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Nale School of Nursing Alumnae/i Association Newsletter

SEPTEMBER, 2000



2000 Graduation and Alumnae/i Weekend Issue

Tina Lawrence (R) and her mother, Young Oh, in front of the Shubert Theater.

Yale Nurse

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September, 2000

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From the DEAN

e-Learning for e-Health

Another academic year has ended and, as the photos will attest, a grand conclusion it was! As a consequence of too many soggy graduations, our year 2000 Commencement Event was moved to the Shubert Performing Arts Center Theater. We were advised by commencement speaker and Arizona State University College of Nursing Dean, Dr. Barbara Durand, to use our heads and our hearts in the practice of nursing. The text of her address appears on page 8.

The year was eventful for many reasons, but particularly for our ongoing discussions on the role of technology at YSN. Throughout the year the Dean's Ad Hoc Task Force on Academic and Administrative Computing studied the needs of our YSN community and the resources available for meeting those needs. Chaired by Jim McKay, Director of Information Technology Services, and Kimberly Updegrove, MS, CNM, Program Instructor, the Committee included faculty, staff, and student members. Their recommendations are indicative of the technology era, an era our students embrace. The students know how to find anything and everything on line. Their papers generally contain citations from the Internet. We now send out YSN broadcast messages via e-mail and our students drop in on us 24 hours a day with e-mail messages. The world has changed.

And we are changing, too. Yale School of Nursing will soon announce our partnership with the Stanford University School of Medicine to develop and launch e-Skolar, RN, an integrated knowledge base developed to support nurses engaged in direct care. e-Skolar, RN will be fashioned after e-Skolar, MD, developed at Stanford and now available by subscription. I expect that our involvement in e-Skolar, RN will expose the YSN faculty to the many possibilities for educational enrichment available through the e-technologies.

Meanwhile, the e-health world now includes many products developed to help patients better manage their chronic illnesses. We are in discussion with the developers of some of these products to explore how we might initiate clinical training experiences that include e-health products and how we might incorporate these products into our programs of research. After all, the management of chronic illness is the business of the nurse in partnership with the patient and family. Associate Dean Margaret Grey is leading a way in this area as a regular columnist for planetRx.com, the number two commercial website in the world. The column lengthens Margaret's clinical reach considerably by allowing her to provide education about diabetes management to families around the globe.

In closing I'd like to thank Herb Pearce (husband of the late Margaret Perry Pearce '45) and Evelyn Slopanskey, '50 for their generous gifts to YSN, gifts about which you'll read more in this issue. These gifts will strengthen a learning environment whose evolving technical sophistication would have been the stuff of science fiction when Margaret and Evelyn were students. But I would argue that the Yale nurses who graduate in this century will not be so very different from those of the last.

YSN's Alumnae/i Weekend program focused on our "high tech, high touch" profession. We conclude that there is no contradiction between our increasingly sophisticated tools and our traditionally holistic philosophy of caring. Learning to integrate these two forces enhances our ability to be effective. Our tools are changing, but our mission is not.

EDITORS' CORNER

- Kathleen Bauer has been named YSN's Librarian, as we partner with Yale Medical School's
 Cushing/Whitney Medical Library to provide services to YSN students, faculty, and staff. "Katie" will be
 available both at YSN and Cushing/Whitney as our "personal librarian." The relationship between YSN
 and the Medical School Library offers many opportunities for new library services, including electronic
 databases, a Web site, and numerous other resources. Katie can be reached at (203) 785-2396 or (203) 7372964.
- Because YSN is combining services with the Yale Medical School library, the School is offering to return its
 copies of student theses to alumnae/i. The Medical Library will continue to hold two copies of each, as in
 the past. If you wish to claim your thesis, please contact Katie Bauer at the above telephone numbers or at
 her email address, kathleen.bauer@yale.edu.
- The new 2000 YSN Alumnae/i Directory is hot off the press and recently has been mailed to all those who placed an order "way back when." If you did not order one, but wish to do so, the Alumnae/i Affairs Office at the School has a few that can be purchased for a \$15 donation. The supply is limited, so first come, first served. Please contact the office at P.O. Box 9740, New Haven, CT 06536-0740 or email Barbara Larkin, Administrative Assistant, at barbara.larkin@yale.edu.
- 2001 Reunion Weekend is scheduled for May 31-June 2, 2001. Save the date! Reuning classes are those that end in "1" and "6," but all are welcome to attend. Once you come back, you'll see how much fun it really is. More about the program to follow in the December issue of *Yale Nurse*.
- The Student and Alumnae/i Affairs Office, under the direction of Barbara Reif, is eager to assist you in any way. If you need a class list; or wish to receive an application packet for a friend or colleague; or need a transcript or form filled out; or just want to find out what's going on at the School, please contact us at (203) 785-2389. We would be pleased to help you in any way that we can.
- Printed on the inside back cover of this issue is the "What's New" form. Please fill it out and send it to the
 Editors with news that you'd like to share with classmates and others! It is also a convenient way to update
 your address information if you have recently moved. YSN's mailing address is P.O. Box 9740, 100 Church
 Street South, New Haven, CT 06536-0740.



Herb Pearce joined Yale School of Nursing Dean Catherine Lynch Gilliss, left, and President and Mrs. Richard Levin at a reception in his honor hosted by President Levin. Mr. Pearce, the founder of H. Pearce Company in New Haven, established the Margaret Perry Pearce Scholarship Fund in memory of his late wife, Margaret, a YSN alumna from the Class of 1945. Karen Mera '01 and Jay Horton '01 were this year's recipients of the scholarship. Both are studying to be nurse practitioners and plan to provide primary care to underserved communities.

Graduation Takes Place at Shubert Theater

Graduation 2000 was an event to remember! For the first time in many years YSN commencement exercises were held indoors at the Shubert Theater, planned to avoid the soggy consequences of inclement weather that has plagued graduation for several years in a row. The Shubert Theater opened in New Haven in 1914, one of the premier theaters in the country at the time. Many well known actors in American theater made their debut at the Shubert and as Dean

Catherine Gilliss stated, "Today our graduates make their debut at the Shubert. After many rehearsals and several years as understudies, they will take their place on this stage to present their own plays."

Another first this year was the organizing of a Class Day on Sunday, May 21, the day before graduation itself. It was the brainchild of the Student Graduation Committee which was interested in offering a program for faculty, staff, students,

family, and friends that would include a speaker, selected by the students, a class history, and a number of awards recognizing people in the YSN community who had contributed to the positive educational experience of the class of 2000. It is hoped that this will become a new tradition. Robyn Duran '00, the Student Graduation Committee Chair, made introductory remarks and then turned the program over to Melissa Prodis '00, who introduced the speaker, Robbie Davis-Floyd, PhD, whose address was entitled, "Paradigms of American Health Care: Why Nurses Matter." Following the keynote address, Mary Bartlett '00 presented the class history, complete with slides and humorous anecdotes.



Shubert Theater

The presentation of several newly created awards followed, including the Outstanding Research Mentor Award presented by Neesha Ramchandani '00 to Lynne Schilling, YSN Associate Research Scientist; Outstanding Clinical Mentor Award presented by Danielle Morgan '00 to Lisa Sieckhaus '97; Staff Recognition Award presented by Emily Barey '01 and Sheila Geen '01 to Barbara Reif, Director of Student and Alumnae/i Affairs: and the Student Government Service Award presented by Emily Barey '01 and Kathryn Tierney '02 to both Mary Bartlett '00 and Donna Lawlor '00. co-recipients. All honorees were particularly pleased by being selected as the inaugural recipients of these distinguished awards. A lovely reception followed in the Student Lounge and Commons.

Graduation day itself once again began on a gloomy weather note.... no actual rain, but cool temperatures and threatening clouds. The indoor ceremony was a godsend! Following Yale University exercises on Old Campus, faculty, staff, and graduates with their families and friends walked the two short blocks to the Shubert Theater on College Street for YSN's ceremony. The Shubert was a perfect venue, beautiful, as well as convenient. The ceremony actually started on time!

This year's keynote address was delivered by Barbara A. Durand, RN, EdD, FAAN, Dean and Professor, College of Nursing, Arizona State University. Dr. Durand spoke about the social significance of scholarly nursing practice (text reprinted in this issue). Jody Esselstyn, member of the Class of 2000, gave the student address which was powerful and inspiring to her classmates. To quote Jody, "As new graduates, our challenge



Student Graduation Committee with Class Day speaker, Robbie Davis-Floyd (C). (L to R) Neesha Ramchandani, Robyn Duran, Danielle Morgan, Robin Adams-Plescia, Mary Bartlett, and Melissa Prodis.



Lynne Schilling (R), recipient of the Outstanding Research Mentor Award, with presenter, Neesha Ramchandani.



Winner of the Outstanding Clinical Mentor Award, Lisa Sieckhaus '97 (L), with presenter, Danielle Morgan.



(Front to Back) Barb Reif, recipient of the Staff Recognition Award; Donna Lawlor, co-recipient of the SGO Service Award; Robin Adams-Plescia; and Katie Tierney.

will be to keep our minds open and to continue to accept the grey areas where we are tempted to see only black and white.... We will begin to rely on our senses to help our patients, not only by observation, but by listening and truly hearing what they are saying....We will not abandon what we have been taught, to rely solely on intuition, but we will become artists in our profession when we can combine what we 'see' with our hearts with what we know in our minds."

