

WATTS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone!

I hope this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to spring temperatures as much as I am! This year, Watts School of Nursing is 121 years old!

This year's Spring Banquet will be held on April 29, 2016 at the Croasdaile Country Club. Come meet our newest Watts graduate nurses from the classes of December 2015 and May 2016, celebrate 50 years with the class of 1966, and reconnect with your classmates!

The new graduate sponsorship for the Spring 2015 Banquet was a huge success. Your support assisted greatly with the overall expenses last year. We hope you will consider supporting a student again at this year's banquet.

Dues remain \$30 annually and allow us the opportunity to give back to the students in the form of scholarships, awards to graduating seniors, and gifts to the student body. The membership period is December 1-November 30. Feel free to renew your membership at any time during the membership year.

The Watts Alumni Association is looking forward to a busy year and we welcome your participation. Please contact me with any questions. I look forward to seeing you in April!

Rosalin Robinson

Class of 1972

Email: wattsalumniassociation@gmail.com

Alumni Website: <http://wattsschoolofnursing.org/alumni>

CURRENT OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rosalin Robinson '72 – President

Susan Avent '76 – President Elect

Gina M. Edwards '93 – Secretary

Reba H. Beavers '68 – Treasurer & Database
Manager

Elizabeth Cantor '08 - Past President

Rebecca Dodson '61 - At Large

Page Brantley '98 - At Large

Melissa Murray '00 - At Large

Sherry Warren '03 – At Large

ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET

Date: April 29, 2016

Time: Registration 5:15 pm Dinner 6:00 pm

Place: Croasdaile Country Club, 3800 Farm Gate Avenue, Durham, NC (off of Cole Mill Road)

Cost*: Alumni -- \$35, Golden Agers (1940-1965)-- \$25, Non Alumni/Guests -- \$40
Graduates from Classes of Spring '16 & Dec '15 -- *No Cost*

RSVP Deadline: All checks must be received by **April 21, 2016** to reserve your seat and meal.

- If you as an alumni member would like to support a May 2016 or December 2015 graduate for the banquet, please indicate the amount of your donation with your check and RSVP response.

Please make checks payable to:

Watts School of Nursing Alumni Association

Mailing Address:

Watts School of Nursing Alumni Association

Attn: Treasurer

2828 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 200, Durham, NC 27705-2505

Email Registration for New Grads Only: December 2015 & May 2016 Graduates, please RSVP via email by **April 21st** to Elizabeth Cantor at elizabeth.cantor@duke.edu

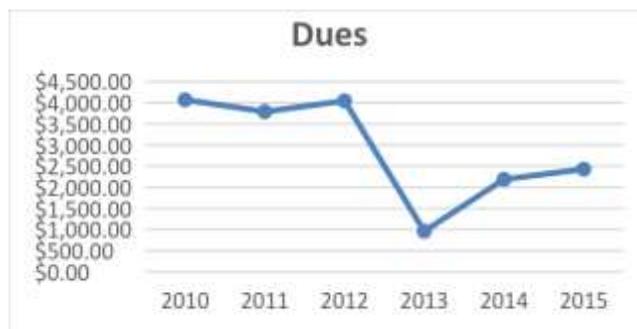
We **invite** alumni members to either bring a "door prize" for the traditional door prize drawing event (1 gift per person is appropriate) or consider a donation which will support our current graduates, students, and/or scholarship fund.

For Questions you may contact:

Reba Beavers 919-815-9510 rebabeavers@nc.rr.com or Susan Avent 919-684-6264 susan.avent@duke.edu

FINANCE UPDATE

During 2015, we did see an increase in dues and contributions as compared to the last two years. For the 2015 fiscal year, we received \$2430 in dues. In 2014 we received \$2190, 2013 we received \$960, and in years prior we received as much as \$4070. We received \$2340 in contributions for 2015. Dues and contributions are used for yearly operations i.e., banquet, printing and mailing of newsletters, gifts for students, treats/goodies at exam time for the students, etc. A reduction of funds can impact yearly operations. Several members have asked about donations to the alumni, these are certainly welcome and will be used to pay for a graduating senior at the banquet or other expenses.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dues for 2015-2016 are now past due. Dues are \$30 and the dues year is from December 1 to November 30. **Complete and mail-in the form included in this newsletter**

SAVE THE DATE for our Annual Winter Gathering: December 7, 2016 at 6p at Bennett Pointe Grill

Ethel Clay Price Scholarships

Each scholarship award is \$500 two times a year.

