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Yale Nurse

Yale School of Nursing

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Procession to the park for the building dedication, Alumnae/i Weekend

1996 Commencement & Reunion Weekend Issue
From the Dean

I write this column while still on a “high” from Reunion Weekend and the YSN building dedication! The events themselves were rejuvenating for all who attended, especially the Dean. We have all been working so hard to achieve our strategic plan goals that we have not had time to bask in our accomplishments. The Alumnae/i Weekend was definitely a celebration of all that we have achieved! Against what can only be described as a volatile climate for health care and higher education, we have balanced our budget, moved into a magnificent building on time and under budget, been declared a “research intensive school” by the National Institute of Nursing Research, surfed the managed care waters with our clinical programs intact, successfully launched a doctoral program, and opened a number of new options in our master’s programs. This has certainly been a year of events with the Henderson Memorial and the Building Dedication added to the list of usual suspects. One cannot imagine another year of events like this one -- or can one?

In just two years we will celebrate our 75th anniversary, a true milestone. And, in three years we will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the opening of our Graduate Entry Program in Nursing (the GEPN program) whose roots extend back to our original MN program. Both of these events will be occasion for the celebration of current accomplishments, as well as YSN’s historic place in the nursing profession.

I think the reason I find new energy from these events is because in celebrating our historic achievements we are reminded of YSN’s central role in the future of nursing and health care. The reason we have so much to celebrate in the first place is because our students, faculty, and alumnaei are so involved in the pioneering work of nursing. However, the challenges which are ahead for us all are enormous. It will fall to nursing to advocate on behalf of consumers of health care in our new managed care environments. The challenge will be to fashion new roles which are more cost effective and to secure nursing’s place in the care delivery system; but, it will also be to define and protect consumer rights in this mercurial environment and to be willing to speak out when those rights are violated or when quality care is compromised. I was optimistic that managed care would create new and real opportunities for advanced practice nurses to work collaboratively with physician and other health care professionals. Regrettably, there are signs that the environment is once again becoming hostile to advanced practice nursing, due in large part to reduced resources and the usual competition that results under such circumstances. I recently spoke with a number of YSN nurse-midwifery graduates who indicated that nurse-midwives are losing their jobs out on the west coast (which is supposedly a more mature managed care market). This means that all of us must be more vigilant in gathering data, making our work more public and visible, and “selling” the role of the advanced practice nurse to the payers and consumers of care. Here at YSN we do that through the work of the faculty (research, publications, presentations); participation in local, state, regional, and national policy groups; as well as through our clinical joint appointments and collaborative endeavors with public health and medicine; and, of course, through our students, who eventually become our distinguished graduates.

Our work is never done. In fact, the more we have to celebrate, the more work awaits us! I am simply grateful that we have cause for such splendid celebrations and that we do it in the company of Yale Nurses!
The 1996 YSN graduation exercises were held in the Prince Street Park adjacent to our new home at 100 Church Street South. This was a departure from the recent tradition of holding the ceremony at Yale Golf Course, but overwhelmingly graduates, family members, friends, faculty, and staff expressed great pleasure with the ambience and especially the convenience of having it “at home” this year. The park was a beautiful setting and the weather was perfect once a few brief morning clouds disappeared. Following the formal ceremony a reception for graduates, their families, and friends was held both inside the YSN building and outside on the patio.

After University commencement exercises concluded on main campus, graduates assembled and processed from YSN to the park, led by Dean Judy Krauss; Faculty Marshall Margaret Grey; Student Marshalls Mikki MyShawn Meadows, representing the Certificate in Nursing candidates, and Beth Anne Carlson, representing the Master’s degree candidates; and Banner Bearer James Schwindinger. Dean Krauss spoke briefly and urged the Class of 1996 to, “Take the time to experience the joy of your achievements. Relish that joy each time you rediscover it in your nursing practice and remember its connection to care. It will give abiding definition to the rest of your professional nursing career.” Linda Degutis ‘82, President of the YSN Alumnae/i Association, presented a pin on behalf of the Alumnae/i Board to each graduate as she or he received a diploma from the Dean. Remarks followed by Shirley Samy ‘96 who was selected to give the annual student address, and Joseph McDonough ’96, President of the Student Government Organization, presented the Class Gift, a Macintosh computer for the Computer Lab. The highlight of the afternoon is always the awarding of special prizes to the faculty member voted by the graduating class as the outstanding teacher of the year, and to two members of Deans (L to R) Margaret Grey and Judy Krauss led the procession into the park.
the class who are recognized for their achievements. Linda Honan Pellico ’89 received the Annie Goodrich Recognition Award for Excellence in Teaching; Lea Ayers was awarded the Charles King, Jr. Memorial Scholars Aid Prize for excellence in scholarship, research, and clinical practice; and Nancy Phillips Lorenze received the Milton and Anne Sidney Prize for her outstanding thesis work. As Dean Krauss stated in her brief remarks, “I love Yale commencements...There is just the right cacophony of color, song, majesty and commentary, understated but elegant, that makes one feel elite, which seems to me to be so very Yale and so very right for all of us gathered here on this particular day for this particular occasion.” The Class of 1996, the first class to graduate from our new home, indeed continues the tradition of excellence and achievement that has characterized Yale School of Nursing classes since 1926, when the first class ever of Yale nurses began their professional journey.
Front row (L to R): Michelle Bolles Vitale, Robin Zingales, Lea Ayers, and Lauren Janush Bencivengo

Shirley Samy delivered the student address.
Annie W. Goodrich Award Citation

LINDA HONAN PELLICO ’89

"It is difficult to find just the right words to describe the winner of this year's Annie W. Goodrich Award for Excellence in Teaching. The list includes 'committed and contrary,' 'dedicated and demanding,' 'passionate and persuasive.' One is reminded of the song from The Sound of Music, 'How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?'

"Her office looks like a supply closet, as it is filled with material and equipment she has begged, borrowed and (we fear) stolen, so her students can have just the right IV set, plenty of exam gloves, and an extra set of crutches on which to practice. She is often seen with a constant cup of coffee in her hand roaming the physical assessment lab badgering a student to, 'Do it again, but this time, get it right.'

"Her rare combination of clinical excellence, enthusiasm, and humor can make any patient smile and make any student laugh, even in the face of embarrassment. While at the Yale School of Nursing, we have been taught to be leaders, to change the system, to make a difference. This special nurse has led the way as she has provided us with guidance, orchestrated our transformations, and embraced our newly found skills.

"Her commitment to Yale has spanned a decade, both as a teacher and an active member of the Delta Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, nursing's international honor society. But mostly we honor her today because she has cajoled, comforted, indeed she has nursed each generation of graduate entry students. Many of us sit here today because of the first year we spent with her. She already holds the title of Yale Nurse; we are very proud to now give her the award which bears the name of the first Dean of the Yale University School of Nursing. For her expert knowledge of nursing, her unending patience with students, and her amazing dedication to our success, this year's recipient of the Annie W. Goodrich Award is Linda Honan Pellico."

Charles King Jr. Memorial Scholars Aid Prize Citation

LEA ROXANNE AYERS ’96

"When talking about her work, faculty use words like 'exemplary,' 'unsurpassed,' and 'extremely creative.' She has taken a rich clinical background in community-based care and built a creative advanced practice role in management and policy. Her extraordinary leadership capability and political acumen were evident as she negotiated unique clinical placements with the Connecticut State Board of Nursing Examiners, organized and led policy days in Hartford for our students and faculty, and co-authored a report to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing on the regulation of dialysis technicians. These have not been simple accomplishments.

"She recently represented Connecticut at the Pew Commission Task Force on Healthcare Workforce Regulation. Here, she gave new meaning to the phrase 'high expectations.' She volunteered to lead small groups and moderate controversial discussions on the regulation of health professions. Not only did she hold her own in this politically charged arena, she left with an invitation to deliver the keynote address at the State Nurses' Association in Massachusetts.

"Her thesis is but one evidence of her academic success. She examined a very complex organizational change that incorporated hospice services for a nursing home population. She has done a superb exploration of an extremely complicated subject which will have a significant impact on better understanding our service delivery system.

"We pride ourselves on having a school of leaders. It is clear this Yale Nurse will take her place among the best. It is with great pleasure the Yale University School of Nursing presents the Charles King, Jr. Memorial Scholars Aid Prize to Lea Roxanne Ayers."
Milton and Ann Sidney Prize Citation

NANCY PHILLIPS LORENZE '96

"Her thesis is superbly designed, carefully executed, and beautifully written. A senior faculty member has heralded this research as 'the best I have read in 22 years of teaching at YSN.' The work began with a simple and basic question grounded in the daily practice of nursing. The results will create change across the country in both nursing and medicine.