Mary Bartlett '00 and Donna Lawlor '00 presented the Class Gift, a beautiful piece of art work created by a local artist. Dean Gilliss will hang it in a special place to be enjoyed by the whole YSN community.

As usual, the presenting of special awards was a highlight of the event. **Donna Mahrenholz**, Associate Professor and Director of the Nursing Management and Policy Specialty, was chosen by the students to receive the Annie W. Goodrich Award for Excellence in Teaching. **Cynthia Anne Esteban** received the Milton and Anne Sidney Prize for the thesis which best exemplifies the School's commitment to clinical research and its

mission to contribute to better health care for people through the systematic study of the nature and effect of nursing practice. YSN faculty submit nominations for this award. The Charles King, Ir. Memorial Scholars Aid Prize is given annually to the graduating student who is viewed as one of the leading graduating students who has demonstrated outstanding performance in scholarship, research, and clinical practice, and who has inspired an admiration for professional work. This year Mary Bartlett was the recipient of this prize.

Annie W. Goodrich Award for Excellence in Teaching: Donna M. Mahrenholz

Annie W. Goodrich, YSN's founding Dean, was an outstanding nursing leader and educator whose vision set the course for nursing education. Ms. Goodrich pioneered the education of nurses at the university level and also advocated for the advanced practice nurse role. The purpose of the Annie Goodrich Award is to recognize a faculty member who carries on the tradition of nursing excellence set forth by Ms. Goodrich.

This year's Annie Goodrich Award for Excellence in Teaching is awarded to a faculty member who upholds Annie Goodrich's tradition

of excellence at Yale School of Nursing. Like all great teachers, she leads us to reconsider what we thought we already knew. In her classroom, many YSN students have thought anew about the scope of nursing practice and the



Donna Mahrenholz

potential roles in which they could advance health care. She is an outstanding role model whose own scholarship is surpassed only by her encouragement of developing scholars. Regardless of the demands on her time, she makes time to meet with and mentor students. She genuinely cares about us - what we think and how we learn. Indeed, as a role model and friend, she has helped to shape who we are. Her rousing discussions about health policy and management consistently challenge students to delve beneath the surface of issues that affect the nursing profession and health care in general. Her out-

standing teaching ability inspires students to reach for the academic excellence she has already attained. She recently announced that she will be leaving YSN after this semester and she will be greatly missed.

Milton and Anne Sidney Prize: Cynthia Anne Esteban

Faculty describe her as a truly gifted student. Her research represents the very best in creative clinical scholarship and should result in improved health care for a very vulnerable segment of our population.

She was concerned that asthma, the most common chronic disease in children, is reaching epidemic proportions in inner-city youth. Unfortunately, typical educational interventions are not very effective with this group. Thus, she tested an intervention designed to decrease the severity of asthma and improve psychosocial outcomes in inner-city adolescents. New Haven middle school students were randomized to

receive routine asthma education or to undergo Coping Skills Training. After 6 months, adolescents who received the Coping Skills Training were less depressed and felt



Cynthia Esteban

better able to manage their environment, compared with those who received only routine asthma education.

During the conduct of this complicated study, this student showed incredible attention to detail. She persevered in the face of innumerable obstacles and developed creative strategies to solve the problems she faced. She was thoughtful in her approach to all aspects of this research. This study was well designed and carefully executed, and the thesis was beautifully written. She has already presented the findings of her study at a statewide conference of school-based

health centers. There is no question that her work can have a positive impact on the health of these high risk young people.

Charles King, Jr. Memorial Scholars Aid Prize: Mary Ella Bartlett

From her beginning days at the Yale School of Nursing, this student impressed both faculty and fellow students with her keen intellect, boundless energy, and spirit. She excelled in her academic work, taking extra courses in addition to a schedule already packed with required classes. In her clinical work, she exhibited an inquiring mind, superb clinical judgment, and a deeply empathetic approach to patient care. In her commitment to providing superb care to the underserved, she was a role model for her peers.

She is respected, not only in her academic and professional achievements, but also for the way she

treats those around her. She has contributed enormously to the school through her work as a teaching assistant and through her involvement in the Student Government Organization. As a teaching assistant, she worked many hours - often on her own time - to help students in need. From pathophysiology to maternity nursing to computer



Mary Bartlett

software to statistics, the depth and breadth of her knowledge benefitted many students. A natural teacher, she has a unique ability to explain difficult concepts with clarity. She took a leadership role in revitalizing the Student Government Organization and encouraged others to become involved. A ready volunteer, she toured alums around our building, taught anatomy to inner-city school children, and showed members of the Yale Corporation how to prime an IV. She brought a cheerful demeanor and a positive attitude to everything she did.

Her commitment to the school is inspiring. Her thesis research, a five-

year analysis of the GEPN program, will lead directly to improvements in the academic mission of the school. In addition to her academic, clinical, and leadership achievements, she is an accomplished golfer and talented vocalist. To balance many activities and do them all well is a mark of a truly outstanding individual.



Sekou Jones with his aunt, Myra Jones (L) and his wife, Erica (R).



Mary Bartlett, co-recipient of the SGO Service Award, gave an oral class history presentation at Class Day.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Social Significance of Scholarly Nursing Practice

Barbara A. Durand, RN, EdD, FAAN

Dean Gilliss, distinguished faculty, honored guests, family and friends, and, most importantly, graduates of the Yale University School of Nursing Class of 2000, if is my great pleasure to join you on this very special day.

Right off the bat, I need to tell you that I am the daughter of a Yale alumnus. My father graduated from this great university 71 years ago, class of 1929. He would have been overjoyed and proud beyond imagining to know of this day. And so it is with a profound sense of privilege and emotion that I am here to speak

to you. That sense of privilege and emotion applies not only to my personal situation, but also to how I feel about our profession of nursing, about its significance in our world, about its power for good in the lives of those we serve.

And what brings joy to me - and I am sure to all of your faculty, and, I might add, should bring joy to the world - is knowing that today the power and significance of nursing will be enhanced and strengthened by a cohort of 124, 124 nurses ready to bring to their practice and their profession the fruits of a long,

demanding, and rigorous academic program - a program committed to the confluence of research, practice, and education; a program that is, today, providing 124 nurses who understand the need for and are committed to scholarly nursing practice.

There may be some in the audience who wonder about the significance of scholarly nursing practice, some who may wonder why nurses need master's and doctoral degrees, some who may even have wondered why you didn't go to medical school....after all, you are clearly smart enough! To them we would point out that nursing is not medicine, nor a substitute for medicine, that none of you are here because you couldn't get into medical school.

Both nursing and medicine are challenging disciplines requiring mastery of difficult curricula. Both



Jennifer Wright and husband, Stefan.

physicians and nurses must bring to their practice high intelligence, a broad and deep knowledge base, honesty, integrity, and the highest ethical standards, and the ability to think analytically, use sophisticated judgment, and make appropriate decisions about the health and illness of their patients.

What sets nursing apart is the primacy we give to caring, which is our most central, most enduring, most defining value and activity. Caring, in fact, grinds and shapes the lens through which we view the patient's world and situation within that world. That lens is made more powerful when focused by nurses who know what you now know, nurses who are schooled in the art and science of nursing.

No less a person than your distinguished Dean Catherine Gilliss has written of this. She says:

Nursing is the most optimistic of sciences. All that we do is based on the assumption that human caring makes a difference in the health of individuals and societies. This inherent idealism is, married to a deep pragma tism, because the things we do have such impact on the comfort and well being of our patients.

She goes on to say:

That is why nurse researchers examine nursing interventions with the same rigor that our colleagues in other disciplines apply to a new drug seeking approval. It would be wrong, she concludes, to discount the importance of intuitive knowl edge in nursing. But it would be dangerous folly to base our work on intuition alone, ignoring our responsibility to advance our science to better

achieve our ideals.

Let me tell you two stories.

In the pediatric clinic at the University of California, San Francisco, one day a pediatric nurse practitioner was seeing an infant and mother for a well baby visit. The infant had been followed for several visits, but this was the first visit with the nurse. Although the infant was doing well and the history was unremarkable, the nurse, "just didn't feel right, " as she described it. She emphasized that as the visit progressed, she, herself, was feeling uncomfortable, sad and, in fact, depressed. Finally, the nurse said to the mother, "You know, I'm not sure what's happening, but I'm feeling sad and depressed. Are you feeling sad and depressed?" At which point the mother began to cry. Not only was she sad and depressed, she was terrified because she was having thoughts of harming



Jeanne Labanara Cail (R) with her mother, Patty Brennan

her baby. A psychiatrist was called and severe postpartum depression was diagnosed and ultimately successfully managed.

The key to this successful outcome was the nurse's sensitivity, being tuned in to the emotional tone of the mother - and paying attention to it. Without being able to label it, she nonetheless pursued it - using herself as a personal barometer. A wonderful example of intuitive knowledge, clinical wisdom, clinical judgment, and caring.

