



Swedish
Covenant
Hospital

SPRINT 2013

THE *Caring* TIMES

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

Letter from the SCHNAA Board

Dear Nurse Alumnae,

I'm looking forward to the upcoming Alumnae Reunion. My classmates and I are celebrating our 45th anniversary! Each year as we gather, the laughter and reminiscing of us all revolves around memories of our student days. We talk about the doctors, the head nurses, the instructors, the housemothers and the antics of our class. The thread that runs throughout our conversations is thankfulness for the exceptional training we received and the compassionate patient care we were taught. A testament to our training is that so many SCH graduates continued a life-long career in nursing.

As you return to Chicago this June, I'm pleased to say that you will see and hear examples of how the compassionate care continues throughout the hospital now and into the future. Recent experiences I have had at Swedish Covenant have affirmed this for me. My mother was a patient two years ago, and my husband last summer and fall. While the technology has been greatly enhanced from our student days, I was pleased to find the principles of good patient care still evident in everyone serving this special place of healing. From the nurses, nursing assistants, transport personnel and housekeeping staff, I was impressed with the excellent attention my family members received.

So, dust off your yearbooks, caps and memories, and join us in June. You are sure to enjoy this time of fellowship with friends, fabulous luncheon and program, and the opportunity to see at Swedish Covenant the same spirit of kindness and compassion we remember from our student days.

We hope to see you on June 8th!

Susan Tanner
Class of '68



Susan (Johnson) Tanner



Alumnae Association Board in 1973 featuring Susan and other familiar faces

The Connection from Hospital to Hospitality

This edition of the Alumnae Spotlight takes us to a farm in Irving, New York, at the home of Harriet (Brauer) Rupp. Harriet, a 1951 graduate of Swedish Covenant Hospital's School of Nursing, looks back at her nursing school experience with gratitude for its role in "turning a shy girl like me into a confident and compassionate Christian woman with the skills to care for others." Perhaps most notable for Harriet is how the hospital taught her hospitality, which she has practiced extensively for many years.

Harriet was born and raised in Rockford, IL. At a young age, she desired to help others and felt that she would likely accomplish this through missionary work. She later developed an interest in nursing, knowing that it would be a useful skill to have on the mission field. Following a relative's recommendation to apply to Swedish Covenant's School of Nursing for the best education and training, she was accepted and started in 1948.

Harriet looks back on her training at SCH with the fondest of memories. The quality of education was excellent and nursing students were given every opportunity to work the floors and be at the bedside providing meaningful care with genuine compassion. According to Harriet, what separates the Swedish Covenant experience from that of other nursing schools was the emphasis on faith and Christian values. "The best part of each day was in the way it began, at Chapel." This time of singing and praying prepared her for anything she would face in the day ahead. Harriet specifically recalls being "scared to death" on her first day in the operating room, but what gave her peace and the ability to succeed was the hymn sung earlier that day at Chapel, *Day by Day*, which played continuously in her head.



Harriet (Brauer) Rupp

Following SCH, Harriet found a nursing position at a VA hospital in Madison, WI. Sadly, one year into this job, Harriet's mother passed away causing her decision to leave this work behind to move home and take on a different type of work; helping her father raise her young brothers. During this time, she also took on some private duty nursing jobs in the evening, one of which was providing care for an uncle who had recently become a paraplegic.

Throughout these experiences, Harriet remained interested in becoming a missionary. She moved to Buffalo, NY, in the late 1950s to study Theology at Buffalo Bible Institute. It was here where she met a man named Ellsworth Rupp and the two were soon married. Harriet jokes, "I left school with a Mrs. Degree." In 1962, they bought a home on 60 acres of Concord grape farmland. If you have tasted Welch's grape juice or jelly, there is a chance the grapes came from Harriet's farm, as she has long held a contract as a member of

Welch's family of growers.

Harriet points out that she never left for missionary work in the traditional sense, but instead fulfilled her missionary work at home; caring for and modeling her faith not only to her five children and ten grandchildren, but also countless strangers. For years, she has opened her home to an organization made up of Christian seniors who travel, as well as International Students Inc., which has placed many college age students from around the world at her house for a few days at time. Living in proximity to numerous colleges makes her home an ideal location for students. To this day, Harriet still cherishes every opportunity to get to know her young guests, learn about their countries and culture, and share with them her words of witness.

Harriet supports Swedish Covenant Hospital, most notably with a charitable gift annuity that allows a donor to make a future gift to the hospital, receive a lifetime stream of income along with a tax deduction. She feels privileged to be a member of the Nurse Alumnae Association and praises the group's continued dedication to Swedish Covenant. She believes all SCH grads would agree, "If I were ill, there's nowhere else I would want to go."