"The impetus for this study came from the observation that nurses were spending an incredible amount of time conducting frequent and detailed assessments following cardiac catheterizations. Little basis was found in the literature to support this practice. This enthusiastic researcher conducted extensive daily data collection, amassing information on 555 patients as they presented for cardiac catheterizations. The study's findings demonstrate that there are significant differences among the patients receiving this procedure, and post-procedure surveillance should be customized based on specific patient groups.

"Sophisticated studies such as this challenge the status quo, guide our practice, and prompt further inquiry. We expect no less from a Yale Nurse. It is an honor to claim her. The Yale University School of Nursing is proud to present the Milton and Anne Sidney Prize to Nancy Phillips Lorenze."

Nancy Phillips Lorenze

Beth Anne Carlson (R) and family friend, David Tremblay
Burtt Exhibit on Display for Graduation and Reunions

For the past 25 years Larice A. R. Burtt ’55 has been developing her unique style of stone painting. Her technique is to paint three-dimensionally, creating art forms with extraordinary attention to detail. Her choice of materials is acrylic paints and carefully selected stones with natural contours which dictate the varying themes. “There is something special about an ordinary stone. Almost everyone has seen a stone along the path, picked it up, and decided to put it in their pocket,” Larice states. The difference is that she takes these stones and creates beautiful, sometimes humorous, and always unique works of art. With the able assistance of Sally Bailey, Consultant in the Supportive Care Service at Yale-New Haven Hospital and Yale Medical School, the Burtt Exhibit opened at YSN on May 8 during National Nurses Week and was on display until June 8.

A reception in honor of the artist was held in the Elizabeth Kurtz Puzak Student Lounge at the School on the opening day. For the next several weeks faculty, staff, students, graduating students’ families and friends, and reuniting alumnae/i were all able to enjoy Larice’s creations - some weighing as much as 75 pounds.

Many pieces bear images of animals, such as gorillas, seals, rabbits, monkeys, and others are painted with scenes which follow a theme, such as the notions of liberty and Christmas.

A long-time resident of Bucks County, PA, Larice has exhibited her work in numerous juried shows in the Delaware Valley and in galleries and museums throughout the United States. YSN is privileged to have had the opportunity to display her works and is also the proud owner of a piece she created in memory of Virginia Henderson and presented to Dean Krauss, entitled, “Looking Toward the Future.” It depicts impressions of faces and buildings that are part of YSN’s history, including those of Virginia and Annie Goodrich. Although Larice did not formally practice nursing after leaving Yale in 1955, she is quick to say, “I am very grateful for the attitudes, inspiration, information, and associations given to me during my years at Yale. This is the only education I have used in a thousand different ways throughout my life and career.”
Family, friends, and colleagues from far and wide celebrated the life of Virginia Avenel Henderson at her memorial service, held fittingly on National Nurses Day, May 6, 1996, at Battell Chapel, Yale University. Favorite hymns and selected readings from scripture set the stage for the celebration of her life and career. Words of remembrance were delivered by Barbara Blakeney, Board of Directors, American Nurses Association; Lucille A. Joel, Board of Directors, International Council of Nurses; Melanie C. Dreher, President, Sigma Theta Tau International; and Judith B. Krauss, Dean, Yale School of Nursing. Catherine Mark Burdge '86, Virginia's great-niece, also participated in the service. All spoke about Virginia's strong belief in health care as a right; her advocacy of publicly financed, universal health care systems; her support of the need to turn medical records over to patients and to eliminate health care jargon; her strong views on the importance of the role of hospice at the end of life; and her commitment to the necessity for collaborative relationships among the health professions. Ron Krauss ('79)’s rendition of the Joan Baez song, “ForeverYoung,” elicited smiles from all attending, as the words truly captured Virginia’s zest for life, her sense of adventure, the twinkle in her eye, and her delightful sense of humor. A reception at the President’s Room, Woolsey Hall, immediately followed the service.
1996 REUNION WEEKEND:
New Architecture on Historic Foundations

June 6-8, 1996

The Alumnae/i College theme was a natural transition from last year's, "Building a Future on Shifting Sands." Yale School of Nursing, now firmly ensconced in our new building for one year at 100 Church Street South, welcomed a substantial number of reuniting graduates and showed off not only our new architectural structure, but also YSN's restructured divisions and curricula. The overall response to our new home was enthusiastic and even evoked several tears of joy, as alums fondly embraced former classmates and recalled their years at YSN.

Thursday evening began with the traditional informal supper in the Student Lounge and Commons of YSN. Shades of Indigo, comprised of Curtis Harmon '94 and Toby Wilcox '94, performed with its usual display of musical talent. And in keeping with a now three-year tradition, Dean Judy Krauss joined in singing "Amazing Grace." However, this year musical lyrics were distributed for all to participate.

Friday morning, everyone gathered for the new facility dedication under the marquis in Prince Street Park, adjacent to the School. The ceremony began with an invocation by Rev. Sally Bailey of Yale School of Medicine. Dean Judy Krauss then delivered the welcome and introduced the honored guests: Esther Armand, Alderman; Robert Arnstein, MD, representing the family of Margaret Arnstein, Former Dean of YSN; Richard Belitsky, MD, Medical Director of Yale Psychiatric Institute; Catherine Burdge '86, representing the family of Virginia Henderson; Roberta FitzGerald '66, Special Donor; Priscilla Kissick '56, Special Donor; Michael Merson, MD, Dean, Public Health, Yale School of Medicine; Elizabeth Puzak '41, Special Donor; Reginald Mayo, PhD, Superintendent, New Haven Board of Education; Margaret Veazey, RN, MSN, Assistant Director of Nursing, Veterans Administration Medical Center; Diana Weaver, RN, DNS, FAAN, Senior Vice President of Patient Services, Yale-New Haven Hospital; and Clifford Winkel, Executive Vice President of Construction and Development Services.

Remarks were offered by Alison Richard, PhD, Provost, Representing the Officers and
Administration of the University; Gerard Burrow, MD, Dean, Yale School of Medicine; Florence Wald '41, Clinical Professor and Former Dean of YSN; Donna Diers, MSN, FAAN, Annie W. Goodrich Professor of Nursing and former YSN Dean; Pat McCormick, Representing the YSN Staff; Joseph McDonough '96, President, YSN Student Government Organization; Linda Degutis '82, DrPH, President, YSN Alumnae/i Association; The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro, Congresswoman, 3rd District, Connecticut (D); William Quinn, Director, Department of Health, New Haven, Representing The Honorable John DeStefano, Mayor of the City of New Haven; Courtland Seymour Wilson, Executive Director, Hill Development Corporation; Glenn Gregg and Richard Wies, Gregg and Wies Architects.

The Benediction was offered by Rev. Frederick J. Streets, Chaplain of the University, before the recessional to YSN for the multiple-person ribbon cutting ceremony at the base of the central staircase.

After student-led tours of the new facility, Dean Judy Krauss gave the State of the School address using our state-of-the-art lecture hall, complete with on-line computer slides and an overhead link to the Internet. After lunch, keynote speaker Loretta Ford, Dean Emeritus, School of Nursing, and Professor, University of Rochester Medical Center, delighted all with, "An Historical Perspective of the Advanced Practice Role," where she relayed some of the do's and don'ts, myths and facts of advanced practice nursing and its evolution. The afternoon panel
discussion, "The YSN Education: Changing to Meet Today's Needs," was moderated by Dean Krauss, and consisted of Margaret Grey '76, Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Cassy Deane Pollack '83, and Martha Swartz. They presented the rationale and structure of the new divisions at YSN and how these changes were developed in response to the vision of YSN for its graduates. The evening banquet was held in the President's Room at Woolsey Hall, with record number attendance. Finally, everyone could relax and socialize at the end of a very busy day. Reuning classes were from the years ending in 1 and 6. Dean Judy Krauss presided over the evening and ceremonies, which culminated in the presentation of
Members of the Class of 1946W posed outside YSN. Front row (L to R): Eleanor Piras, Vivian Crabtree, Grace Lett, Mary Crockett, Barbara Baughman, Nona Koch. Middle row (L to R): Jean Milligan, Betty Sullivan, Marion Fleck, Evelyn Balginy, Jeanne Bruce. Back row (L to R): Jeanne Mercier, Lois Severy, Jean Trumpp

Distinguished Alumnae Awards. This year's recipients were Joan Elizabeth Mulligan '56, Saundra Thomson Bialos '71, and Heather Reynolds '80. The Outstanding Service to the School Award was given to Betty Due Sullivan '46W for her tireless work as class agent.