The second story....In 1965, I spent my summer break from UCSF School of Nursing, working as a staff nurse in the pediatric unit at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center. I was assigned to the pediatric surgical floor and from the day I arrived the staff were buzzing about strange happenings in the premature nursery (which is what we called it back then). During break

time, nurses from all over the hospital were sneaking to the fourth floor to observe what was going on. I'll never forget my own amazement as I looked through the glass windows into the nursery and saw a premature infant in a hammock/slingtype container, suspended from a mechanical contraption that looked like a grocer's scale. Being rhythmically swung back and forth. What on earth!? What I had happened across, to my good fortune, was Mary Neal in the process of doing her dissertation titled, "The Relationship between Vestibular Stimulation and the Developmental Behavior of the Premature Infant." Her theory, that specific nurturing actions could provide an environment that promoted the adaptation of the premature infant, was being tested in the clinical setting. Today, of course, Dr. Neal's work is recognized as one of the classic early studies of stimulation in pre-term infants and in 1996 she was honored

by the American Academy of Nursing with its Living Legend Award.

Mary Neal identified a real clinical problem, convinced the physicians and nurses at Cornell to accept the project and, during her two years of data collection, won over the entire staff, bound them, in fact, to the fascination and value of nursing research. I remember from that day to this, the pride of the nursery staff at being involved and the packed conference rooms at Mary's frequent presentations on the progress of her research. This was practice, teaching, and research made in heaven.

Though many lessons can be learned from these two stories, the main point I wish to make is this. If, as Gretta Styles claims, social significance is certainty about the nature and importance of our work to society, then the practice of these two nurses was of great social signifi-



Doctoral grads and their dissertation advisors (L to R) Ruth McCorkle and graduate Carmen Adams, and Elizabeth McGann and faculty advisor, Dorothy Sexton.

cance. The impact of their practice - on the one hand, a very intimate and personal intervention in the lives of a single mother and child - and, on the other, a ground-breaking study that helped improve the care of countless pre-term infants - will never be fully measured. But their practice captures the nature of nursing - the blending of compassion, experience, knowledge, and science - the creative art and intellectual challenge that result in direct benefit to people in need.

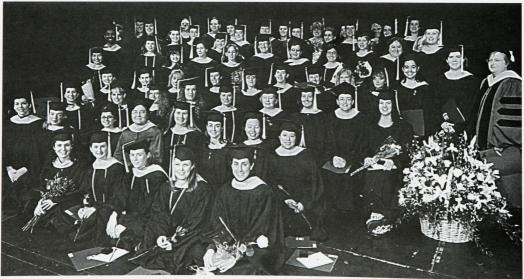
We have crossed the threshold of a new millennium. As Hildegard Peplau received the Christiane Reimann Prize at the ICN Convention in Vancouver in 1997, she said that the question dominating nursing in the 20th century was, "What do nurses do?" In the 21st century, the key question will be, "What do nurses know and how do they use that knowledge to benefit people?"

And that is not only significant for society. It is significant for us. Nursing offers a depth of experience and a personal sense of satisfaction rarely found in the world of work. We get to go to bed every night knowing that what we did that day was directed towards improving people's lives.

Those of us who are getting a bit long in the tooth are frequently asked about our vision for the future. I must confess that the concept of vision has always been somewhat intimidating to me - I think because of my Catholic upbringing in which only very holy people had visions - and if you had a vision you were meant for the church. And so, if one had more worldly aspirations, one learned to keep one's visions to one's self. Now I think that vision is about hope. And today my vision and hope is this. First, that nursing continues to be an esteemed and

respected profession composed of scientists who use knowledge in all its forms to provide valuable services to people and who are acknowledged socially and economically for so doing. Second, that among you there are future living legends. Third, that you will bring your considerable gifts and devote yourselves to demonstrating, in every place that counts, the value and significance of this fundamentally human caring work that we do. And last, that nursing will enrich your lives as it has enriched mine.

I have faith in this vision because, by having applied, enrolled in, and completed your advanced studies in nursing, each of you has made the choice to strengthen our profession. My most hearty congratulations to you. Be enormously proud of yourselves. And, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for making that choice.



YSN Class of 2000.

YSN Welcomes New Associate Dean

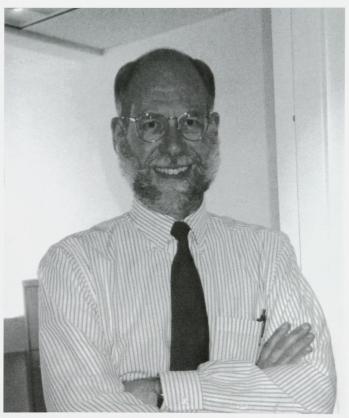
In May of this year Bruce Carmichael '82, MArch, MSN, MPA, DSc, was appointed Associate Dean for Management and Resources at YSN. He comes to YSN from the Yale Medical School where he had most recently been Executive Director of Major Projects and Facilities. "It truly is a pleasure to be back at YSN, at a different place and time, and to be able to tie together my past experiences in support of this dynamic and exciting School. YSN has a rich history, talented people, and a palpable eagerness to continue its tradition of excellence," he stated.

As reflected in his many academic degrees, Bruce's background is diverse and unusual. Having earned two undergraduate degrees in architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he began his professional career as an architect, only to decide in 1979 to enroll in YSN's Three Year Program for Non-Nurse College Graduates (Medical-Surgical Nursing Program), GEPN's predecessor. After graduation in 1982. Bruce was a Clinical Instructor at YSN before becoming Nurse Manager in the ENT/Cardiothoracic Unit at Yale-New Haven Hospital (YNHH). In 1985 he combined his interest in patient care with his background in architecture and moved to the role of Project Architect at YNHH. Yale School of Medicine (YSM) claimed him in 1989 as Associate Director of Planning, Office of Facilities Planning, after which he also served as Director of Project Management, and Executive Director of Facilities Development and Operations before moving to his final position, all prior to returning "home" to YSN. Throughout his tenure at Yale and

Yale-New Haven Hospital Bruce has maintained a teaching appointment as a Courtesy Faculty member at YSN, sharing his finely tuned management and administration skills with class after class of YSN students.

With some recent administrative reorganization at YSN, all support functions in the School have been consolidated under Bruce's leadership with the intent of strengthen-

ing the enterprise. Dean Catherine Gilliss has asked him to oversee Student and Alumnae/i Affairs, Recruitment and Placement, Financial Aid, Business Services, Information Technology, Public Information, and Development... quite an assignment, but one that Bruce accepts with enthusiasm. We look forward to enjoying the dedicated, thoughtful management style that has been the hallmark of his professional career.



Bruce Carmichael

YSN in Y2K: High Tech, High Touch

he millennium celebration continued full swing as YSN alums returned to New Haven early in June for reunion weekend. The weather was picture perfect as classmates collected at 100 Church Street South to share in a program geared to the new century, but also framed in the timeless art of caring that Yale Nurses have embodied for almost eight decades. The Class of 1950 had record attendance for a fiftieth reunion!

Seventeen members of the class returned, some from as far away as California, Colorado, Florida, Arizona, and Wisconsin. It was truly a remarkable showing.

In addition to the social events that are always fun and great opportunities for reminiscing, assorted faculty members and alumnae presented interesting and thought provoking sessions that challenged the group to find the balance in today's high tech environment between

sophisticated and sometimes highly invasive procedures and treatment with compassionate, patient-focused care. Complex machinery, Internet access to and evaluation of almost limitless information, ethical and legal dilemmas resulting from complex illnesses and the need to make difficult choices, the education of today's nurses to meet the challenges of rapid change....all examined in an effort to explore the complexity of health care in the year 2000.



Alums (L to R) Jan Davey '76, Dianne Davis '72, Tracy Wittreich '80, Helen Varney Burst '63, and Margaret Grey '76.



(L to R) Genevieve Fraga, Elizabeth Pettis, with husband Kenneth, and Delora Pitman celebrated their 60th reunion!

he Quinnipiack Club in New Haven was the setting once again for the Friday night banquet. This is THE social event of every reunion weekend!

Not only did everyone enjoy a delicious meal in a gracious environment, but also four remarkable alumnae were honored with Distinguished Alumna Awards, Sally Cohen '80, Myriam Castro de Castaneda '55, Marvel Davis '70, and Kathleen Powderly '75. In addition to celebrating the accom-

plishments of these Yale nurses, those gathered first learned of Evelyn Slopanskey's large gift to YSN, which was announced by her classmate, Mary Colwell '50. The announcement was received with long and enthusiastic applause, a fitting tribute to Evelyn (unable to attend because of health problems), her love of nursing, and her devotion to YSN. (See "Giving Back" for more details.)

Following the business meeting portion of the weekend, Saturday

morning's excellent program, "The New World of Diabetes: Advances in Care," highlighted the significant advances in our knowledge of the physiologic underpinnings of the disease and the remarkable advances in care for today's diabetics. These advances make it easier for diabetics to live normal and fulfilled lives.

Fried chicken and strawberry shortcake brought the weekend to a close on a particularly tasty note.

Distinguished Alumna Citation:

Myriam Castro de Castaneda '55

Since graduating from Yale University School of Nursing 45 years ago, she has dedicated herself to improving the lives of women and their children through the practice of midwifery and public health. In an effort to stem infant mortality in Puerto Rico, she has championed the use of nurse-midwives to deliver better health care options to thousands of mothers and babies.