- Three scholarships were awarded to the following students in **January 2016**: Kelly Bollinger, Ashlyn Eller, and Donna Gerstner

December 2015 Graduation Awards

- Beulah Owens Award: Chaquitta Lloyd- Self
- Burke Matthews Award: Ashley Fletcher

IN MEMORIAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Watts Class</u>
Elsa Sprietzer Knotts	Nov 18, 2014	1942
Cleo Johnson Dillon	July 21, 2015	1943
Roberta Fitts Marshall	Jan 26, 2015	1946
Ruth Moser Clayton Decker	Sept 20, 2015	1947
Barbara Stockard Isley	July 13, 2015	1952
Elizabeth Johnson Oldham	July, 30, 2015	1954
Nancy Regan Oneal	Aug 15, 2014	1956
Laura Burt Williams Kilian	Jan 21, 2016	1957
Virginia Sykes Marshall	Nov 21, 2015	1959
June Vincent Fife	June 26, 2015	1961
Anne Carter Webster	Dec 15, 2015	1961
Jo Loy Rountree	Mar 7, 2015	1963
Sandra Beasley Cleary	June 14, 2014	1964
Lester Vincent Chalmers	July 6, 2015	1976
Amy Joyce	Feb 14, 2016	2009
Jonathan Terrell	Feb 1, 2016	2009
Aaron Guin	May 9, 2015	2013

UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL

Hello Watts Alumni!

Well it is mid- February in North Carolina and Watts is closed today due to inclement weather. It is not often we close but safety is paramount. This type of closing surely did not happen when the dorms were in place and many of you have those memories; but time and things do change. As Watts continues to be steeped in rich history it is changing to meet the needs of the community today.

After the great Tea in May 2015 celebrating 120 years, we are now well into our 121st year with enrollment rock solid with 50 in each class entering in January and June. There are 149 student enrolled for the spring semester 2016, with 23% of the study body being minority. Jennifer Hawkins continues to do an outstanding job in recruitment of new students to the program.

The Spring Class 2015 had 100% pass on the NCLEX-RN and to date the December 2015 Class has 100%. Congratulations to both of these classes and to the excellent work of our faculty. Our retention rate is at 75%, student satisfaction is 97% and employer satisfaction is at 100%. We are proud to report that over 75% of Watts graduates stay and work in the Duke University Health System. Watts has great program outcomes! All student organizations have been very busy participating in over 15 community service events this fall and spring. All on top of their work in the program!

Two new scholarships have been established. The Peggy Jones scholarship was established this year by her son Henry Jones. Peggy Jones, Class of 1938 also was an instructor at Watts. A bequest gift has been received for the school for a scholarship to be established at a later date by Patricia Hirsch Class of 1983 and her husband Dr. Steven Hirsch. We are delighted to add these two wonderful gifts to the program.

The faculty at Watts is absolutely the best. Libby Carver completed her doctorate in nursing practice in May 2015. Lorraine Wilson and Lisa Lewis are scheduled to complete their doctoral degrees in May 2016. Tamara Jones and Shirley Murray are enrolled in doctoral study; and Yolanda Neal and Barbara Dotson anticipate enrollment this semester. Lisa Lewis and Libby Carver will be presenting at the "Radical Transformation of Nursing Education" conference at Duke in April. Barbara Dotson, Donna Chapin, Lisa Lewis, Shirley Murray, and Peggy Walters authored a recent article published in the October 2015 issue of Teaching and Learning in Nursing. Barbara Dotson was selected a Great 100 Nurse in North Carolina in 2015 and Tonya Willingham and Shirley Murray were selected for Friends of Nursing. Peggy Walters was selected by the Triangle Business Journal as a Health Care Hero for 2016.