Saturday morning's panel, "Advanced Practice in the 1990s," was gracefully moderated by Deborah Chyun with her thoughtful comments to Nina Adams '77, Saundra Bialos '71, Margaret Cushman '76, Robin Leger, and Heather Reynolds '80, all advance practice nurses in both practice and academics. This panel of professionals completed the weekend's architectural triad theme—the structure of history, academics, and practice—as it updated the audience on clinical content and social, political, and financial challenges that advanced practice nurses face today.

Some members of the Class of 1971 at the building dedication in the Prince Street Park (L to R): Gretchen Kuempel, Paul Goering, Linda Hoag, Sr. Agatha Cebula, Sandy Bialos, and Bette Davis
Distinguished Alumna Award Citations

Heather Reynolds '80

Eminent leader in her field and untiring community advocate, her nursing and nurse-midwifery careers were launched from the Yale School of Nursing. Building on this solid foundation, she crafted her talents as a superior nurse-midwife from Florida to Colorado, becoming the gifted clinician for which she is now known. Returning to her roots in New Haven, she flourished, laboring unflaggingly as a nurse-midwife, member of the Yale faculty and eventual clinical director at Yale-New Haven Hospital's Women's Center. She enabled hundreds of women to deliver their children with optimal health, dignity, and safety. She recognized the needs of New Haven's medically underserved population, and has relentlessly championed the cause of minority women's access to quality perinatal care. Serving on a myriad of local, state, and national forums, she advocates for those whose voices would not otherwise be heard. Her publications, most notably in the areas of teen pregnancy and underserved populations, are well-recognized in her field. Perhaps her greatest gift to the YSN community is that of teacher and mentor. For the past ten years, as a cherished member of the faculty, she has lent her clinical talents to countless nurse-midwifery students. Her gentle nature is most noteworthy in her mentoring of minority students, each of whom she carefully nurtures from novice to expert nurse-midwife. Community advocate, teacher, mentor, nurse-midwife par excellence—it is with great pleasure that the Yale School of Nursing and her Alumnae/i Association bestow the Distinguished Alumna Award on Heather Reynolds, Class of 1980.

Joan Elizabeth Mulligan '56

Scholar, leader, researcher, advocate for women's and nurses' rights, she lends distinction to the Distinguished Alumna Award. Nationally recognized for her writings on the politics of women's health and for her expertise in community health nursing, she is notable in her persistent pursuit of equity of gender and race in university policies. Not satisfied to restrict her talents to nursing, she held a joint appointment with the University of Wisconsin (Madison) Women's Studies Program and was a founding member of the Women's Health Section of the Midwest Nursing Research Society. In addition, she played an instrumental role in obtaining state support for certified nurse-midwifery practice and on retirement received a citation from the Wisconsin State Senate. Yale, the University of California (Berkeley), and the University of Michigan all claim her, but the University of Wisconsin (Madison) has been the chief beneficiary of her visionary leadership. We can call her professor, nurse-midwife, teacher, and researcher, but we honor her as Yale Nurse and advocate for the public health of women and children. It is with great pleasure that the Yale School of Nursing and her Alumnae/i Association bestow the Distinguished Alumna Award on Joan Elizabeth Mulligan, Class of 1956.
**Saundra Thomson Bialos '71**

Dedicated to excellence, her career in psychiatric nursing has spanned the Veterans’ Administration to an independent outpatient practice specializing in individual and family psychotherapy with a focus on adolescents. Never content to simply practice, she was a charter member of the Connecticut Society of Nurse Psychotherapists and has advocated with distinction for enabling laws and regulations affecting the practice of psychiatric-mental health nursing. Her considerable talents, honed as a nurse psychotherapist, have made her a true daughter of the Yale University community where she has nursed our systems for God and Yale—serving as AYA delegate, member of the Board of Governors, and, finally as Chair of the Association of Yale Alumni. She now lends her considerable talents to the Board of Directors of the Yale Club of New Haven. Her tremendous contributions to the University at large have come full circle back to YSN, where she has co-chaired the AND FOR YALE Campaign. Valued member of the clinical faculty, she prepares future psychiatric-mental health clinical nurse specialists with exacting standards and a love for excellence. Yale University has already awarded her the Yale Medal. Her Alumnae/i Association takes pride in claiming her and bestowing the Distinguished Alumna Award on Saundra Thomson Bialos, Class of 1971.

![Saundra Thomson Bialos '71](image)

**Outstanding Service to the School Award Citation**

**Betty Due Sullivan '46W**

"Remember our beloved Yale" are the words that she has often used to encourage her classmates to contribute to Yale School of Nursing and its programs. For fifty years she has demonstrated the embodiment of the spirit of YSN, and, as class agent, has used this spirit generously to the benefit of her classmates and the School. No matter where she travels—and travel she does to Norway, England, Florida, Connecticut, and places far and wide—her handwritten notes always find her classmates, coaxing just one more contribution for YSN. Her enthusiastic support of Yale School of Nursing has been continuous from the time she was a student. Her nursing career included a teaching post at the Grace-New Haven School during the critical time of its merger with the original Grace Hospital School. Ever the diplomat, she was able to allay the fears of the "Yale nurses" involved in the historic change. She served on the staff of the Connecticut Nurses' Association until the birth of her twins, who benefitted not only from her mothering skills, but also from her nursing knowledge when the infants developed polio. At reunion time, there are no valid reasons for absence. She is there, promoting participation, making reservations, arranging special dinners, meeting arriving classmates at the airport, and providing her personal brand of hospitality. As a result, her classmates, "Just say yes," to Yale. It is with great pleasure and pride that the Yale University School of Nursing and her Alumnae/i Association present the Outstanding Service to the School Award to Betty Due Sullivan, Class of 1946W.

![Betty Due Sullivan '46W](image)
REUNION WEEKEND (continued)
Photographs and Memories...

Celebrating their 50th were (L to R) Josephone Lutz, Grace Lett, and Vivian Crabtree.

Jean Ball Trumpp '46W at building dedication ceremony

Gretchen Kuempel '71 with former maternal-newborn/nurse-midwifery faculty member Vera Kean

At the banquet from the Class of 1986 were (L to R) Audrey Budarz Courtney and Mary Kubeck Peterson.

Representing the Class of 1951 (L to R): Martha Barden and Claudette Barry
V.V. Yordan '51 celebrated her 45th!

Faculty and grads (L to R) Linda Pellico '89, Rebecca Henry '94, Pam Minarik, Ann Williams '81, and Fran Gwinnell '96.

Enjoying the Thursday supper were (L to R) Eleanor Grunberg '46, Constance Goodman '46, Lois Severy '46W, Jeanne Mercier '46W, and Eleanor Piras '46W.
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YUSNAA

June 8, 1996

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by President Linda Degutis ‘82. The Dean offered welcoming remarks and expressed appreciation and thanks to both Barb Reif and Barb Larkin for their work before and during Alumni/i Weekend.

Mary Jane Kennedy ’68, Chairperson of Annual Giving, announced a 46% participation rate so far this year, down from last year ($99,934 compared to $128,823 last year at this time). The goal was $150,000 (60% participation). The fund year ends June 30, 1996. Telephone solicitation has increased, and it is thought to be more successful with more recent graduates. Some of the questions/comments from Alumni/i included:

- Funds are confusing.
- There was a suggestion to develop a diagram to clarify funds and relationship of funds, and that class agents be able to explain the various fund relationships.
- Phone solicitations are distasteful to some; perhaps there are generational differences in receptiveness.
- Publish suggested amounts for 5, 10, 15 reunion year gifts.
- Make provision for lifetime contribution.
- Fund raising and development by and for YSN are determined by the structure of the Alumni Fund.

Treasurer Doris Foell ’88 reported the largest expenses were for students:

- Scholarships
- School pins awarded to graduating class
- Yale Nurse expenses
- Alumni Weekend expenses

Rebecca Henry ’94, reporting for Rosemary Fanale-Golub ’92, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, presented the proposed Slate of Officers and Directors for 1996. The slate was approved. It was felt that it would be helpful to have representatives from a broader range of classes and that an invitation to participate on or nominate someone to the YUSNAA Board be published in Yale Nurse. Also, it was felt that the meeting schedule of the Board should be published.

There was no old business.