Academic preparation for her career began with a BA in biology and chemistry from Inter-American University in Puerto Rico. In 1955, she received her master's in nursing from YSN, after which she was granted a fellowship by the Rockefeller Foundation to study nursemidwifery and public health. Her research efforts at John's Hopkins uncovered the startling fact that a number of Puerto Rican community clinics had a high percentage of baby deliveries that were managed by untrained personnel. In 1960, following her return to Puerto Rico, she opened a school of nurse-midwifery at the University of Puerto Rico and served as its director for the next ten years.

When changes in health care on the island led to outlawing the practice of midwifery in 1980, she faced one of her greatest challenges. The program she had founded experienced major funding difficulties and subsequently closed in 1981. She watched in horror as the mortality statistics, which had dropped with the use of nursemidwives, began to rise again. For the next 17 years, she struggled to re-establish nurse-midwifery education in Puerto Rico.

In the 1970's and 1980's, she was on the faculty at the University of Puerto Rico and became an associate professor at the Graduate School of Public Health, serving at various times as acting chair for both the Master of Public Health Program and the Maternal and Child Program before retiring from teaching in 1990.

Although officially retired, she dedicated herself to rebuilding her profession. She recruited to the faculty experienced certified nurse-midwives who met accreditation criteria and spoke Spanish. It was her enthusiasm and unwavering commitment to the plight of mothers and babies that successfully brought the profession back to Puerto Rico in 1998, when she secured requisite funding from Puerto Rico's Division of Nursing and pre-accreditation from the American College of

Nurse-Midwives' Division of Accreditation to open up a new nurse-midwifery program in the Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Puerto Rico. To this day the school provides properly trained midwives to communities throughout the island.

Her success extends beyond the borders of Puerto Rico and beyond the boundaries of public health. She has brought her dedication and knowledge of family health and reproductive planning to the Pan American Health Organization and to numerous Latin American countries, including Argentina, Peru, Panama, and Trinidad. In addition, she has devoted years and resources to her church through membership on the Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico and the Puerto Rico Bible Society. For having lived a devoted and influential life, demonstrating limitless caring for all humanity, she was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities by the Defenders Theological Seminary of Puerto Rico. In 1975, she was selected by the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico as one of ten distinguished graduates. She epitomizes dedication, perseverance, and selfless advocacy.

Distinguished Alumna Citation:

Sally Solomon Cohen '80

Staff nurse, clinical specialist, pediatric nurse practitioner, director of health policy, and university faculty member, she has advocated for nurses and for patients. More importantly, she has clearly demonstrated that the interests of patients and nurses are closely aligned and indeed often inseparable.

A scholar of health policy, she received a Robert Wood Johnson Public Policy Fellowship while a student at Yale School of Nursing. She went on to earn her PhD from Columbia University in 1993. Building on her dissertation research, she

has become a national expert on child care policy. Her depth of knowledge has allowed her to build bridges between advanced nursing practice and health policy. Her work on the role of nurse practitioners in managed care plans has received national praise as groundbreaking, and her other writings have been recognized as pivotal to understanding the political system in which nurses operate. She frequently publishes in the political science literature, a demonstration of the far-reaching and interdisciplinary impact of her work. Her work with students, which

emphasizes putting policy into practice, is a model for the nation. She has played a leadership role in the advancement of nursing's agenda in the state of Connecticut and in the nation as an active supporter of advanced practice nursing legislation. Her advocacy, be it on behalf of children or nursing, comes from a wealth of knowledge and an abiding commitment to excellence. Her talents as a new graduate have already been recognized by the Yale University School of Nursing when she was presented with an Outstanding Alumna Award in 1988.



Distinguished Alumna Award recipients (L to R) Kathleen Powderly '75, Marvel Davis '70, Myriam Castro de Castaneda '55, and Sally Cohen '80.

ALUMNAE/I WEEKEND, continued



Janet Bozzo '96 (L) and Mary Pat Lamberti '94.



Betty Hutchinson '45 enjoyed breakfast in the Student Lounge.

Distinguished Alumna Citation:

Marvel King Davis '70

Wife, mother, nurse -- her life, both personal and professional, is a garden of caring. Her colleagues, patients, family, and friends are blooms well tended and nurtured to grow. In accepting responsibility for her garden she teaches others to accept responsibility for themselves and takes pride as they blossom to full maturity and independence.

Her professional career began at Seton Hall where she garnered a BSN. Yale Psychiatric Institute was the first beneficiary of her nursing expertise and, after a brief two years at Albert Einstein in New York, she returned to New Haven and the newly opened Connecticut Mental Health Center as head nurse of the Day Hospital. The Yale School of Nursing welcomed her in 1968 and proudly awarded her an MSN in psychiatric nursing in 1970.

From these early seedlings the roots of her career have reached beyond New Haven to all of Connecticut. Her green thumb has touched not only the Yale Psychiatric Institute and the Connecticut Mental Health Center, but the Bridgeport Mental Health Center, the world of health insurance at Aetna Life and Casualty, and Yale-New Haven Hospital. She has utilized medical and psychiatric nursing principles and theories to provide clinical supervision for nurses, mental health workers, and medical residents alike. All have been guided by her wisdom in the art of patient care and the tending of systems of care.

She has tilled the fields of the larger community, well beyond nursing. A lifelong learner, she received her teacher's certificate from the Yale University/New Haven Teachers Institute enabling her to be a family life educator at Hillhouse High School in New Haven. She has served as Director of the Summer Infant/Toddler Program for the New Haven Public School Family Life Program, has been a board member of Planned Parenthood of New Haven and the New Haven Mental Health Association, and still serves as the President of the Dixwell Newhallville Community Mental Health Services. She has been an active member of the National Black Nurses Association as the vice president and re-elected president of the Southern Connecticut Chapter.

From her early days in New Haven, Yale has continued to enjoy the fruits of her labor. She has served as a Fellow of Calhoun College, been an active and valued member of the Board of Governors for the Association of Yale Alumni, and has presided over the YSN Alumnae/i Board. It is time for her Alma Mater to offer her a bouquet!



The Class of 1950 gathered at the Quinnipiack Club for a class picture.

Distinguished Alumna Citation:

Kathleen Reilly Powderly '75

n the twenty-five years since her graduation from the Yale ■School of Nursing, this alumna has brought her intelligence and passion to important discussions about health care ethics, as well as to the important work of preserving the history of nurse-midwifery. She began her career as a baccalaureate nurse from Niagara University and went on to receive her PhD from Columbia University after earning a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Yale in 1975. Her doctoral dissertation, entitled, "Gynecological Care of Women in Brooklyn - 1860-1900: The

Work of Alexander J.C. Skene, MD, LLD," integrated her expertise in history, socio-medical science, and ethics. In 1981, she was awarded a fellowship in Biomedical Ethics at the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Her areas of expertise include perinatal ethics, nursing and medical practice ethics, and ethical issues in HIV/AIDS. She serves as either member or consultant on numerous institutional review boards and hospital ethics committees throughout New York City, and is a nationally renowned and

sought after speaker. She is also committed to the preservation of archives and is a participant in historical research and presentations. She is the chairperson of the committee that develops and supervises the strategic plan for the Archives and History of Medicine Collection at the State University of New York Health Science Center in Brooklyn and co-chairs the Archives Committee of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. She is a woman of many talents who proudly carries Yale University School of Nursing with her everywhere she goes.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION

June 3, 2000

- The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Carol Ann Wetmore, President of the Association
- Minutes from the June 5, 1999 meeting were read by Carol Ann Wetmore and approved as read.
- Treasurer's report: Data was unavailable but will be printed in the fall issue of Yale Nurse.
- Linda Pellico '89, reporting for Robin Pooley Richards '93, Nominating Committee Chairperson, pre sented the Nominating Committee's Slate of Officers and Directors to the Association membership. The slate was approved as presented.
- Nina Adams '77, Chairperson of Annual Giving, shared a to-date summary of the 1999-2000 annual giving effort, including mention of Evelyn Slopanskey's unrestricted gift of \$1,688,000. As of June 1, YUSNAA is ahead of it's goal (\$140,000) with almost \$145,000 in gifts, climbing toward a record \$150,000. YSN's participation is the highest among the professional schools at 43%, but the goal has been set at 50%. The use of the Internet is a new means of communicating with recent classes. Among the reuning classes, the last 5 years of giving total \$230,000. Special honors to Jean Butler for \$40,000 from the Class of 1950 (74% participation). Top participation honors go to the Class of 1945, with Mary Ochiai as Class Agent.
- · Old business:
 - 1. The new Alumnae/i Directory will be published and mailed during the summer.
 - 2. A lost alums list will be published in Yale Nurse in an effort to locate them through fellow alums.
 - 3. A survey regarding participation at reunions is being developed.
 - 4. Financing activities by selling YSN memorabilia was discussed.
 - 5. There is a need for more activities that connect current students with their Alumnae Association.
 - 6. During the Career Workshop that the Board offers every year, help with job placement from alumnae/i would be a high priority. Perhaps developing a web site would be helpful.
 - 7. Pin presentation at graduation is always appreciated and a worthwhile investment by the Association.
- New business: None
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Cocks '98 Secretary

Addendum to the Annual Meeting Minutes:

- Total budget expenditures for 1999-2000 were \$187,400. Among its expenses, the Association has been able to fund several important activities:
 - Student scholarships in the amount of \$96,700
 - Yale Nurse production costs of \$23,589
 - The purchase of pins awarded to graduating student at \$3,465
- Remaining expenditures included support of the annual "Launching Your Career Workshop," graduation, and Alumnae/i Weekend activities.

