive, are now back to meeting once a month to plan and execute for the upcoming fiscal year. Reunion Day 2025 was another successful gathering! Hopefully we capture some of the moments in the pictures included in this newsletter. As always, many more pictures and highlights will be found on our website www.sjsnaa.com soon. Please be sure to have a look!

A big THANK YOU goes out to the many volunteers who helped make Reunion Day a success!! We are very grateful to all who helped out!

There have been a few changes to the Executive since our last gathering. Kristine Rogers '69 has become the Immediate Past President of the Executive, passing the role of President to Kathy Jackson '73. Kristine will continue in her role as Website Coordinator. We also welcome Cathy Smith '71B to the role of Luncheon Coordinator (vacated by Kathy Jackson '73) and accepted the resignation of Jean McGilchrist '72 from her role as the second Luncheon Coordinator. We thank Jean for her superb knowledge and her many contacts as she was a wonderful participant in her role along with Kathy and we wish her well for the future!



HONOURING OUR RETIRING EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Nancy English March'72 Nancy joined the Alumnae Executive 2021 as the Recording Secretary

Jean Chalmers McGilchrist'72 Jean joined the Alumnae Executive 2023 as the Luncheon Coordinator

Kristine Brock Rogers'69 Kristine joined the Alumnae Executive 2010 as the Website Coordinator

In 2019 she assumed the role of President

and continues the role of the Website Coordinator

Kathy Alexander Jackson'73 Kathy joined the Alumnae Executive in 2015 as the Luncheon Coordinator

2024 she will assume the role of President of the Alumnae Executive

At this time we would also like to acknowledge the <u>Staff of Michelangelo Banquet Centre</u> who went out of their way to help before and during Reunion Day!

President's Message

As we begin a new year, starting with this October Newsletter, we're excited to reflect on the wonderful memories shared at our Reunion Day in May 2024. It was a special opportunity to reminisce, reconnect and celebrate our collective journey since graduation. Looking ahead, we're eager to continue these celebrations. While some Nursing Alumnae groups, like Mack School of Nursing, St. Catharines have had to disband and others are facing challenges, we remain committed to ensuring our Alumnae legacy continues to thrive. However, to do this, we need your help in filling a few key Executive positions: Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Luncheon Coordinator. Your involvement can make a meaningful difference as we work to keep our rich history alive!

Our Alumnae history stretches back to 1915, and although the hospital-based nursing program transitioned to community colleges in 1973, our Alumnae Association has proudly recognized all graduates, including those from Mohawk College's St. Joseph's Campus, up to 1978 - "The Last of the Best!"

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about these roles, I encourage you to reach out to me at <a href="mailto:

I'd also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Kristine Rogers (Brock '69) for her unwavering dedication over the last six years as President of our Alumnae Association. While Kristine steps down from the role, we are fortunate that she will continue to serve as Website Coordinator and Immediate Past President.

Here's to an exciting year ahead!

Warm regards Kathy Jackson (Alexander '73)



Prize Winners Reunion Day 2024

2 Door Prize Winners each consisting of a needlepoint picture donated by Jim Shipley '71A and \$100.00



Carole Reichheld Peterson'64, Margaret Gauthier'75

50/50 Winner Linda Rubie Olson '67 received \$962.50



Alumnae Executive 2024

STANDING: Judy Sherman Cleary'67, Kristine Brock Rogers'69, Connie Beamer Prowse'69, Patricia O'Neill'74, Patricia Faulkner Duxbury'66 SEATED: Kathy Alexander Jackson'73, Janny Scholten Bruyn'69, Linda Bogoslowski Lipsitt'72, Jean Chalmers McGilchrist'72

Class of 1954 Celebrating 70 Years





Graduation Diploma Doris Easterbrook 1954



Elsie Ormerod Wilson'54, Irene Field Monas'57, Pat LaFlamme Savelli'57, Helen Crotty Glinka Barry'56, Margaret Lagan O'Donnell'56, Carrol Karsten'56, Eileen Hunter Kelly'47

GRADUATING CLASS 1954 Celebrating 70 Years 1 member present



Elsie Ormerod Wilson'54 with her son. Elsie is an Honorary Alumnae Member.