Under New Business the new Alumni/i Ambassador Program was explained. It is part of a broader one to recruit prospective students through Alumni/i efforts. The applications have been coded so they can be tracked to the Ambassadors. YUSNAA over the past year has been trying to achieve more Board visibility. Some of the ways this is happening are that the Board is targeting graduating students through its Career Workshop (Thanks to Dorothy Sexton for her contributions of information!); is sponsoring a social hour for current students; is continuing the decision to present pins at graduation; and donated reference texts to the YSN Reference Room to help with resume writing and job hunting. It was suggested that YUSNAA develop a mission statement or publish strategic goals in Yale Nurse.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Ousley Henry ’94
Secretary

YUSNAA OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1996-97

Newly Elected:
President, 1996-97* Anne Aquila ’88
Vice President, 1996-98 Doris Foell ’88
Treasurer, 1996-98 Karin Nystrom ’95
Directors, 1996-98 Judith Chessin ’93 Vanna Dest ’92
Nominating Committee, 1996-97 Robin Pooley Richards ’93, Chair** Kathryn Griffey ’93 Elizabeth Lada ’96
AYA Representative, 1996-1999 Marjorie Funk ’84

Continuing:
Secretary, 1995-97 Rebecca Henry ’94
Directors, 1995-97 Edward Drew ’92 Curtis Harmon ’94
AYA Representatives Mary Colwell ’50 Pam Driscoll ’81
Co-Editor, Yale Nurse Kate Stephenson ’94

* Anne Aquila, Vice President, 1995-96, will complete Linda Degutis’s term of office as President.

** Also serves as Director
Both continent and incontinent elders. In Phase II he will develop and evaluate a structured skin care regimen to prevent the condition.

There continues to be a dearth of data regarding the etiology and subsequent treatment of perineal dermatitis in this segment of the population. Lyder notes that the majority of studies focusing on perineal dermatitis are found in the pediatric literature, and that the question of generalizability of these studies must be looked at, since there are structural differences between pediatric and geriatric skin. Lyder believes that current nursing interventions to prevent and treat this problem in the elderly are based on the pediatric literature, which may explain the greater incidence in older persons. Results from the study are expected to provide data on the pathogenesis and treatment of this condition, and information on aging skin, and will guide further intervention studies in this often ignored problem in geriatric health care.

### Sigma Theta Tau / YSN Research Day

YSN and Delta Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau hosted the Annual Research Day on May 2, 1996 at YSN's new building. Associate Dean for Research, Margaret Grey, gave the introductory remarks and Marge Funk, Research Committee Chairperson, announced the recipients of this year's research grant awards: Sally Cohen '80, for her work with arrangements between nurse practitioners and managed care organizations; Rebecca Henry '94, who is looking at the implications for patient education in a comparison of symptoms in recurrent myocardial infarction to symptoms of prior myocardial infarction, and Mary Anne Zeh '96, whose master's research dealt with the experience of childhood sibling abuse among adults with mental illness.

Research presentations were as follows:

Irene Stukshis '96, "Accuracy of documentation of clinically important dysrhythmias with and without a dedicated monitor watcher."

Patrick Cunningham '96, "Validity and reliability of HIV symptom assessment tool."

Alison Wittenberg '96, "Street youths' perceptions of the factors involved in successful exit from street life."

Julie Seymour '96 and Debra Innes '96, "Social support and physical functioning in elderly individuals status post CABG surgery."

Rachel Ruby '96, "An evaluation of a TB prophylaxis program."

Mary Anne Zeh '96, "The experience of childhood sibling abuse among adults with mental illness: an exploratory study."

Beth Carlson '96, "Comparison of symptoms, health perception, and functional ability of elderly individuals who were managed with three different treatment modalities."

Monica Roosa '97, "The relationship of social support to hormonal measures in primiparous women."

Cindy Czapinski '97, "Staff nurse specialization and the effect on length of stay and mortality."

Recipient of research grants: (L) Mary Anne Zeh and (R) Sally Cohen with Marge Funk
Susan Sullivan-Bolyai has just completed her first year in YSN's doctoral program. No small accomplishment, particularly considering that she had always dreamed of a career in dance (ballet, jazz ballet). Prompted by the urging of her mother to, "have a nursing career to fall back on," Susan received an associate's degree in nursing and went to work at the University of Illinois Hospital in pediatrics. Little did she know that the next 27 years would hold for her a rich, nationwide nursing experience before she landed at YSN last year.

Susan moved to Denver, Colorado where she worked in the pediatric ICU at University of Colorado while obtaining her BSN in 1976 from Metropolitan State College. Here in Colorado, Susan met her husband. They moved to Atlanta, Georgia where she earned her MN in 1978 from Emory University. With a shift in focus from tertiary settings to community-based chronic care of children, she became involved with Head Start, the launch pad for her thesis project. These children had had emotionally traumatic experiences before their physical exams and Susan examined whether preprocedural play time provided a more positive response toward health behaviors and health care providers.

After a brief time teaching at Arizona State University's BSN program, where she also became certified in the use of the NCAST (Nursing Child Assessment Satellite Training) tools, she settled in Seattle, Washington for three years. NCAST is a set of tools by which assessment of parent-child interactions such as feeding and teaching take place in the context of a home environment. As a CNS in the Birth Defects Clinic at Children's Hospital, she provided nursing case management (although not recognized as such until the mid to late 1980s) services to disabled children and their families from Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho. At University of Washington, she not only studied handicapping conditions in young children through the post master's program, but also held a clinical faculty and lecturer position for both undergraduate and graduate nurses.

From 1982 to 1984, Susan was on UCLA's faculty as the Director of Training in Nursing. Here, she worked with graduate student nurses under the interdisciplinary approach of the University Affiliated Program between USC, UCLA, and Los Angeles Children's Hospital. Combining her interests in interdisciplinary case management of inner-city children with chronic disease, she then took a six-year position at La Rabida Children's Hospital/University of Chicago as the Continuity of Care Coordinator. It was here that she designed, developed, and implemented a nursing case management department for children with chronic conditions. Early discharge to the community with intensive home care management became the norm for newborns and children with chronic medical, social, and psychological disorders. Susan simultaneously taught at Loyola University and was on faculty at University of Illinois.

After a few years in Newark, New Jersey at United Hospitals Medical Center as Discharge Planning Supervisor, where she met with resistance as she developed a nursing case management program, Susan returned to New England. From 1993 to the present, she has been an assistant professor (now on leave of absence) for the Department of Nursing at Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island. She taught clinical practice at Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence and was involved with Head Start in Fall River, Massachusetts. Before coming to New Haven last autumn, Susan also maintained a small pediatric practice where she utilized her NCAST and NSSTEP-P (Nursing Systems Toward Effective Parenting of the Preterm Child) instruments. In fact, since 1994 she has been an instructor for both tools.

Susan decided to come to YSN because she learned of Margaret Grey's ongoing study of children with chronic disease, "Nursing intervention to implement DCCT therapy in youth," which is a randomized trial testing two ways of helping adolescents do intensive IDDM therapy. After completing her required coursework, Susan...
Editors' Corner

will begin her own research— a longitudinal, descriptive, qualitative study on parenting a child under three years of age with IDDM. She plans to look at parental stressors and management of stress regarding time management, feeding, required infliction of pain (needle sticks), and developmental restrictions as a result of chronic illness. To fund this study, Susan applied for an NRSA grant, for which she ranked, "a score in the excellent range, making her very likely to receive funding," comments Margaret Grey.

When asked how she looks back on her first year in YSN’s DNSc program, Susan says, "They work you hard—I don’t have much time to ski—but it’s well worth it. You learn so much from the whole process. It’s exciting at age 48 still to be gaining new knowledge. That is what Yale provides us." About her team of coworkers on Dr. Grey’s study, she is enthusiastic. "I love working with [GEPN students] Delia Lakich ’97 and Ellen Shaw ’97, and Elizabeth Boland ’95. I continue to be impressed with the quality of people YSN turns out and those currently studying. They are all dynamic, motivated and bright, with wonderful senses of collegiality."

Susan is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and ANA. She has been a reviewer for Journal of Pediatric Nursing since 1984 and has published in nursing journals in the areas of neurogenic bowel and bladder, case management, and post care of medically complex children. She has presented at the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Association for the Care of Children’s Health. Susan lives with her husband John Sullivan-Bolyai, MD, who is doing pharmaceutical research in New Jersey for the treatment of HIV/AIDS with protease inhibitors. Susan lives in Stamford during the week and Westport Point, Massachusetts on the weekends, commuting with their cat, Mickey Mouse.