Watts completed its 2016-2019 strategic plan. The major focus for the school will be moving to the Bachelor of Science in nursing degree. Watts is in the approval process; this is taking some time as there are many facets to this part as we are busy writing applications and preparing documents. We will have more information to share at the banquet.

Thank you for the continued support, the lunches for the freshman and wonderful gifts to all our students. We are so grateful for all your support!

Best regards

Peggy C. Walters, EdD, MSN, MEd, NEA-BC
Director of Nursing Education
Associate Chief Nursing Officer
2828 Croasdaile Drive-Suite 200
Durham, NC 27705-2505
(919) 470-7344 / 919-383-4014 fax

WATTS Up ...

- Doris Strickland McClintock Class of '45 writes... I am 91 years old (or young) and still living in my own home.
- Camilla Burcham Foushee Class of '46 writes... I moved to Hillsborough 2 ½ years ago at Brookshire Independent Living Village. I retired in 2005 from Sanford Pediatrics. I worked in many areas of nursing during my career starting with the infirmary at Elon College and the first nurse employed. I will be 90 on October 5. I have always been a proud graduate of Watts School of Nursing.
- Catherine LeGwin Blanchard Class of '50 writes... My husband (William) and I were married 62 years. He died in September 2013. We have 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. I am proud to be a Watts Graduate.
- Hazel Latham Class of '51 writes... I am living in Burlington, NC at The Village at Brookwood, a retirement center. I live in the independent living quarters (an apartment.) My husband died almost 5 years ago and I try to stay busy working in the Health Clinic –on campus, as a volunteer. I enjoy reading devotions once or twice a week monthly to shut-ins at Edgewood Place and enjoying my time doing both of these things. I have two children living in Burlington so that is great. Another son lives in Wilmington, NC and another in Amsterdam. I have 4 grandchildren- most beautiful, most handsome and smartest ever.
- Louise Sanford Beasley Class of '53 writes... I will be 83 years old on May 30, 2015. I am still dancing at Fred Astaire and loving every minute.
- Dorothy Gilbert Efrid Class of '65 writes... I retired as a Nurse Practitioner in 2009 from a UNC Primary Care Practice in Siler City. I currently live in Siler City.
- Rebecca Gentry Williams Class of '66 writes... I retired from nursing in 2010 after 44 years. Ted and I are enjoying retirement very much.
- Sandra Ouellette Class of '66 writes... I am married to Richard Ouellette. We have 8 grandsons. I am doing lots of deep sea fishing out of Hatters Village. I caught my first sailfish last year. I am doing a small amount of consultant work in Anesthesia but am mostly retired.
- Lucy Newton Coates Class of '66 writes... I am retired from Anesthesia in 2013 after working 43 years at Johnston UNC Healthcare. I had a wonderful career! My son, Brian is a stylist (clothing) in NYC. He styles Jimmy Fallon and works for Bloomingdales. (Also a "Proud" mom.) I was diagnosed with Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis a few years ago.
- Angela Carey Pendergrass Class of '66 writes... I would like any information about 1966 graduates if you have any. E-mail me at angiep@triad.rr.com
- Patricia Saunders Fleming Class of '68 writes... I retired in October 2014 but am still working PRN at NCBH. My husband and I have 8 grandchildren and have been married for 25 years. We travel a lot- cruises, Holiday Tour Bus trips, and trips by car. We just moved into a one level townhome with no yard work and love it. It is great neighborhood for walking.
- Melanie (Mary Ellen) Burke Nordahl Class of '69 writes... I am enjoying retirement after 40 years of Nursing. I have been traveling throughout Europe and the US. I fondly remember my years at The Watts Hospital School of Nursing (1966-1969).
- Sandy Pruitt Saxena Class of '69 writes... we have moved to a retirement community – Sunland Village East in Mesa Az. This was our first summer in Arizona, not terrible. It sure beats the cold winters in the Chicago area. I do not get back to NC very often, but will definitely try for our 50th reunion.

WATTS Up (continued) ...