Graduation Address - delivered by Mr. D. C. Gaskin President of the Studebaker Corporation of Canada, Ltd Member of the Hospital Advisory Board



Sister Maris Stella '56

Marion Brough'54

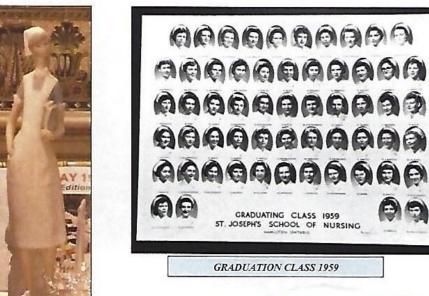
Class of 1959 Celebrating 65 Years



Class of 1959 celebrating 65 years 8 members present
Beverly Vicary Haist, Lorene Smith Martell, Evelyn Krubinski Elsie, Betty Howe Frieri, Nancy Wilson Kalin,
Janice Scott Ellis, Eleanor Garr Summerfield, Illa Horning Maher



Ledger of names of all members of St Joseph's School of Nursing



The Nurse Donated by Connie Skrok '59





Beverly Vicary Haist, Grandson of Illa Horning Maher

Meet Cathy Nurmi Smith '71B

Cathy was born in St. Catharines and grew up living in several cities in Ontario. Cathy was thrilled to be accepted into the 3 year program at St. Joseph's School of Nursing in 1969! Much to her surprise, her class became the first to graduate after only 2 years, thus making them the Class of 71B. After graduation, Cathy worked on 2 Maternity (high risk pregnancies), and Newborn Nursery for 2 years. Following that she worked in a physician's office and then ventured into teaching at the Provincial School of Nursing Assistants. She earned a BHSCN degree by taking many correspondence courses while working 5 days a week on various units with her students and raising a young child. As the role of Nursing Assistants grew and their title changed to Practical Nurse and finally Registered Practical Nurse, she grew with them. Over a 40 year career, Cathy taught the RPN two year program at Mohawk





College. Cathy is married and together with her husband, share 4 children and 9 grandchildren. She and her husband enjoy spending time with their grandchildren, travelling and golf. Cathy has volunteered for CAP (Cancer Assistance Program) for the past 8 years. It is a non government funded local charity, providing free practical services for cancer patients. Now that elder care is no longer an issue, Cathy looks forward to also volunteering her time with SJSNAA, to keep up the tradition of our yearly Reunion Day celebrations. We welcome her to this very important role of Luncheon Coordinator!

Donations	
Class of '69	\$200.00
Vera Summers Braithwaite '55	\$100.00
Kathy Templeton Levy '74	\$100.00
Robyn Innes Hill '78	\$100.00
Mary Farrell Romeo '60	\$ 60.00
Linda Rubie Olson '67	\$ 50.00





Janny Bruyn'69, Diane Poehlman'71B, Carol Pynn'71B, Patricia O'Neill'74

Thank You, to our Many Volunteers

Your help on Reunion Day was so appreciated!

Margaret Somerville '62 Wendy Farkas '70 Marianne Rohde '72 Moire Neil Brown '73 Jo-Anne Mrezar '73 Nancy Melnyk '65 Sylvie Malloy '72 Marlene Goette '70 Barb Hallam '66 Seana Jackson Debbie Hamman '76 Ida Porteous '69 Linda Castle '69 Margaret Gauthier '75 Mary Taborek '63 Shelley Forsyth '75 Marilyn Stewart '72 Bernie Mummery '66 Jeannine Giavedoni '65 Reese O'Connor





We would like to acknowledge the ongoing support and dedication of Sacristan Jeannine Heil Giavedoni '65 for her contribution in assisting our Mass Coordinator, Judy Cleary '67 for our Annual Reunion Day Mass Celebration. She is instrumental in obtaining the Sacristy from her church to assist the celebrant during the Mass every year! Her help is invaluable and the Executive is very grateful for her continued support!