- YSN is on the Internet! Check out the WEB page at http://info.med.yale.edu/nursing.
- You can reach any YSN faculty or staff member quickly and easily by using email. Just type theparty's first name.last name@yale.edu and you’re all set! For example, if you have an article or idea for an article for Yale Nurse, send it to barbara.reif@yale.edu.
- The YSN mailing address is: P.O. Box 9740, 100 Church Street South, New Haven, CT 06536-0740.
- The telephone number for the Office of Student and Alumnae/i Affairs is: (203) 785-2389.
- The FAX number is: (203) 737-5409.
- Not long ago we were digging through some old folders and came across the following class yells that amused us and that we thought the readership might enjoy!

1924 Yale Nursing Eleven All our patients go to Heaven.
1925 Stir them Beat them Freeze them Heat them - Formulas!
1926 Isolation Contamination Incubation Ker Chew! Rah! Rah!

Now the question is, when and how were they used? Any ideas?

- The Alumnae/i Ambassador Program is in full swing and 40 graduates have agreed to proactively recruit and identify potential applicants to YSN who have the ability, commitment to nursing, and perseverance to meet the challenges of a Yale education and make a difference in the delivery of health care to all individuals. The School greatly appreciates the efforts of these alumnae/i who continue to support YSN in so many ways. The following people have agreed to serve:

Patricia Adams ’82, Marilyn Ashmann ’86, Bonnie Baloga-Altieri ’89, Susan Bonini ’89, Deborah Boyle ’79, Elizabeth Brewster ’51, Ann Neureuter Burnham ’83, Laura Burr ’96, Janet Cameron ’93, Virginia Capasso ’80, Anne O’Rourke Cloutier ’84, Mary Swanson Crockett ’46W, Joan DeMaio ’82, Michelle DeSisto ’94, Cynthia Finesilver ’77, Jeanne Finn ’85, Jennifer Fitzgibbons ’96, Yuka Fujikura ’51, Peg Garrison ’89, Penny Giragosian ’94, Beverly Harper ’73, Mary Johns ’87, Jacqueline Jordan ’82, Nancy Kline ’92, Gretchen Kuempel ’71, Elaine Owen ’84, Lois Ravage-Mass ’90, Jane Reardon ’88, John Roberts ’80, Mary Geraldine Robinson ’46, Virginia Seery ’91, Carol Sheridan ’81, Frances Smith ’85, Susan Stengravics ’80, Janet D’Agostino Taylor ’79, Amy Vogt ’93, Anne Westall ’92, and Charlotte Wright ’41.

YSN Clothing Still Available Through SGO
The Student Government Organization continues to sell quality sweatshirts, t-shirts, shorts, etc. Anyone who is interested in making a purchase....a good way to beat the holiday rush!...can contact SGO at (203) 785-2391 or in person in Room 129, 100 Church Street South. All proceeds benefit activities of SGO throughout the year.
Interval in Africa

Virginia Nehring, PhD, RN

Virginia Nehring '72, who spent 1995 in Botswana, responded to our request for articles detailing YSN alumnae/i abroad. Although she gave all of her photos and negatives to the students and faculty in Africa, her piece provides vivid images of life in Botswana.

As a Fulbright Professor beginning August 1994, I cried all the way to Washington, DC. I had just left my husband, three children, three dogs, two cats, my house with its microwave, cable TV, two phone lines, answering machine and all modern conveniences, to travel to the University of Botswana in Africa. Leaving Friday night, traveling East, it would take me over two days to travel the 9,000 miles from temperate Dayton, Ohio, to sub-tropical Botswana, site of the Kalahari Desert. I knew very little of what to expect except that I would be teaching at the University, the only one in Botswana, and living in the capital city of Gaborone. I had attended a three day orientation session in Washington, DC and knew that Botswana is the most stable country on the African continent, a democracy, with 1.5 million people. It is a country a little smaller than Texas. It has the strongest currency in Africa and no debt. It is a very friendly country where my physical safety was expected. Further, as the first Motswana tribal chief (black) elected president of the democracy had married an English (white) woman, racial conflict has always been minimal.

Excitement and enthusiasm

By the time of my arrival, besides being exhausted and having very sore anatomical areas, I was thrilled and excited. I was met at the plane by a fellow nurse who had been teaching under Kellogg sponsorship. I was to live in her flat, owned by the university, and use her former office. I even agreed to be the fourth owner of the Fulbright cat. The university looked a bit like one might expect in a very hot climate: very spread out with separate, one-room-thick buildings with roofed walkways for sun protection. My first perception was of heat. It was quite hot but everyone I saw was wearing a jacket or sweater as if I had arrived in the middle of winter below the equator. Indeed it becomes quite cold during the night in the desert. I had not expected the beauty I saw with flowering plants everywhere. Not once in my entire stay was there not some plant flowering with huge blooms.

Being completely alone in a strange country, I was immediately struck by how different everything was. The people, called Motswana, spoke Setswana. But those who wished to attend the university learned English as a second language. As the university is relatively new and very dependent upon expatriates (called ex-pats), the students had to be able to cope with speakers from Canada, Australia, Great Britain, Sweden, Norway, Natal, etc. Although all the faculty spoke "English," the accents had little in common. As a new faculty member, I had to speak very slowly, a very difficult feat for me, and frequently had to write out words on the chalk board to be understood. Furthermore, I found words for common objects were often different. A traffic light is a robot, a car hood is a bonnet, the trunk is the boot, the muffler is a silencer. I was very proud of my automobile driving on the left side of the road and related coping skills when I was first stopped by a patrol officer. I quickly showed my international driving license, proof of car ownership, and the headlights, taillights, and turning signals. But when he asked about my hooter I could only say, "Pardon?" After he quite nicely requested again, he reached in and honked my horn before waving me on.

My first task was to find things such as the utilities, my flat, and a grocery store. My dependence on visual maps was not consistent with their tradition of giving oral directions based on geographical landmarks. I could not find the grocery store that had ex-pat food when told it was left at the robot and behind the beer plant. When I pulled out my tourist map, carefully purchased from the hotel, it became clear that maps are not part of this culture, and, although everyone pointed and tried to express very clearly where I was to go, my cultural traditions made it impossible for me to understand. I expected street addresses and numbers. Plot numbers were sometimes used, but I didn't know which plots were developed when. Streets might have three names within a short distance or a single name might apply to three streets going in different directions, so street addresses really weren't used and street signs were a rarity. Furthermore, a business might be next to or behind or inside a new Western type building or a traditional rondova. I finally realized one had to know where things were... and I didn't. So, asking for help became a very common experience.

The university has housing for faculty who wish it. My flat was extremely nice and very western. The furniture resembled typical college dormitory furniture except that there were extensive closets (at last enough storage space--and I had nothing to store!) and everything in the flat locked: the closets, utility room, bathrooms, even the dressers and chests of drawers had keys. In a country where poverty is extremely high, and there is a 40% unemployment rate, those who had material goods were concerned constantly about theft.

Everything was different! My flat was at 4714-32, at developed area number 4714, at the row house numbered 32. I was told I would have a garage for my car. However, a garage is not a building but a fenced in area where you can keep your car (if you're wealthy enough to own one, and very few people were) safe from...
the goats and cattle which graze everywhere. Mail is not delivered to your home. You can rent a post office box, but these are limited in number and also very expensive. Mail is also delivered to private bags for those who pay for such delivery. Fortunately the university had a private bag so my mailing address was private bag 0022, Gaborone, Botswana.

Besides never knowing whether I was being asked for my actual physical location or my mailing address when I was filling out forms, I was never quite sure what time it was as military time was used according to British custom. Four-thirty in the afternoon was half past 16 hours. Nor could I write the date without having the think about the fact that day, then month, was expected. So 8-9-95, when I arrived in Botswana, was 9-8-95 on documents there.

Due in part to the history of colonialism, the work day was a bit different as well. Many businesses opened at 7 a.m. and everything in the country (except restaurants and hotels) closed between 12:30 and 1:00 for lunch and did not reopen until 2:00. Even the university class schedule was different. Classes began on the hour and went until ten minutes before, i.e., 7:00 to 7:50 a.m. and 9:00 to 9:50 a.m. But then came tea time so the next classes were 10:10 until 11:00 a.m., etc. All business stopped for the British custom of tea.