Nurses Help Local School

Swedish Covenant nurses' service to the community extends beyond the walls of the hospital. Last winter, a number of nurses volunteered their time helping judge science fair projects at neighboring Budlong Elementary School. We are proud of their dedication to community service, health and education.



The Science Fair
Nursing Team

2013 SCH Nursing Alumnae Reunion

All are welcome to attend the Reunion festivities on June 8th. The classes receiving special tribute this year include 1938, 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963 and 1968.

Please join us at the event, we would love to see you!

Details and RSVP form on page 7.



Chronic Disease Program

For the second straight year, Swedish Covenant Hospital has received a \$100,000 grant from the George A. Ackermann Memorial Fund to support the hospital's Chronic Disease Care Transitions program. The goal of this program is to help patients understand and manage diseases such as congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and renal failure in order to reduce the risk of hospital readmission.

The program utilizes SCH physicians, nurses and wellness coaches in follow-up appointments soon after hospital discharge, remote telehealth monitoring, home visits and follow-up telephone calls with patients. In the program's first year, the generous support of the George A. Ackermann Memorial Fund directly impacted the care of over 300 patients, primarily those of an underserved population. Now, in its second year, the program is continuing to prove highly effective at improving the health of patients and reducing the hospital's 30-day readmission rate.

Oncology Affiliation with Rush University Medical Center

Swedish Covenant Hospital has established an affiliation with Rush University Medical Center (RUMC) for improving the quality and accessibility of cancer services in Chicago's northside communities. Collaborating with RUMC in this way helps bring the most up-to-date research and treatment opportunities to the SCH community.

This affiliation will merge clinical, research and academic programs at SCH with those at RUMC. It will strengthen the hospital's ability to help patients who have been diagnosed with an array of cancer types, including breast, colon, lung, liver and prostate cancer. For example, if a patient presents at SCH with an unusual tumor, the new affiliation will speed SCH's ability to get in touch with RUMC experts and combine knowledge and resources.

New Outpatient Surgery Center

Last summer the Foster Medical Pavilion opened its doors on the Swedish Covenant campus, beginning a new chapter in the hospital's history. The building offers many physician specialty offices and, most notably, an exceptional outpatient surgery center. Complete with the appropriate space, technology and expertise, the Center for Ambulatory Surgery has quickly become a valuable asset in enabling the hospital to meet the needs of the community today and well into the future.

The center provides patients care in specialties including orthopedics, ENT, pain management, podiatry, general surgery, urology, and ophthalmology. Nearly 550 surgical procedures have been performed since the opening of the Center with a significant increase expected as more residents of Chicago and surrounding suburbs learn about its world-class outpatient surgery experience.

In Loving Memory

Rose (Peterson) Scott '39
February 4, 2012

Beatrice (Johnson) Bjorklund '49
April 16, 2012

Winifred (Westerberg) Johnson '44
September 7, 2012

Beryl (Peterson) Connelly '44
March 17, 2012

Phyllis (Churchill) Roberg '45
August 13, 2012

Jennie (Solander) Erickson '45
September 9, 2012

Lillian (Stenmark) Christensen '39
March 26, 2012

Marion (Berg) Binz '48
August 21, 2012

Katherine (Nelson) Grover '38
October 15, 2012

Mae (Werth) Huebner '45
April 14, 2012

Alice (Johnson) Kortebein '53
August 27, 2012

Doris (Solander) Nelson '41
October 19, 2012

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



Our Magnet Journey Continues

Swedish Covenant Hospital's nursing team is preparing for our 2014 Magnet Re-designation. The latest Magnet Model takes us from the previous fourteen Forces of Magnet to five Magnet Components (Transformational Leadership; Structural Empowerment; Exemplary Professional Practice; Knew Knowledge, Innovations, and Improvements; and Empirical Quality Outcomes).

With this new model in mind, Mary Koleff-May (Magnet Program Director) and I had the opportunity to attend the 2012 ANCC National Magnet Conference® held in Los Angeles, California. Linda Beagley and Eva Peroulas (Nurse Educator/Quality Coordinators) joined us at the conference. More than 7,000 nurses and nursing executives from around the country gathered to celebrate Magnet Recognition and to share their evidence-based practices. This annual meeting is the official conference of the prestigious Magnet Recognition Program®, serving as both a celebration

of accomplishment for newly designated Magnet® organizations and a showcase of best nursing practices from the Magnet community. The conference theme, Reaching for the Stars, reflected just how far ANCC's Magnet Recognition Program© has come and the bright future ahead.