Yale University School of Nursing Alumnae/i Association Slate of Officers, 2000-2001

Voted on and Approved by the Association
The following alumnae/i have committed themselves to serve the Association and fulfill the duties inherent in the various positions:

Continuing:

President, 1999-2001 Carol Ann Wetmore '94

Secretary, 1999-2001 Ann Cocks '98

Directors, 1999-2001 Deborah Chyun '82

Curtis Harmon '94 Deirdre Marcus '94 Sally Richards '97, '98

Nominating Committee, 2000-2001 Robin Richards '93, Chairperson

AYA Representatives, 1998-2001 Linda Demas '89

1999-2002 Doris Foell '88

Co-Editor, Yale Nurse Kate Stephenson '94

Newly Nominated:

Vice President, 2000-2002 Linda Pellico '89

Treasurer, 2000-2002 Per-Erik Johansson '99

Directors, 2000-2002 Janice Davey '76

Maryanne Davidson '90 Jean O'Brien-Butler '50

Nominating Committee, 2000-2001 Michael Corjulo '98

Elizabeth Carlson-Touhy '96

AYA Representative, 2000-2003 Alyson Cohen '92

ALUMNAE/I WEEKEND, continued



At the Thursday night picnic were Barbara Allard, Mary Colwell, Anne Corcoran, and Mary Schmidt Wolf, all from the Class of 1950.



Deirdre Murty Marcus '94 (L) and Tracy Wittreich '80.



Maryanne Davidson '90 (L) with Nina Adams '77, YSN Chair of Alumni Giving.



Attending the banquet were Doris Foell '88, Margaret Grey '76, Paula Milone-Nuzzo (Associate Dean at YSN), Marge Funk '84, Jan Davey '76, and Carol Ann Wetmore '94.



Virginia "Brownie" Brown '50 and classmate Frances Hindley.



Jo Ann Love '75 (R) and classmate Kathy Powderly '75.

Giving Back

or those of you who weren't fortunate enough to make it back to YSN for reunion, I want to share with you news of a very special gift. We learned over Alumnae/i Weekend that Evelyn Slopanskey, '50, has committed a gift with the projected value of \$1,688,000 to the School of Nursing and is also planning additional gifts. A gift of this size is, obviously, momentous. Alumnae/i support of the school both allows the faculty to build on YSN's long tradition of excellence and keeps the education financially accessible for future generations of Yale nurses.

In the case of Evelyn's gift, however, I believe that the spirit of the gift is as impressive as the size. Evelyn's classmate, Mary Colwell, read from several letters Evelyn had sent to her. They certainly speak to anyone who knows Evelyn, but I believe that any Yale nurse would be moved by her words:

My years at Yale and my association with our brilliant instructors and class members was the happiest period in my life. I was always proud of my Yale nursing degree. I tried to live up to its high standards. To show what our training meant to me and how it made a worthwhile career possible, I want to show my deep appreciation in a tangible, practical way.

Evelyn very much regretted that she could not celebrate with her classmates, but her health -- she is paralyzed in both legs and living in a nursing facility -- precluded her coming. She still has a deep affection for the Class of 1950, as she puts it, "women who were ambitious, well educated, eager to learn."

Yale nurses tend to have a deep and abiding affection for their alma mater. I believe that's because we see day-in-day-out how clearly the preparation we received at YSN allows us to excel at the work we love. The YSN experience is always fresh in our minds because it is so intrinsic to what we do and who we are. That was certainly the case with Evelyn, who spent her career at a veteran's hospital, where she talks about how her YSN education gave her confidence throughout her 30 years of service.

This gift was made possible by small but well chosen investments in the stock market starting in 1929. (Yale nurses are smart!) Evelyn has excelled at financial planning and was good enough to include YSN in her overall thinking. That kind of thinking is important in all of us -- even people like me who are short on investment savvy.

The school is grateful to Evelyn and to her hard-working class agent, Jean Butler, who led a very successful reunion giving program. As of this writing, the Class of 1950 had a 79 percent participation rate, which suggests to me that Evelyn's warm feelings toward YSN are roundly shared by her peers.

I want to send out my thanks to all the class agents for another very successful drive. Our preliminary figures show that YSN raised a total of \$152,793 from 1,205 alumnae/i or 46% participation, compared to \$133,833 from 1,230 or 48% participation last year. Those totals, of course, do not include Evelyn's gift.

As you know, most of the money that we contribute goes directly into financial aid. That is not only the perfect way for us to express our gratitude to YSN, it's the best possible investment we can make in raising the overall quality of health care. So on behalf of myself, the class agents, the current students and the myriad patients whose lives will be made better by the care of Yale nurses, thank you, Evelyn. Thank you all.



YSN and CT Public Radio Collaborate

Connecticut Public Radio (CPR) will partner with the Yale School of Nursing (YSN) to produce a series of stories about programs to improve care for the elderly and people with chronic illness.

This collaboration is made possible by Sound Partners, a project of The Robert Wood Johnson and Benton Foundations, Sound Partners competitively awards grants to public radio stations that work with local health care organizations to do community centered journalism. The series, which was aired beginning in August, will be coordinated with community outreach health activities in New Haven's Hill neighborhood. The Hill is a medically underserved community and home to YSN. The radio series will be unique in emphasizing the ongoing lowtech efforts that raise quality of life for the elderly and people with chronic illness instead of focusing on drug discoveries, as is common

in health reporting.

CPR is an awardwinning, National Public Radio (NPR) member station, serving all of Connecticut and parts of Long Island, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. CPR has been honored two years in a row by the Associated Press as news station of the year, and is committed to indepth, community conscious journalism. "This project will help us expand our health care reporting, and allow us to focus on many aspects of illness and recovery that have not yet made media headlines," said CPR News Director John Dankosky. The series producer is Nancy Cohen, a veteran writer and radio producer who contributes frequently to NPR's Science Desk.

YSN's faculty has a strong tradition of research and practice in the areas of chronic illness and aging.
"Lowtech nursing interventions for the elderly and chronically ill work,"

said YSN Dean Catherine L. Gilliss. "They raise the quality of life, often extend life, and tend to be relatively low in cost. Yet our society's attention and resources are disproportionately focused on hightech cures and the promise of pharmacological 'magic bullets." Unfortunately, Gilliss adds, there is not a cure for everyone, but there is hope for everyone. This series will bring to light the tremendously rich experiences and contributions of the elderly and people living with chronic illnesses and will hopefully inspire policy makers to support the care that makes this independence possible.

Connecticut Public Radio can be heard in Hartford and New Haven on WPKT 90.5 FM; in Norwich and New London on WNPR 89.1 FM; in Stamford and Greenwich on WEDW 88.5 FM; in Storrs at 99.5 FM and in Long Island on WRLI 91.3 FM.

Alaska Hosts ACNM 2000 Convention

YSN was well represented at the 45th Annual Meeting of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM), held in Anchorage, Alaska in May, 2000. Faculty members **Lynette Ament, Margie Beal '82, Carrie Klima, Leslie Robinson '81**, and **Mary Ellen Rousseau** were all presenters at educational sessions. YSN Courtesy faculty members **Sharon Rising '67** from Waterbury Hospital and **Kate Mitcheom '81** from Fair Haven Community Health Center presented at an educational session and a workshop, respectively.

Melissa Prodis '00 was honored with the Wyeth Ayerst Student Reporter Award, sponsored by Wyeth Ayerst and the ACNM Foundation. It includes a monetary component. **Michelle Dynes '00** was the YSN student representative which entailed participation in the student meetings and the ACNM student report that was presented at the business meeting.

Alumna Sarah Gottlieb '78 was voted on by YSN students for the ACNM Foundation 2000 Excellence in Teaching Award and alumna Beth Tarrant '98 received a Maternal Child Health (MCH) Partnership Award from ACNM to attend the MCH Association's annual meeting.

The Challenge of Foster Care

By Cynthia Miller Lovell '92

'y education at the Yale School of Nursing (YSN) and volunteer work while Lin New Haven helped prepare me to be not just a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP), but also a foster mother and author. While at YSN From 1989 to 1992, I volunteered as a nurse at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen. I was struck by the variety of backgrounds of people who ate at the kitchen. Some had degrees from college, others had psychological disorders, some had jobs, while others spent their days on the streets. I remember when I visited one soup kitchen regular in the hospital, he quoted poetry to me. I realized that everyone had a story and something positive to offer.

Despite the varied backgrounds, there was one almost universal connection. Nearly everyone at the soup kitchen had been in foster care. Seeing all of the untapped potential of these people as adults, I wondered what would have happened if that potential had been better nurtured when they were children.

To be a foster child means that one has experienced abuse and/or neglect. Each year, over a million referrals are made to Child Protective Services in the United States. At any time, over 500,000 children are in foster care. Although placing a child in a foster home is meant to give that child safety and nurturing, the transition

can be traumatic. Foster children are taken from the parent(s) they loved, their school, their pets, and practically everything else familiar to them. As a PNP, I see several foster children brought in by their foster families. I have taken pictures of bruises on initial exams, counseled foster parents about behavioral issues, and made numerous referrals to play therapists and counselors.