L to R Cantor Doreen Karpuk, Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Sacristan Jeannine Heil Giavedoni '65

Class of 1964 Celebrating 60 Years With 30 Members Present



Standing: Dorothy Maradin Thomson, Rosemarie Delaney Psutka, Pat Janitor Howson, Corinne Jackson Kirker, Diane Tremblay Coates, Christine Kuron Kreibich, Carol Crown Berg, Karen Goodbrand Tigchelaar,

Martha Elgersma, Pat Fleming Kindree, Rosemary Bocchinfuso Venneri, Sandra Atherton Halyk, Jane Westorhuis Regnerus, Diane Park Daniels, Suzanne Klein Duffy, Lyla Somers Belohlavek

Seated: Helen Havers Hacking, Judy Gray Donnelly, Toni Van Schyndal Braud, Gwen Flowers Jeffrey, Judy King-Siganski, Pat Michna McAvella, Marietta Pupo, Sally Crawford Haberer, Carole Reichheld Peterson,

Gloria Finmore Marchionda, Myrna Donnelly Culver.

Missing from photos are Vicki Krakana Braun, Jeannie Granich Thompson, Diane McMichael Nicks, Susan Marchum Newbury, Lorraine Page Nelson, Brenda Drysdale Kelly, Marilyn Keefe Flynn,

Margaret Anne Barclay Caughlin, Gloria DelCol Castrodale, Frances Smith Brasier, Joanne Kaneva Godzisz







Original Hospital Buildings

GRADUATION CLASS 1964



Class of 1964
Sandy Atherton Halyk, Brenda Drysdale Kelly, Corinne Jackson Kirker, Diane McMichael Nicks,
Karen Goodbrand Tigchelaar, Judy King – Siganski, Dorothy Maradin Thomson, Chris Kuron Kreibich,
Jeannie Granich Thompson



Class of 1964

Lorraine Page Nelson, Margaret Ann Barclay Caughlin, Marilyn Keefe Flynn, Pat Fleming Kindree

Class of 1969 Celebrating 55 Years



CLASS OF 1969

CELEBRATING 55 YEARS

23 MEMBERS PRESENT

STANDING: Shirley Dunlop Davies, Terri Ricci Foltarz, Sheryl Filowich Franco, Linda Davies Castle,

Kristine Brock Rogers, Ida Holtrop Porteous, Karen Wilson Martin

SITTING: Dianne Whittle Groneberg, Connie Beamer Prowse, Ellie Gzik Deveau, Janny Scholten Bruyn,

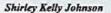
Barbara Van Sickle Patterson, Laura Dinardo Golini

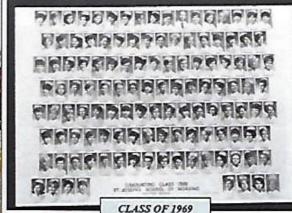


Class of 1969













Diane Roberts Paddock, Linda Davies Castle, Pamela Secor Knowles, Barb Van Sickle Patterson, Kathy Ditner Alderson, Nancy Payne Ross

Toast To The Alma Mater by Marie-Renee (Dube) Reid '74

Looking back nearly 52 years, we were young, naive, excited and very nervous and we went through the doors of Fontbonne Hall, anticipating a career in Nursing.

Who knew that becoming a nurse was not just a job but a vocation?

Who knew while learning and practising "hand washing", now called "hand hygiene", how important this simple first skill would be and still is as the first line of defence in infection control, especially with the outbreak of SARS, H1N1 and COVID.

Who knew that when doing bed baths on each other in the skills lab that we were also learning care, respect and maintaining the dignity of our patients.

Who knew that when we learned about the Muslim Religion in our primary Judeo- Christian Society that we were learning religious understanding and respect even before the influx of immigrants and refugees over the recent years.

Who knew that when we were introduced to RNAO and ONA how important these organizations would become in our careers in promoting "Best Practice", job protection, benefits and security.