Food availability (if you have money) was not a problem. Various cereals are grown locally, cattle is the main source of wealth in the Motswana society, and fresh fruit grown abundantly in next-door neighbor, South Africa. Even the brand names (Kellogg, Coke, etc.) were the same. However, I quickly realized the importance of not having expectations as to how things would taste. Different climates and soils created different tastes, so the foods might look the same, but they did not taste the same. They were different but still delicious. One store catered to expats from all over the world. Any food could be purchased if you were willing to pay the high price (shipping is very expensive). However, in poor societies, calories are the first necessity for life. I looked for skim milk in stores where "Full Cream" was written proudly on the whole milk cartons. Some foods tasted better than I had ever eaten before. I was unaware that watermelon and cantaloupes, for example, were originally imported into the US from Africa. Their melons are the best I have ever eaten!

About 10% of the students were male but almost all had left families to come and study. Most were diploma nurses who had then attended programs to become midwives or administrators or both. They had been chosen by their government, after nearly five to six years of previous education and several years of experience, to receive a post-graduate degree. Most had left their small children and families in the villages where they lived and worked to come and live on campus or with another family member in Gaborone for three years. As the only university in the country, competition to attend was keen. Being chosen required excellent grades throughout their academic careers, positive references by their employers, and political astuteness. They were serious students.

Disenchanted

Feelings of unfamiliarity, isolation, vulnerability, andaloneness were sometimes overwhelming. I often felt as if I had to work harder to get anything done. It becomes tiring to always have to think through how this problem should be approached in this place. As I was interacting with several hospitals in various villages throughout the country, I asked for phone books to those villages. To my surprise, the tiny little phone book I had been given was not for Gaborone alone but for the entire country of Botswana.

Less than four percent of the population had phones and most of these were businesses who used them for faxing, not for talking. If I wanted something it was expected I would walk over and discuss it, not phone. Phones and instantaneous communication were not part of the expectations. Having to walk all over slowed me down, but I also lost 30 pounds while in Africa—a nice side effect for me.

I was told that, as a democracy, there is no preference among people in parking. It is strictly first come, first served. It is embarrassing to admit that I had lived in Botswana for four months before I figured out that you should not only always park in the shade, but also position your car so that the back seat gets burning hot, not the front where you have to touch the steering wheel. It is so obvious now, but it took me a long time to notice how best to adapt to my new culture.

Recreation was different. The population owned few televisions and had even fewer channels. Interpersonal interactions are the primary social event. There were two movie theaters in Gaborone. One showed Japanese karate films, the other showed American films, approximately six to 12 months after being shown in the US. However, by the time the films reach Africa, one has to expect the film to be rather used, often scratched, and it will undoubtedly break a few times during a showing. Few night events are held as, with all the wild animals and cattle on the roads, it would be exceedingly dangerous to attempt to drive at night. Soccer is a national sport, loved by all, and games are a subject of extensive debate.

I did not know the customs in Botswana. When I went to the Nursing Council (equivalent to our State Board of Nursing) to seek licensure, I found that although I had such documentation as my initial and current RN licenses, academic transcripts from my first diplo-
ma to my PhD, I had not anticipated the need to document my marital status. I queried why a copy of my marriage license was needed (and which made me a better nurse: being single or married?), but never received a response. My RN license was not forthcoming until I made arrangements for a certified copy of my marriage license to be sent.

As another example, I often gave application exercises in my administration class. Sometimes my case studies seemed nonsensical to them. One day, I discussed a young married nurse who has been unsuccessful in conceiving a child and now is focusing on her career. She has just been offered a very large promotion to assistant matron (assistant director of nursing service) with a large increase in salary and additional responsibility and challenges. She is very excited and then discovers that she is pregnant. What does she do about her promotion? None of my students perceived any problem. All new mothers are given, by law, at least an hour to breast feed their babies during the work day. Any specific position will be held for six months, with someone appointed on a temporary basis only, for a woman who needs a maternity leave. I could not help feeling how wonderful this was for the family, but not so positive for the hospital.

Unawareness was a constant problem for me. My research students made research posters and I suggested photographs, drawings, or other visual aids. Students brought me various pictures for feedback before finalizing their posters. The first photo showed a midwife listening to fetal heart tones using an inverted funnel. I vaguely remembered having seen such an instrument when I first started training. I asked where she found such an old photograph only to discover that it was, indeed, a current picture of the equipment she used in her practice.

The Batswana are a traditional, patriarchal society. I was often upset by behavior no one else noticed. For example, my administration students presented a new policy to the matron and other supervisory nursing staff at a clinical meeting. After the presentation and discussion, we had tea. The matron and I each gestured the other to go first, followed by the supervisory staff. Then the students lined up, all except my male student who remained sitting. I went over, sat by him, and asked if he would like some tea. "Of course," he responded, but still he sat there. Then the first female student came over and handed him a cup of tea. The second student brought him cream and sugar. No one seemed surprised by this but me!

Americans are the most efficient, productive people in the world. I was used to "getting down to business" and focusing on "the bottom line." These were not the primary values of the Motswana. The most important thing in any Batswana's life was his or her family. Social relationships hold the uppermost priority. No one would dream of hurrying or discussing business until relationships were firmly established and family connections discussed. Greetings were extensive and detailed. I knew this. I talked to myself before entering any room or meeting: "social first, social first." But when rushed, and Americans do rush, I found myself discussing business while the other person looked shocked and dismayed. I would then realize I had done it again. I apologized and started over.

My assumptions got me in trouble at frequent intervals. For example, I was in trouble with the photocopy center. I had brought a laptop computer and packs of paper with me to type up my lecture notes and to write the initial copy of handouts or simulation games. Although the photocopy center was historically very slow, it seemed very slow with my materials. It was finally pointed out to me that my American paper was notably shorter (thereby wasting space at the bottom) but also wider than African paper so that it was very difficult to center my paper so that all the words (I used small margins) came out on the copies. Although at the time I became angry over the fact that even my paper was wrong, it was simply a matter of asking for some university paper and resetting my computer printer to A-4 paper. Then, it wasn't a problem at all. My paper wasn't wrong or bad, just different.

Health issues

The hospitals, being in a very hot climate, were single level and very spread out. One-room wide unit buildings were separated by covered walkways and patios with plants. Almost all were originally mission hospitals begun by the colonial churches. They do not have any high technology as their focus is on primary care and health promotion. Yet even the best laid plans have flaws. For example, one of the major problems in the country was infant death due to diarrhea. Almost all mothers breast feed their children. The diarrhea often resulted when the mother, usually at the direction of her husband or her mother-in-law, weaned her baby and initiated cereal feedings. As many families do not have electricity or refrigerators, and food is very expensive, any left over is typically saved until the next feeding. In this hot desert climate, bacterial growth is rapid. When a baby has diarrhea, the traditional doctors (folk healers) often suggest "dry" treatment, i.e., cease feeding the baby until the diarrhea ceases. The infant mortality rate was climbing when breast feeding was discontinued and replaced by food. The government, recognizing the problem, distributes Tswana, a fortified grain with added oil and sugar, free to all new mothers for their infants. When weaning occurs, their cereal is free and more than adequate to nourish the baby. However, few mothers are strong enough to feed an infant
while the rest of her family goes hungry. Consequently, the cereal is shared with all family members. However, young children, particularly girls, still receive inadequate nutrition.

Cultural traditions make change a slow process. As one example, when a wife, whose social status depended upon the number of children she had, gave birth, it was understood that she would breast feed and not have intercourse with her husband for approximately two years, until the child was weaned. This was felt necessary for the woman to heal, postpone the next pregnancy, and allow the newborn plenty of milk. It was also understood that a man had physical needs and hence no one was shocked or offended if he found other women to fulfill them during this period. Consequently, when marital relations resumed, the husband shared not only his love but any contracted STDs with his wife. The government had performed HIV tests on all women during childbirth, finding that one in seven citizens was seropositive. The government has campaigned for couples to use condoms, but the current rumor is that one in five individuals is HIV positive.

Botswana, with over half of the population under the age of 16, is one of the most rapidly growing countries in Africa. As these young people are entering sexual maturity, the rate of HIV infection is expected to rise. The ministry of health is very concerned over how best to prepare for the rising AIDS epidemic. Further, as the country has been very careful with its money and emphasized investment, not consumption, many agencies, such as the Lutheran World Federation, are withdrawing from the country. Although there are currently between 250 and 350 Americans in Botswana, primarily through the Peace Corps and US Agency for International Development, these programs, as well as the Fulbright program, are similarly in danger of cancellation.