On a more personal level, my husband and I have been foster parents. One of our foster children came to us with only a diaper and lice. We clothed him and got rid of the lice (no easy task!). Although he was three years old, he barely talked. Many foster children are developmentally delayed, especially in speech and language. He expressed his anger and confusion through many temper tantrums. Nighttime was the hardest. He would refuse to go to bed. Perhaps he thought we would leave him, as had his mother on numerous occasions.

We also foster-parented a preschool brother and sister. After a supervised visit with their mother, the brother asked, "Why wasn't Daddy there? Is he mad at me?" I explained that his daddy was not mad at him or his sister and he loved them both. That was one of the most significant things I learned as foster parent, that children love their biological parents no matter what. In fact, studies show that the more abusive a parent, the stronger the bond a child may feel toward that parent.

Although each foster child is unique, there are common issues with which they deal. When we took our foster children to the library, I was surprised that I could not find any good books to help them understand their experience. I checked with foster care agencies and did Internet searches, but could not find any resources to help young children understand foster care.

So, I decided to be a "change agent" (I used to roll my eyes when my instructors at YSN would use that term to describe nurse practitioners) and I wrote, *The Star*: A Story to Help Young Children Understand Foster Care. The book is designed to help foster children grasp what's going on, know they aren't alone, and develop a sense of hope. I self-published the book and learned about everything from copyright laws to bar codes. I contracted with a local artist to illustrate the book with bright, beautiful watercolors. To supplement the storybook, I collaborated with a psychologist who works with many foster children, and wrote, Questions and Activities for The Star: A Handbook for Foster Parents. The handbook provides insights into the issues foster children deal with, and suggests questions and related activities that can be helpful while reading The Star with foster children.

These books are for everyone who has contact with foster children. They help normalize the experience of foster care for children, as well as offer valuable information for adults who work with foster children. Both books are available through

http://members.home.net/books-forfosterkids/, amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. I hope these books smooth the transition into foster care for many children and help bring out their potential for a happier, more well-adjusted adult-hood.

Barbara A. Smith Delivers Sybil Palmer Bellos Lecture

On March 23, 2000 Barbara A. Smith, RN, PhD, FAAN, Professor of Nursing at the University of Alabama at Birmington, gave the 2000 Sybil Palmer Bellos Lecture. Dr. Smith spoke about, "Which Exercise Depends on Why You Are Exercising." The traditional Wisser Tea Reception immediately followed her presentation.

A highlight of this annual event is the announcement of the recipient of the YSN Community Service Award. This year's winner was Carrie Essex '00. This remarkable young woman entered Yale School of Nursing in 1997 as a Graduate Entry Prespecialty in Nursing student specializing in Pediatrics and spent her three years advocating for those without voice. Her volunteer efforts were felt at Yale-New Haven Hospital, YSN, the Yale community, and beyond. What began as a weekly session at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen ultimately became a leadership position as Cocoordinator of the program. An introduction to Yale's Committee



Barbara A. Smith

Overseeing Volunteer Services (COVS) soon found her organizing and promoting outreach activities through auctions and a community bus tour. Additionally, she served as one of YSN's student representa-

tives to the graduate and professional student senate and was Chairperson of the organization's Volunteer Committee. Carrie truly exemplified the spirit of Annie Goodrich and social responsibility. Whenever she perceived a need, she acted. Her responses ranged from dressing up for Halloween and reading books to hospitalized children; to organizing yearly food and clothing drives; to planning a CD drive to raise money for women's shelters; to orchestrating a drive to raise funds for breast cancer research by collecting Yoplait vogurt lids. That effort alone raised over \$400. Carrie gave both vision and voice to the community through her tireless crusade.



Carrie Essex with the Talisman roses that symbolize the Wisser Tea tradition.

YSN Alumna with a Passion for the Visual Arts

Filmfest New Haven celebrated its fifth anniversary on April 7-9, 2000 with Nina Adams '77 as Director. Nina was interviewed by the *New York Times* in an April 2nd article highlighting the annual film festival. More than 60 features, shorts, and documentaries lit up the screens of the York Square Cinema, Whitney Humanities Center, and Little Theatre in New Haven. This year one of the festival's themes was passion....passion for work, sport, music, art, or cultural background. Nearly 400 films were submitted for consideration, ten percent of which were made by Connecticut residents. Nina discussed the challenge of maintaining the festival's appeal to both filmmakers and audience, made simpler by adhering to Filmfest's strong mission: to educate the public about independent filmmaking, show high quality films, and create a pleasant environment for filmmakers. For more information, visit www.filmfest.org.

The Yale-Howard Scholars Program

By Vanessa Jefferson '98

While enrollment in bachelor's programs in nursing has been decreasing by 5% per year over the last five years, enrollment in graduate studies in nursing remains stable and, in fact, is even increasing in schools and universities in the western US. Nonetheless, graduate school enrollment for under-represented minority (URM) groups is not growing at a pace necessary to proportionally represent the population of the US. Believing that URM groups could and should be encouraged to pursue graduate level education, Yale and Howard Universities launched the 2000 Yale-Howard Scholars Program.

This seven-week summer program matched rising Howard senior nursing students with working scientific teams at YSN. The Scholars were expected to work in faculty research projects, develop an original question to address within the faculty research project, and participate in a faculty led research seminar. Families were invited to visit the campus and meet with faculty to discuss graduate school options. The program offered a modest summer stipend, travel support, and room and board. In summary, the purpose of the Yale-Howard Scholars Program was to expose the Howard Scholars to careers in advanced practice nursing and research.

YSN Dean Catherine Gilliss and Dean Dorothy Powell of Howard University worked together to develop the partnership between the two universities. The purpose of this partnership was to bridge the gap in nursing research, and to enhance the relevancy of nursing science to an under-represented minority. The Yale-Howard Scholars Program was initiated this summer (2000), starting June 19th and ending August 3rd. Five exceptional senior nursing students from Howard University were selected by Dean Powell and Sheryl Nichols, who played a significant role in facilitating and organizing this project from the Washington, DC area. I was the coordinator of the program at Yale.

The Scholars were Gia Belton. Annette Conley, Erica Jones, Nicole Laing, and Sabrina Singleton. They were paired with five research mentors from YSN, Dr. Marjorie Funk '84, Dr. Deborah Chyun '82, Dr. Lois Sadler '79, Dr. Gail Melkus, and Dr. Margaret Grey '76. The Scholars participated in a Research Seminar and the Elder Life Volunteer Program at Yale-New Haven Hospital. They engaged in the research process with their assigned mentors by collecting and analyzing research data, and developed their own research project during the seven-week program. They also had the opportunity to shadow nurse practitioners in clinical settings, as well as participate in a variety of educational and social opportunities offered at Yale during their stay.

Gia Belton worked with Marge Funk, Gia's research was entitled, "The Relationship Between Age and Afib After Cardiac Surgery." Annette Conley worked with Deborah Chyun and her study was entitled, "The Differences of Control in Diabetes Mellitus and Cardiac Risk Factors Among Men and Women." Erica Jones worked with Lois Sadler and presented, "A Description of Parental and Partner Characteristics and Pregnancy Wantedness Among Adolescents with Negative Pregnancy Test Results: Preliminary Findings." Nicole Laing worked with Gail Melkus and presented research entitled, "Nursing Interventions of Care and Education with African American Women with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus." Sabrina Singleton's mentor was Margaret Grey. Sabrina presented, "Depression in Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus."

Yale School of Nursing anticipates that this program will be the beginning of a working and ongoing collaborative partnership with Howard University and looks forward to participating in shaping the future of nursing with and for these bright and talented young nurses!



(l to r) Annette Conley, Gia Belton, Nicole Laing, YSN Dean Catherine Gilliss, Howard University Dean Dorothy Powell, Erica Jones, and Sabrina Singleton.

9th Annual Sigma Research Day

The Connecticut Chapters of Sigma Theta Tau International sponsored the 9th Annual Research Day, held at Western Connecticut State University on April 13. Several Delta Mu Chapter members presented research posters. Carrie Klima, YSN Assistant Professor and Nurse-Midwife, presented, "The Development of an Instrument to Measure Attitudes About Emergency Contraception." Beth Salvaggio '99 presented, "Empowerment Measures Critical Care Nurses Consider to be Realistic to Implement." Martha Swartz, YSN Associate Professor of Nursing, presented, "The Lived Experiences of Mothers in Caring for their Pre-term Infant During the First Six Weeks After Hospital Discharge: A Descriptive Phenomenological Approach.

ONS Foundation Presents Genentech Inc. Research Grant

M. Tish Knobf '82, Associate Professor in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty, is the recipient of the Oncology Nursing Society Foundation/Genentech Inc. Research Grant, an award designed to encourage oncology nursing research. Tish's study is entitled, "African American Women: The Experience of Breast Cancer and Menopause." Her Co-investigators are **Jeannie Pasacreta** and **Heather** Reynolds '80, both Associate Professors at YSN. Tish is a member of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) and the ONS Foundation Center for Leadership, Information, and Research Scientific Advisory Panel, and has

received numerous awards and honors including the American Cancer Society Doctoral Scholarship, the Predoctoral National Research Service Award, and the American Cancer Society Professor of Oncology Nursing.