Who knew as our instructors promoted continued education how necessary this would be in nourishing the fast paced, ever changing medical world.

50 years ago when we graduated, who knew that becoming a member of St. Joesph's School of Nursing Alumnae, attending the annual mass and luncheon would help renew our school friendships, reinvigorate our commitments to nursing and put back that bit of excitement that we felt as students.

Now, 50 years since we graduated, did we accomplish our goals? Did we practice in the field of nursing we anticipated? Did we nurse with confidence and joy? Were we prepared for change? I believe we were. Who knew? Apparently St. Joseph's School of Nursing of Hamilton knew. Our teachers prepared us to be caring, compassionate, empathetic, versatile, responsible and strong.

I am proud and honoured to be a graduate of St. Joseph's School of Nursing. I am grateful for my classmates, teachers and fellow nurses who have supported me.

Who knew that 50 years after graduating I would be here on your behalf "Class of '74" to toast our Ama Mater. So let us stand and raise our glasses.

"Here is to those who've seen us at our best and seen us at out worst and can't tell the difference"



M. R. DUBE

Marie-Renee Dube Reid '74



Class of 1974 Celebrating 50 Years With 35 Members Present



Mary Clawsie Bodnar, Patricia O'Neill, Margaret "Cookie" Calzonetti Smythe, Brenda Lumsden Johanson, Elly Devries Esson, Patricia Blackburn, Keti Kolesar Ruskai, Catherine Meehan Kyle, Louise Sullivan Roberts, Teresa McPhail, Mary Heuser Pierce

SITTING: Janice Laird Venturelli, Donna Ireland Bain, Veronika Kapsovary Laughton, Brenda Szabo Banks, Amy Clayton, Marie-Renee Dube Reid, Rosanne Scime Brien, Teresa Maas, Patricia Greer Simpson

Andrew McPhail
"piped in" the class of 1974,
celebrating their 50th anniversary

He then played "The Maple Leaf Forever" to start our luncheon..



Pat O'Neill, Susan Orzel Anderson, Rosanne Scime Brien, Teresa Maas







Mary Heusar Pierce, Patricia Greer Simpson



Donna Caughey Dargarvel

Pat O'Neill, Susan Orzel Anderson, Rosanne Scime Brien, Teresa Maas, Lucy Covelli Wilson



GRADUATION CLASS 1974

A Look At Our 50 Year Class

Keti Ruskai '74

Eufemija (Keti Kolesar) Ruskai came to Canada in 1970 from the former Yugoslavia (now Serbia) and married her husband Vladimir (who had arrived 3 years earlier). She was trained as an RN in former Yugoslavia but her diploma was not recognized by the College of Nurses in Ontario. She was fluent in 3 languages but English wasn't one of them. She enrolled in English as a second language at Mohawk College, completing the course in 6 months. She continued to study while working at the MacKenzie Nursing Home as a Nursing Assistant for \$1.75 per hour. Wanting to write the five RN exams, Keti decided to go back to school full time and enrolled at St. Joseph's School of Nursing after an appointment with Sister Joan O'Sullivan, the Director of Nursing, who gave her a chance even though her English was very limited. Keti remembers the moment with happy tears! She worked very hard, never

giving up, so not to disappoint Sister Joan, often studying till 3am and getting up early to study before classes or wards. All this and continuing to study ESL on Saturdays, taught by different Nuns in the city...

Keti graduated with the Class of '74 and was awarded the General Proficiency Award at graduation. She started a long and rewarding career at St. Joseph's Hospital, starting on 2 Maternity. After 15 years, Keti transferred to Labour and Delivery and worked there until her retirement. During her career Keti strived to always learn. She took many formal classes such as Prenatal 1 and 2, Neonatal Recuscitation, Fetal Monitoring, Anesthesia, Care of Spinal and Epidural Anesthesia, OR Scrub and Circulation Certification. Keti loved her work and received the Nursing Excellence Award from St. Joseph's Healthcare for Maternal/Child Nursing in 2004. Keti is very thankful to Sister Joan, her many instructors and educators, colleagues and especially her husband Vladimir for their unconditional support. On a personal note, Vladimir and Keti recently celebrated their 54th Wedding Anniversary. They have been blessed with 2 children, a son and daughter and 3 grandchildren. In May, Keti was extremely happy to join many of her classmates for 2 days to celebrate their 50th year since graduating from St. Joseph's School of Nursing. Keti remains a shining star among the Class of '74!