Yet the need is great. Cultural change is difficult and often painful. Western medicine is available in the major government hospitals, although you can be seen there only by referral from the village clinics. Although such care is free, when family members are concerned, such as when a spouse is tested HIV-positive, they will often seek assistance from a traditional doctor (folk healer). It is believed that if an HIV-positive man has intercourse with a virgin, the disease will pass to the girl and the man will no longer have it. Wealthy men park outside the schools and offer large gifts to girls so young they can safely be assumed to be virgins. Thus, although the ideas of scientific medicine are being imported, they are not always implemented.

Botswana is part of the English-speaking African collaboration with the World Health Organization. Yet assumptions, beliefs, and values cause concern and concern. For example, based on statistical probabilities and infant mortality due to diarrhea and malnutrition, WHO strongly encourages all Motswana to breast feed. Yet in developed countries, with refrigeration and higher incomes, if mothers are HIV-positive, they are told to feed their infants formula. Some Motswana wondered if the WHO encouragement to breast feed was really racial genocide in disguise, as HIV-positive breast feeding women may transmit HIV to their infants. How does a nurse balance cultural traditions with statistical probabilities?

Introspection

I saw strengths in their society that I missed on initial contact. Their lifestyles have advantages. The Motswana work well together in groups, rarely directly confronting anyone. They discuss issues until agreement is reached. Tribal chiefs retain their power by being sure what the village wants before announcing decisions. They do not rush madly about (especially in the summer when it may be over 100F for days), but complete what can be done and then go home to their families. The work will always be there tomorrow. I could see the humor in events. A faculty member saw me rushing to get my mail before class and expressed concern that I was "walking like a American again. There was no need to rush that fast. Your students will wait for you." And, indeed, I knew they would. Slowing my walk gave me more time to admire the tiny bright blue birds, the gorgeous long-tailed bright yellow ones, the metallic green starlings, the tiny red ones darting about, and the multicolored large bird with a tail so long I don't know how it gets it up into the air. I watched the upside-down yellow weaver birds adding another nest to the one tree they all decided was the best nesting tree. Slowing allowed me to see the beauty all around.

I was used to a rather sterile house where I would call the exterminators if I saw very many bugs of any kind. My flat in Gaborone had screenless doors that I left open when home during the day for any possible breeze. Consequently, black wasp-type insects, large cockroaches, small snakes, lots of geckos, and the largest, fastest spiders I have ever seen, had easy entry. Although this large, scary spider was so fast that I could not seem to hit him, he ate mosquitoes. Mosquitoes cause silver-dollar sized welts on newcomers, so I discovered that I could live in peaceful harmony with this large spider who remained near the bathroom window screen. I eventually called him "Fred" and was actually happy when "he" had babies to control the mosquito population.

In the midst of accepting and appreciating my adopted country, I became very impressed with my fellow nurses in Botswana. The nursing professionals are often working alone, perhaps with a few, primarily ex-pat doctors who don't speak Setswana and are often on

(continued on page 26)
Students and faculty attended the Health Policy Day in Hartford, CT on March 22, 1996. Lea Ayers '96, graduate of the Nursing Management and Policy Program, made the contacts and arranged the day. After attending a meeting of the Medicaid Managed Council in the morning, attendees met with State Representative Norma Gyle (R) who is a nurse and the ranking minority member on the Public Health Committee, and State Senator Edith Prague (D) who is Co-Chair of the Medicaid Managed Council. Students Lea Ayers '96, Crystal Chi '96, Richard Comshaw '97, Fran Gwinell '96, and Jane Regan '98 and faculty members Sally Cohen '80 and Geriann Gallagher made up the group.

YSN Nursing Management and Policy Program students Susan Brink, Ju-Lu Huang, Karen Levine, and Moira O'Neill, under the faculty direction of Paula Milone-Nuzzo, spent the Spring 1996 semester evaluating existing home care data collection systems. The systems evaluated included: the Omaha System for Community Health Nursing, Classifications of Home Health Nursing Diagnosis and Interventions, Wilson’s Outcome Concepts, HCFA 485 and 486 patient information forms, the Nursing Minimum Data Set (NMDS) from the National Association for Home Care (NAHC), the Connecticut Medicaid Managed Care Home Care and Community-Based Services Report, and the Outcomes and Assessment Information Set (OASIS). The students met regularly with Bob Cantillo, CAHC's Database Consultant, and Ann Anthony, CAHC's Program Development Consultant, to identify specific needs of the member home care agencies. On April 26, 1996 the students presented the result of their research which was a composite data collection tool for CAHC. A matrix of the existing databases was developed outlining their common elements. The data elements selected for inclusion in the CAHC database were then blended with OASIS elements and categorized by type and meaning. Four categories were defined: agency level data, demographic data, episodic assessment data, and resource utilization data.

Scott and Julie Seymour '96 are the proud parents of a baby boy born on February 18, 1996. His name is Scott Ryan Seymour weighing in at 7 lbs. 6 oz. and measuring 20 inches. His big brother Stephen (age 3) probably thinks it's pretty cool and I am sure they both are glad that mom has graduated!

Kelley Muldoon '97 recently did a poster presentation at the Maternal and Child Nursing conference in New Orleans. She presented on changes in self esteem in primips related to intrapartal events.

Monica Roosa '97 just returned from Penn State University where she, too, did a poster presentation at the Sigma Theta Tau Research in Practice: Using What We Know conference. Her presentation was on the relation of social support and hormonal measures to intrapartal outcomes. Both Monica's and Kelley's presentations stem from their work in the Parenting Experience Project (PEP) with PI Bill McCool, former YSN faculty member in the Nurse-Midwifery Program.


Elizabeth Ann Steinmiller '98 was presented with the YSN Community Service Award by Dean Krauss at the Sybil Palmer Bellos Lecture and Wisser Tea on April 24, 1996 for her work with Project Hope and Douglas House.

Eliza Steinmiller

Jane Regan '98 and Elizabeth Steinmiller '98 were both awarded a scholarship by Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Mu Chapter, in May, 1996.
only two- or three-year contracts. In practice, the nurses, although legally relatively powerless, fulfill the primary care provider roles. They deliver babies, diagnose illnesses, allocate resources, and are highly respected members of the village community.

Their devotion to family and community made me wonder what really are the most important things in life. I hope during my stay in Botswana that I was able to demonstrate that Americans are caring, committed people who have an innate need to help others. My year certainly helped me to appreciate my family and my friends and to enjoy every second on this earth that God gives me.
Faculty Notes

Margaret Grey ’76, Associate Dean for Research and Doctoral Studies, was the first female and first non-physician to chair the 56th Annual Scientific Sessions of the American Diabetes Association in San Francisco, California from June 7-10, 1996. With a record 8,300 participants (previous high 6,800), it was considered the most successful conference yet for the ADA. Margaret commented on the substantial task of meeting the educational needs of such a multidisciplinary group, a necessity for a successful turnout.

Gail D’Eramo Melkus, Primary Care Division Chairperson and Associate Professor, was granted tenure from Yale University. Congratulations and best wishes! She also recently gave a Meet the Professor Session on NIDDM in Black Women at the 56th Annual Scientific Sessions of the American Diabetes Association in San Francisco, California in June, 1996.

Heather Reynolds ’80, Assistant Professor in the Nurse-Midwifery Program, was awarded the YSN Distinguished Alumna Award on June 7, 1996 at the Alumnae/i Weekend Banquet. Heather was also recently elected to a two-year term (2/96-2/98) on the Congressional District 3 Advisory Council for the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women. Additionally, Heather was reappointed to a four-year term (9/95-9/99) on the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality.

Dorothy Sexton at leisure in Jamaica

Dorothy Sexton, Professor in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Program, presented, "Uncertainty and coping strategies reported by adults with asthma," at Sigma Theta Tau International’s International Nursing Research Congress in Ocho Rios, Jamaica from May 31 to June 2, 1996. Co-presenters were Stephanie Sherman-Calcasola ’95, Sharon Bottomley ’94, Marjorie Funk ’84, Jane Dixon, and Rebecca Woolley ’82. Dorothy did find time to relax during an otherwise busy conference (see photo).

Geralyn Spollett, Assistant Professor in the Adult Nurse Practitioner Program, received Fairfield University School of Nursing’s first Clinical Excellence in Nursing Award on April 27, 1996, at the SON’s 25th anniversary.