Ruth McCorkle, Professor of Nursing and Chairperson of the Doctoral Program, has been awarded a four year grant, beginning July 1, 2000, designed to provide opportunities for pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral trainees to design and conduct research on the care of women with breast cancer or at risk for breast cancer, with an emphasis on individual and caregiver responses and outcomes in the biopsychosocial domains, and the testing of nursing interventions to improve clinical outcomes. Trainees will receive intensive mentoring to facilitate their development as independent researchers.

Lois S. Sadler '79, Associate Professor in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Specialty, was notified that her grant entitled, "Transition of Motherhood in Teen Mothers in High School," has been funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health.

YSN a Strong Presence at ENRS Conference

The Eastern Nursing Research Society held the 12th Annual Scientific Sessions in Newport, RI on March 30-April 1, 2000. YSN faculty, students, and alumnae were well represented at the conference. Jane Dixon, Professor of Nursing, presented, "Longitudinal Focus Group: Invention of a New Method;" and Courtney Lyder, Associate Professor, presented,

"Implementing the Plan-Do-Study-Act Model to Prevent Pressure Ulcers in Connecticut Hospitals.

Doctoral students Carmen Adams '00 and Robin Klar '01 presented posters, "The Lived Experience of Latinas with Type 2 Diabetes," and "The Relationship Between Interpersonal Influences and Community Situational Influences on the Use of Health-promotion Behaviors in Urban Women," respectively. Carol Boya, a Postdoctoral Fellow working with Ann Williams '81, gave two presentations, "HIV Illness Stage, Symptom Severity, Physical Functioning, and Depression Among HIV-infected Women," and "Making the Research-Practice Connection: Turning Dissertation Findings into a Clinical Intervention for HIV Seropositive Women."

There were also a number of alumnae/i who presented. Martha Curley '87 spoke about, "The Effects of Early and Repeated Prone Positioning in Pediatric Patients with Acute Lung Injury." Shirley Girouard '77 gave three presentations, "Skills for the Health Services Researcher," "Infection Control in Children's Hospitals: A Description Of Structures and Processes," and "Using Health Services Research

Findings to Influence Policy: An Example from a Study of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions." Laura Mylott '88 presented, "Weaning Patterns in Mechanically-ventilated Patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction." Jane Reardon '88 and Carol Shieh, DNSC '98 also collaborated on three presentations, "Collaborative Research Utilization Project: Community-acquired Pneumonia," "Evidence-based Practice: Implementation and Outcome Evaluation," and "Critiquing Research: A Process of

Conceptualizing Evidence-based Practice."

Rhea Sanford '86 presented a poster, "The Meaning of Patient Education within the Planetree Model, from the Perspective of the Patient." Jennifer McInnes '99 and Tish Knobf '82, Associate Professor in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty at YSN, had a poster entitled, "Weight Gain and Ouality of Life in Women Treated with Adjuvant Chemotherapy for Early Stage Breast Cancer."



Familiar faces from YSN at ENRS (L to R): Dorothy Sexton and Margaret Grey '76, faculty members, with DNSC students and alums Robin Klar '01, Joyce Shea '01, Susan Sullivan-Bolyai '99, and Carol Shieh '98.

Faculty Get YSN Grant Support

Several YSN faculty received YSN grants to help support their ongoing research interests. Funding began April 1.

Hearing Women's Voices: Primary Care Interactions Ivy Alexander

Lynette Ament

Evening Primrose Oil as a Cervical Ripening Agent

Kimberly Updegrove

Deborah Chyun Ruth McCorkle

Care of Older Adults with Diabetes and

Heart Disease

Gail Melkus Geralyn Spollett Culturally Sensitive Intervention for Black Women

with Type 2 Diabetes Study Completion



Carol Bova (R) won the Outstanding Student Presentation Award at the ENRS conference. This is the second year in a row that YSN has won this award.

Faculty Notes

Jane Burgess, Project Director, ATHENA Project; Janine Cataldo, Lecturer in Nursing in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Specialty, and Ann Williams '81, Professor of Nursing, were presenters at the Behavioral Health: Integrating Care Conference at Foxwoods Casino in Connecticut on April 1, 2000, co-sponsored by Yale School of Nursing, Yale School of Medicine, and Yale-New Haven Hospital. Jane has also received substantial support from the State Health Department for work related to prevention of perinatal HIV infection.

Marge Funk '84, Professor of Nursing in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty, has been elected to Fellowship in the American Academy of Nursing and will be inducted at the November meeting of the Academy in San Diego, CA.

Margaret Grey '76, Associate Dean for Research Affairs, has received the 2000 Achievement in Research Award from the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, the Excellence in Nursing Research Award from the Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Programs and has been appointed to the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research for the 2000-2004 term. In addition, with Co-Principal Investigator William Tamborlane, Margaret has had a \$1.1 million grant funded with Program Project Grant funds by the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation to study, "The

Effect of the Continuous Glucose Monitoring System on the Incidence of Hypoglycemia and Metabolic Control in Children and Adolescents with Diabetes," as well as a \$2.69 million grant funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research to study, "Nursing Intervention for Youth with Chronic Illness." Recent publications include, "Interventions for children and adolescents with diabetes," in Annual Review of Nursing Research, 18, (2000); "Care of the child and adolescent with Type 1 Diabetes," in Nursing Clinics of North America, 35, (2000), coauthored with doctoral student Sheri Kanner '92, DNSC '02; and, "Key issues in chronic illness research: Lessons from the study of children with diabetes," in Journal of Pediatric Nursing, 14 (2000), coauthored with Susan Sullivan-Bolyai, DNSC '99. Margaret also continues to present her research in a variety of venues.

Pamela A. Minarik, Associate Professor in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Specialty, and Kimberly O. Lacey '97, DNSC '01 had their article, "Medicare reim-



Leslie Robinson '81 (R), Lecturer in Nursing at YSN and Nurse-Midwife, was presented with a 1999 lvy Award by Yale President Richard Levin and New Haven Mayor John DeStefano. She is seen here with Dean Catherine Gilliss.

bursement for APNs: Opportunities and barriers in home care," published in the American Journal of Nursing. Kim was first author. Pamela was also a presenter and cofacilitator of the panel, "Recognition and Reimbursement: The Statutory and Regulatory Environment," at the Education Council Pre-conference II Educational Preparation of the Advanced Practice Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse, 2nd Annual International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses in Miami, FL on April 27, 2000. In addition, she was invited to be the keynote speaker at the 4th Nursing Research Conference of The Japan Academy of Nursing Administration and Policies on August 25, 2000.

Jeannie Pasacreta, Associate
Professor and Psychiatric-Mental
Health Nursing Specialty Director,
Leslie-Nield Anderson, former
YSN faculty member, and Pamela
Minarik, Associate Professor, have
co-authored a chapter, "Anxiety and
Depression in Palliative Care:
Assessment and Treatment
Recommendations," in Oxford
Textbook of Palliative Care (in press).

Sally Richards '97, ACNP
Certificate '98, Lecturer in the
Adult Advanced Practice Nursing
Specialty, authored, "Racial differences in presenting symptoms and
delay in seeking care in patients
with coronary heart disease,"
American Journal of Critical Care, July,
2000. Co-authors are Marge Funk
'84 and Kerry Milner, DNSC '98.

Larry Scahill '89, Associate Professor in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Specialty, has been appointed to serve on an Expert Panel for the International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses that will develop guidelines for assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

Student

Suzanne Boyle '81, DNSC '01 was awarded a Nursing Economics Foundation Scholarship, the only doctoral scholarship given by the organization for this academic year. Congratulations!

Gloria Chang '01 has had her poem, "Bakery," selected for publication in the Yale Literary Journal of the Yale School of Medicine.

Kristin Cooke '01 had the opportunity to travel to Guyana for ten days in April to provide healthcare to the medically underserved people of that area.

Kimberly Jonis Hudson '02 received an American Heart Association Student Scholars in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Scholarship for her research on end of life issues in patients with heart failure. Kim was married to Ryan Hudson in July, 2000.

Kimberly Lacey '97, DNSC '01, as first author along with Deborah Chyun '82 and Margaret Grey '76, published, "An integrative literature review of cardiac risk factor management in diabetes education interventions," Diabetes Educator (2000), 26 (5).

Karen Mera '01 returned to Nepal this summer to work in a hospital where she had previously worked in the emergency room. Karen is in the Family Nurse Practitioner program of study and hopes to practice in Nepal once she has paid off her educational loans.

Shelley Swanson '01 led a workshop entitled, "Perinatal Fitness Educator Training," at the International Childbirth Education Association 2000 International Convention, held in St. Louis, MO, August 9-13, 2000.

In May, as part of the New Haven International Festival of Arts and Ideas, YSN students participated in a collaborative project with CNA students from Career High School and elderly New Haven residents from Tower One. The YSN students served as mentors to the high school students, who interviewed the elderly residents about their lives, came up with a story, then worked together to assemble collages under the guidance of a professional artist.

Faculty Wins Softball Challenge

On the afternoon of May 15 the YSN faculty softball team challenged the students to a game which took place on one of the Yale athletic fields by the Yale Bowl. Student turnout was small, as classes were over, so Linda Pellico's kids and several YSN staff members rose to the occasion and rounded out their team. After a valiant effort (and a few mishaps!), the faculty prevailed and won by two runs, in spite of Bridget McManus's fourth inning three run homerun.