Keti Ruskai, Amy Clayton, Barbara Somerville Nimmo, Donna Caughey Dargavel

Honorary Pin Recipients

Patricia Faulkner Duxbury'66, Edda Gris Engel'65, Martha Houser Green'66, Elaine Poirier Deroo'72, Susan Smith Routliffe'71A



Rose Dzugan'68, Keti Kalescar Ruskai'74

Reunion Day 2019

K. RUSKAI



Al Copland '74, Keti Kalescar Ruskai '74 Reunion Day 2024





Needlepoint Alumnae Crest, collection of School Pins, Cap



Celebrating a Lifetime of Compassionate Care

HOPE HEALING DISCOVERY

Angela Rose Marie Holmes (nee Vescio), graduated from St. Joe's School of Nursing as part of the Class of '59. Following her graduation, Angela began a dedicated career in pediatrics at Burnaby General Hospital in British Columbia and then at the Greater Niagara General Hospital. She spent the last 25 years of her career in long-term care at Valley Park Lodge in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Outside of her lifelong dedication to nursing, Angela built a beautiful home and family with her husband Bill. Together, the couple had two sons, Tim and Bill Jr., who blessed them with two grand-daughters, Alexandra and Katherine.

Angela took great pride in her career and her family until the day she passed away peacefully at the age of 83, surrounded by her loving family on November 14, 2021.

Angela had never forgotten her time at St. Joseph's School of Nursing and the career it launched for her in nursing and pediatric care. And so, following her passing, Bill honoured Angela's memory by making a generous gift to St. Joe's. In recognition of this meaningful gift, a Birthing Room within the Women's & Infants' Unit will be named in Angela's honour.

By making a gift to St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation Hamilton, you are partnering with us to push the boundaries of care, to try new ways of doing things, to solve the mysteries of illness and disease and to purchase the newest, safest equipment. But even as healthcare continues to evolve, the care, compassion and dedication of nurses like Angela her fellow School of Nursing alumnae remains central to all that we do at St. Joe's. Thank you for continuing the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph Hamilton through your dedicated careers.

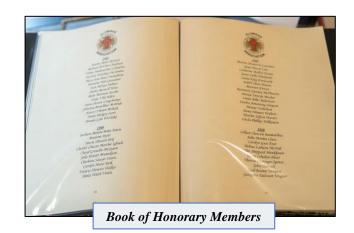
If you'd like to make a gift in honour of a loved one or a nursing alumna, either now or through your Will, please contact Lisa Gonnering, Manager of Estate and Gift Planning at St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation at 905-536-9073 or by email at lisa@stjoesfoundation.ca.

For more information you can also visit our website at www.stjoesfoundation.ca/legacy.

Dr. Ignatius (Harry) Scime M.D.
Internal Medicine
Gastroenterology
Passed away September 7, 2024



Dr. "Fern" Fernando Bianchi Rheumatologist Passed away September 13, 2024



Executive Contact List October 2024

POSITION	NAME	
Immediate Past President and	Kristine Rogers '69	
Website Coordinator		
President	Kathy Jackson '73	
Vice President	To Be Filled	
Recording Secretary	To Be Filled	
Treasurer	Patricia O'Neill '74	
Membership Secretary	Pat Duxbury '66	
Newsletter Editor/ Dispatcher	Linda Lipsitt '72	
Mass Coordinator	Judy Cleary '67	
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Archives Coordinator	Janny Bruyn '69	
Luncheon Coordinator	Cathy Smith '71B	
Luncheon Coordinator	To Be Filled	