The opportunities in nursing are incredible, and there has never been a better time to be a nurse. While there is much expected of us as nurses, we are up for the challenges and are ready to serve as leaders to truly transform our care delivery systems. The conference week was all about celebrating our achieved goals and reaching for new ones; ones even higher than before. Achieving goals is something the SCH Nurse Alumnae can identify with in its successful fundraising for the Virginia Ohlson Scholarship Fund, which will soon provide its first scholarship. Our nurses are inspired by your continued devotion to nursing at Swedish Covenant Hospital.



From the Editor **Cam Johnson**

Liaison to SCH Nursing Alumnae

A Commitment to Nurses and Women

Virginia Ohlson Scholarship Fund

Nearly three years ago, the Nurse Alumnae Association began a journey of raising support for Swedish Covenant Hospital's Virginia Ohlson Scholarship Fund. Thanks to the generous gifts from many SCHNAA members, we are thrilled to be awarding the first scholarship this May during the annual Nurse's Week award ceremony at the hospital.

As one of the Nurse Alumnae Association's most distinguished members, Virginia Ohlson held a prominent nursing career centered on compassionate care and higher learning. The fund honors the memory of Virginia and addresses a genuine need of Swedish Covenant's Nursing Department to provide educational support to our compassionate nurses pursuing advanced degrees.

In addition to the Virginia Ohlson scholarship, the Alumnae Association will be awarding its traditional scholarships to North Park University undergraduate nursing students at the Nurse's Week ceremony.

Women's Health Initiative

When I think about women's health, certainly my mother, wife and daughters come to mind, and so do the 45,000 women annually served by Swedish Covenant Hospital and the many others in the community who are challenged to receive healthcare due to financial/cultural/logistical barriers. Many of these women represent a highly ethnically, culturally and socio-economically diverse population.

Leaning on the Christian values and mission that have guided the hospital over 125 years, Swedish Covenant recognizes its responsibility to provide the very best for these women and to be an advocate for the underserved among us. The hospital now has a compelling opportunity to carry this out through improved education and access to enhanced and fully integrated women's care.

The culmination of countless hours of discussions with patients, nurses, physicians and community members, diligent research and careful planning has produced the hospital's Women's Health Initiative. Within this initiative we are building the Women's Health Center, combining a full line of women's health services, state of the art equipment, female clinicians and private exam/consultation rooms. This new area is anticipated to open in the spring of 2014. In addition, a resource center and community outreach program will improve patient knowledge of health options.

The 2013 Reunion Luncheon on June 8th will provide additional information about the Women's Health Initiative. Please come to learn more and celebrate your nursing school anniversaries with your classmates.

Swedish Covenant Hospital Nursing Alumnae Association
ANNUAL REUNION LUNCHEON
Celebrating the Class Years of '38, '43, '48, '53, '58, '63 and '68
SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2013

8:30-11:00 am Coffee Hour, Chapel Service and Tours at SCH

Noon Luncheon at Doubletree Hotel
9599 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, IL 60077
For room reservations, call 847.679.7000 and mention reservation code "C-SCH"
Room rate: \$129 before May 18

2013 SCHNAA LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Luncheon reservations must be received by Monday, June 3, 2013. Please note the adjusted price of \$35

| | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------|
| Name | Maiden | Class |
| Address | City, State | Zip |
| Phone | Email | |
| Guest Name(s) | | |

Amount enclosed @ \$35.00/person \$ _____ *Missionaries are welcome as our guests.*

Reservations also accepted via email or phone by contacting Cam Johnson at cjohnson@schosp.org or (773) 989-6256. Payment also accepted at the Luncheon.

Please indicate whether or not you plan to attend the morning events at the hospital: Yes No
FYI, for those staying at the Doubletree, a shuttle service will be available (first-come, first-served) for the morning trip to SCH and back to the hotel.

2013 SCHNAA DUES NOTICE

\$30.00 Annual Membership (separate payment from luncheon)

If you have already contributed your 2013 dues via online payment or by sending in check, THANK YOU! For those wanting to make a dues contribution and/or make a luncheon reservation, you may mail check and this form to the address below.

| | | |
|---------|-------------|-------|
| Name | Maiden | Class |
| Address | City, State | Zip |

**Return this form to: SCHNAA
Attn: Cam Johnson
5145 N. California Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625**

THE *Caring* TIMES

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

Mark Newton, President and CEO

Editor: Cam Johnson

To learn more about the Hospital's current programs, upcoming events or to make a gift in support of Swedish Covenant Hospital, please call (773) 989-6256.

Please send any class notes or address updates to
Swedish Covenant Hospital

Attn: Cam Johnson
5145 N. California Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Check out the SCH Foundation website at
SwedishCovenantFoundation.org



JOIN US!
For the 2013 Reunion
Saturday, June 8th, 2013

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

5145 North California Avenue | Chicago, Illinois | 60625
773.878.8200 | SwedishCovenant.org

Swedish Covenant Hospital



NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Chicago, IL
Permit No. 2869