Faculty and staff all-stars (front row L to R) Sally Richards and son George, Ruth McCorkle, Linda Pellico, Walt Zawalich; (middle row) Linda Schwartz, Sandra Talley, Marge Funk, Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Judy Krauss; (back row) Debbie Chyun; Casey Thomas and Bridget McManus, staff members; and Margart Grey.



Student, staff (yes, they showed up in both photos!) and assorted challengers (front row L to R) Sam Levy, Mary Bartlett, Ryan Pellico, Katie Pellico; (back row) Bridget McManus, Casey Thomas, Meghan Sawyer, Elizabeth Perrone, Pamela Potter, and Neesha Ramchandani.



Deborah Welch Boyle '79 presented the Mara Mogensen Flaherty Memorial Lecture, entitled, "Pathos in practice: Exploring the affective domain of cancer nursing," at the Oncology Nursing Society's 25th Annual Congress on May 11-14, 2000 in San Antonio, TX. The annual lecture is given by a healthcare provider on a topic related to the psychosocial aspects of cancer diagnosis, treatment, and care. She is currently employed as an oncology CNS at Inova Fairfax Cancer Center in Falls Church, VA.

Toni Tyndall '79 was honored at a retirement party on June 28, 2000. She worked at YNHH as the CNS in cardiac electrophysiology for many years and for the last few years was a CN IV in diagnostic imaging.

Virginia Capasso '80 received her doctoral degree in nursing from Boston College in spring of 2000. Her dissertation study, entitled, "Arterial and diabetic wound healing: A comparison of the cost and efficacy of two wound treatments," was funded by a grant from the Association of Operating Room Nurses. Ginger's son Tom, 21, is a senior in electrical and computer engineering at Carnegie Mellon University, and daughter Maureen, 19, is a sophomore at University of Miami. Meghan, 18, is a freshman nursing student at University of Pennsylvania, and Timmy, 10, is in fifth grade.

Ellen Rubin '80 is a community health CNS at the VNA of South Central Connecticut in New Haven. She has been an active advocate for HIV prevention and home care of people infected with HIV. She developed a workshop for AIDS care givers three years ago and her former student, Wantana Limkulpong DNSc '98, has taken the Train-the-Trainer program to Thailand for nurses striving to combat the AIDS epidemic there.

Stephanie Sherman Calcasola '95 reports that she gave birth to son, Joseph, in March and is really enjoying motherhood. She expects to continue working at Baystate Medical Center, but will be changing jobs soon from her role as Pulmonary Manager to a part-time position as a Cardiac CNS.

Janet Parkosewich '85 was accepted into YSN's doctoral program for September, 2000. She recently presented the following posters: "Enhanced CAD treatment patterns in patients discharged from a university hospital," 2nd Scientific Forum on Ouality of Care and Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, Washington, DC, April, 2000; "Yale-New Haven Hospital Atherosclerosis Treatment Program," Horizon's 2000, Boston, MA, April, 2000; and, "Staff Nurses' Practice Enhances Access to Patients to Secondary Prevention Measures," 7th Annual Symposium and Exposition, Lipid Nurse Task Force, Preventative Cardiovascular

Nursing: Leading the Way into the 21st Century, Washington, DC, September, 2000. Her poster abstract was chosen by the review committee as the top abstract for the Patient Education category

Rhea Sanford '86 received her PhD in nursing from the University of Connecticut in May, 2000 and was given the School of Nursing's Doctoral Student Award for Research.

Libby Tracey '86 has been named Clinical Nursing Director of the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA. She recently completed her doctoral work at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Nursing. Her dissertation was entitled, "The experience of nurse compassion for women with recurrent breast cancer."

Mary Young '86 is working parttime as an ANP at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in internal medicine, since she completed her post-master's certificate at University of Vermont three years ago. She also teaches BSN students at Colby-Sawyer College.

Margaret Lynch '88 is an FNP at the Multi-disciplinary AIDS Program of the Cambridge Hospital in Cambridge, MA. In January, 2000, she published an article, "Uneven ground: HIV in women of color," in Advance for Nurse Practitioners.

Vanya Best '92 published a continuing education article entitled, "Oncology today: lung cancer," in the May, 2000 issue of *RN*.

Kate Stephenson '94 published, "Acute and chronic pharyngitis across the life span," in the September/October issue of Lippincott's Primary Care Practice.

Lea Ayers '96 is teaching community health nursing in the BSN program at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, NH. She has been active in the development of a new program at the college called community and environmental studies. Lea and her husband have purchased a "fixer-upper" on 18 acres in Andover, NH. Mark is working for a residential architectural firm in New London and Caroline has entered her third year of college.

Cynthia Flynn '96 was photographed and shown on the website of Columbia Women's clinic at www.columbiabirthcenter.com.

Nancy Lorenze '96, DNSc '02 gave birth to John Edward Lorenze on April 13, 2000.

Tina Miano Mason '96 presented a poster, "Support strategies and satisfaction," at the Oncology Nursing Society Congress in May, 2000.

Dena Kazmin Moes '96 and her husband, Adam welcomed their first child, Clarabel, at a home birth on October 22, 1999. "Although the experience has made me a much more compassionate midwife, I am staying home full time during my daughter's precious first year." Dena and her family live in Santa Cruz, CA where Adam is studying for his doctor of oriental medicine.



Clarabel Kazmin Moes

Jordan Hampton '98 moved to Cambridge, MA and is working at Chelsea High School's student health center. Kerry Milner, DNSc '98 co-authored with Marge Funk '84, Sally Richards '97, and Becky Mull-Wilmes '96 an article entitled, "Gender differences in symptom presentation associated with coronary heart disease," in the American Journal of Cardiology.

Kathy Myint-Hpu '98 is part of a team of PNPs working in pediatric oncology at the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, DC. Kathy primarily evaluates and manages children with leukemia and lymphoma.

Moira O'Neill '98 is the Community Care Coordinator for the Yale Center for Children with Special Health Care Needs.

Lisa Clayton '99 is living in Monterey, CA and working in Salinas for a system of farm worker clinics.

Erika Penney '99 is working at Children's Hospital in Boston, MA as a care coordinator and discharge planner. *Yale Nurse* received the sad news of her father's death from lymphoma in January, 2000.



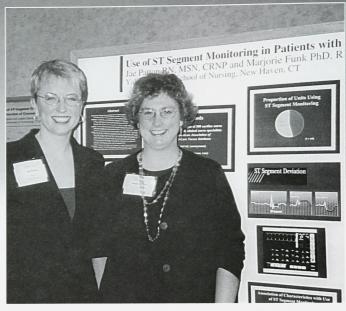
Rachel Hutson '94 married Tim Habib on July 1, 2000 in Dillon, CO. Present at the wedding were classmates (L to R) Kate Stephenson, Liz Ryan, Deirdre Murty Marcus, and Michelle Kennedy Frisco.

Amy Smolinski '99 is working as a GNP at the Goldman Institute of Aging in San Francisco, CA.

Susan Sullivan-Bolyai, DNSc '99 received a two-year postdoctoral grant in July, 2000 from the NIH-NINR. The award funds a feasibility study emerging from the results of her dissertation investigating the coping strategies of parents whose children were diagnosed with type 1 diabetes.

Amy Alderson '00 and Jennifer Wright '00 will be working as nurse-midwives with the Indian Health Service in Pine Ridge, SD. The practice, a National Health Service Corps loan repayment site, includes five nurse-midwives and is directed by Terry Friend '91.

Cynthia Esteban '00 received a NAPNAP Foundation Graduate Student Research Award toward her study entitled, "School-based nursing intervention for youth with asthma."



Jae Patton '99 (L) presented her research, "Use of ST segment monitoring in patients with acute coronary syndromes," at the 25th annual conference of the International Society for Computerized Electrocardiology in Yosemite, CA on April 30, 2000. Marge Funk '84 (R) was a Co-investigator.

IN MEMORIAM

Geraldine Stryker Brown '28 died December 24, 1998.

Eleanor M. King '32 died February 16, 2000.

Eleanor "Ellie" Stonington White '35 died May 11, 2000.

Marjorie Morse Crunden '37 died April 9, 2000.

Aldonna White Wedge '37 died April 6, 2000.

Marjorie Peck Somers '39 died October 18, 1999.

Betty Nylen McKeown '40 died October 26, 1999.

Rachel Hall Turney '40 died January 28, 2000.

A. Marcella Brown '41 died April 2, 2000.

Elsie Russell Hodges '41 died June 29, 2000.

Frances B. Brezina '42 died March 30, 2000.

Antoinette Smith Peterson '42 died October 25, 1999.

Phyllis Hardy Blodgett '46 died March 22, 2000.

Mildred Woodworth Lafferty '46 died April 8, 1999.

Jane Rollins Harrigan '50 died July 28, 1999.

Patricia Kiefer Pagliarini '52 died April 4, 2000.

Caroline R. Weiss '55 died February 28, 2000.

Eileen Callahan Hodgman '68 died June 9, 2000.

What's New?

YSN Alumnae/i Association wants to hear from you. Has your name or address changed? Do you have some news to share with your classmates? Would you like to contribute an article to *Yale Nurse*? Photos are welcome and encouraged. Also let us know of any "lost alumnae/i" who aren't receiving *Yale Nurse*.

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