AYA News

Marvel Davis ’70 was recently elected to serve on the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) Board of Directors, the executive body of AYA. The Board receives reports from committees, acts on policy questions contained in these reports, considers and determines Assembly topics, approves the budget, and reviews the operational plan of the AYA. Marvel is in good company as she joins Maureen Doran ’71 who is also currently serving on the Board of Governors, and Sandy Bialos ’71, recent recipient of the Distinguished Alumna Award, who served as Chair of AYA from 1988-1990.
Frances Lynn-Into ’52 married Norman Into, Jr. on November 18, 1995 at Dwight Chapel in New Haven. Their reception, with serenade by the Whiffenpoofs, was held at Mory’s with classmates Helen Chuan ’52 and Dorothy MacLennan ’52 also in attendance. They reside in her family home in Youngstown, Ohio while she continues her paralegal consulting and Norm attends Kent State University for his master’s in aerospace technology.

John Collins ’72 is a CNM at Bridgeport Hospital and Backus Hospital in Norwich. He was recently recognized for his more than 20 years of volunteer work with the March of Dimes.

Ruth Ouimette ’75 is an Assistant Clinical Professor at the Duke University School of Nursing and Senior Fellow at the Center for Aging and Human Development, Duke Medical Center. She has co-edited the recently published book, Advanced Practice Nursing, Lippincott, 1996.

Virginia Capasso ’80 was the recipient of a Sigma Theta Tau scholarship in May, 1996. She is attending Boston College’s doctoral program.

Heidi (Kylberg) Zogorski ’81 gave birth to her second son, Mikhail, on July 29, 1995. She recently moved to Atascadero, California.

Linda Degutis ’82 was one of six recipients of a 1996-97 Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship through the Institute of Medicine and National Academy of Sciences. Fellows are chosen as outstanding mid-career health professionals working in academic and community-based settings. They are chosen on a competitive basis from nominations by academic centers and health organizations. The fellowship program, established in 1973, seeks to promote public policy integration into health professional leadership roles. Linda will begin in September with a three-month orientation in Washington, DC, after which she will meet with various members of Congress in order to select a project for the year.

Linda Schwartz ’84 received a medal from the State of Connecticut for her work with veterans. She is the first woman to receive this award which was presented to her on Veterans’ Day, 1996. As a result of her community work, she was asked to participate in carrying the Olympic torch through New Haven. Additionally, she was part of a small group of citizens called together by President Clinton to respond to his State of the Union address and she invited him to visit the projects she and the veterans’ groups have created for West Haven homeless and mentally ill veterans. She is also the government relations representative for the Vietnam Veterans of America in which capacity she has testified about her research on the health effects of service in Vietnam.

Mary Ann Thompson ’85 received her DrPH from the School of Public Health at Columbia University in May, 1996. Her dissertation research focused on the quality of life and mobility of people over the age of 65 who have had to stop driving.

Libby (Flinn) Tracey ’86 writes from Denver, Colorado where she happily lives with her husband. She has been working as a CNS in a large private oncology practice for six years in the bone marrow transplant unit. She is working toward her PhD and her dissertation will focus on cancer support participants and what they believe contributes to their length of survival. She hopes to teach after completing her degree. Her four children are doing well, working in New York City, and she became a grandmother in August, 1995.

Katrina Alef ’86 and John Thorstensen, with big brother Raven Alef, are happy to announce the birth of Marya Celine Thorstensen on November 30, 1995.

Many thanks to Suzanne Serat ’87 and Maria Cabri ’82 for the wonderful midwifery care and support that made it a beautiful birth.

Liz (Ryan) Yuengert ’86 and her husband Andy live in Moorpark, California with their three children Rachel (6 1/2), Aaron (4 1/2) and Joseph (1). Liz is a busy full-time parent and Andy teaches at Pepperdine University. They also teach natural family planning and Liz is considering switching from psychiatric-mental health nursing to women’s health when she returns to nursing.

The Yuengert family when Joseph was a newborn

Catherine Borkowski Benoit ’87, a nurse practitioner at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, authored the chapter, “Case management and the advanced practice nurse,” in Ruth Ouimette’s book Advanced Practice Nursing.

Elizabeth (Graves) Griffin ’89 married Warren Griffin, pediatrician, in Salt Lake City, Utah on April 20, 1996. They have moved to Salem, Oregon where she begins work with a family practice group in September.

Cheryl (Fattibene) MacDonald ’90 and husband Ed welcome baby boy Justin Hughes, born May 11, 1996.

Didi Loseth ’91 has been with Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center for nearly five years where
she is now coordinating a drug study researching an oral form of fentanyl for breakthrough cancer pain. She was Coordinator, and a presenter, for the half-day pre-Congress session at the Oncology Nursing Society's Annual Congress in April 1995. The title of her presentation was, "The last taboo: Ease or "dis-ease" of the spirit: Caring for the spiritual dimension."

Ann Schafenacker '91 and husband Scott Peshick just purchased their first new home in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Daughter Robin is now a year old.

Annette Hatch-Clein '94 continues to work for the Family Practice Residency Program at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor. She has enjoyed precepting three FNP students this year through both Husson College and University of Maine at Orono.

Rebecca (Ousley) Henry '94 is happily pregnant and expects to deliver her first child at the end of the year.


Michelle Kennedy '94 has been traveling around the world, for business and pleasure, to Hawaii and Israel. Her thesis, "Nursing home nurses' knowledge base regarding the use of neuroleptics," was accepted recently for publication in Journal of Gerontological Nursing.

Candace Mix '94 has been busy pioneering the psychiatric-mental health CNS role in western North Carolina in a satellite clinic of a large multi-county agency. Additionally, she enjoys teaching full time in a local associate degree nursing program while keeping up with her musical talents as her church's organist. She and her husband are relocating temporarily to Dayton, Ohio for him to study law. Their permanent address will remain the same in North Carolina.

Effie Shu '94, Karin Nystrom '95, and Zina Mirmina '95 co-authored in Home Healthcare Nurse (vol. 14, no. 3, 1996), "A telephone reassurance program for elderly home care clients after discharge." The article was written while they were studying at YSN.

Judy Toussaint '94 is getting married to Curt Brantle on August 24, 1996 in Litchfield, Connecticut.

Karin Nystrom '95 gave an oral presentation entitled, "Patients' Perceptions of the Adequacy and Importance of Preoperative Instruction Before Coronary Bypass Graft Surgery," at the 23rd annual National Teaching Institute (NTI) held by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses in Anaheim, CA, in May, 1996. Karin's co-researchers are Marge Funk '84 and Dorothy Sexton, YSN Professor of Nursing.

Beth Anne Carlson '96 also held a poster session at the NTI in Anaheim, CA, "Symptoms, Functional Ability, and Health Perception in the Elderly with Coronary Artery Disease Managed with Three Treatments." Marge Funk '84 was a co-researcher in the study.

Ann Oswood '94 and husband Mark announce the birth of their first child, Christian James, on November 13, 1995. They have recently moved to St. Louis, Missouri where Mark will begin his radiology residency and Ann will look for a part-time CNM position.

Liz Ryan '94 and husband Frank (Pancho) welcomed baby girl Willing McCain on July 4, 1996. She joins older sisters Hunter and Allie.
IN MEMORIAM

Sara Crandell Foster ’29 died on January 13, 1996.

Mildred C. Patterson ’32 died in 1996.

Ruth C. Twaddle ’33 died on April 10, 1996.

Grace K. Eckelberry ’38 died on March 10, 1996.

Lucia Allyn Robbins ’38 died on March 11, 1996.


Ruth M. Oliver ’40 died on October 28, 1996.

Wanda H. Smith ’46 died on March 26, 1996.

On April 1, 1996 Mildred (Millie) Oberempt, a loyal YSN staff member for 25 years from 1944 to 1969, died. Her grave-side service was held at Beaverdale Cemetery in New Haven and was attended by Pat McCormick, Former Dean Florence Wald ’41, and Elizabeth “Tinker” Barnett ’48, representing YSN.

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.

Current Name  Name at Graduation  Year of Graduation  Degree(s)

Home Address - Check here if new address □  City  State  Zip  Phone

Current Employer  (Institution)  (Position)  City  State  Zip  Phone

Professional News:

__________________________________________________________________________

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Personal News:

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News about Classmates:

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Name/address of alumnae/i not receiving Yale Nurse:

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Check if interested in:  Ambassador Program □  Guest authoring an article □

Participation in YUSNAA Board events □

Please return completed form to: Editors, Yale Nurse, YSN Office of Alumnae/i Affairs, P. O. Box 9740, 100 Church Street South, New Haven, CT 06536-0740. FAX (203) 737-5409. TEL (203) 785-2389.

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