- Mary Sykes Faircloth Class of '70 writes... I am a school nurse for 2 high schools in Grand Forks, ND. I have been able to meet up with Becky Williams Knight and Linda Manning Zizzamin, class of 1970, for the past two summers.
- Rebecca Williams Knight Class of '70 writes... I retired after 28 years with Cone Health and the Greensboro AHC in July 2012. I am currently the Board Chair for Rockingham County Healthcare Alliance and Board Member for CareShare, a statewide organization supporting health providers (non-profit.) I am training for a small section hike on the Appalachian Trail.
- Rosalin O. Robinson Class of '72 writes... I retired December 31, 2015 and then had a hip replacement in early January. I look forward to enjoying retirement after recouping completely from the surgery and hope to be dancing by spring.
- Mary Justesen Class of '72 writes... we celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary December 2014. In September 2014 we became grandparents to an enjoyable boy. We have had him and his parents living with us until their house is ready to move into. They moved into our house in 2015. After all my career as a med-surg nurse, I had a career change in 2008 and now working in Infection Control. My office is a former conference room for the WSON in the Watts Building at DRH, so I feel close to the school every day I go to work. I also obtained certification in Infection Control in June 2015. I am probably one of the older first time certified. The good thing is that it is for 5 years and by 2019 I have been notified that I will not have a job. So I will not need to recertify. I do not have a BSN and do not plan to get one since my job will require one by 2019. My daughter Ellen Carr (WSON 2008) also got her first home.
- Gail Marino Bochow Class of '72 writes... I just retired (10/15) and working per diem at MCH-Montetoire New Rochelle.
- Brenda Blackwood Slaughter Class of '73 writes... I had a mild CVA October 7, 2014. I have returned to work in Home Health and Hospice. I plan to retire by May 1, 2016 (my birthday and I will be 65.) Then I plan to spend time with my 2 beautiful granddaughters- Jessolyn (9) and Gianna (4) in Tacoma, WA. Joe still pastors the First Baptist Church in Libby MT.
- Janice Izlar Class of '73 writes... that the Georgia Governor has appointed her to the Georgia Board of Nursing.
- Ruth Cole Boone Class of '75 writes... I completed my DNP in 2014 from Frontier Nursing University in Hyden, Ky. I am working full time as a CNM at Ft Bragg, NC (since 1994), teaching OB-GYN and FP residents along with seeing patients in a full scope service. I have one daughter, Lt Halgton Ladd, in the US Army and stationed at Ft Riley, Kansas. My daughter is married to Sgt Brandon Johnson. Sadly I lost my son, Zachary Ladd at age 23 in 2011 from injuries suffered from a tragic accident. He was an eye, tissue, and organ donor.
- Gail Shue Class of '75 writes... still is working in Zephyrhills, Florida as a CRNA.
- Cheryl Andrews Merritt Class of '77 writes... in April 2015, I helped open up an Employee Health and Wellness Center for the city of Wilson NC employees. Their focus is on occupational compliance - testing, wellness and disease management. Me and Les recently completed a 9 day tour of Spain. We have been blessed with 2 granddaughters, ages 1 ½ and 5 by Dale (son) and Katie. Brooke (daughter) and Kyle are expecting their first child on December 21, 2015- sex unknown. These are exciting times for Mimi and Pop!

WATTS Up (continued) ...

- Alecia Myers Harrison Class of '85 writes... I am working as a CRNA with American Anesthesiology in Raleigh in the Ambulatory Care Division. I am also in the U S Army reserves and serve as an Assistant Chief Nurse with 3297th USAH out of Charlotte NC. I am active in my church and serve on the Leadership Committee of N C Women of the ELCA. I have been married to Tom for 32 years. We have 2 children, Ben who teaches special needs children in Wilmington and Lori who is an Emergency Department RN at New Hanover.
- Nicole Farrell Murray Class of '92 writes... I have worked at DRH, Duke and for 16 years at Regional Cancer Center (All nursing in oncology -23 years.) My daughter is planning to attend Watts also. She is a junior in high school. This is ONE PROUD MAMA!
- Mary Liesman Clement Class of 2002 writes... I am graduating from the University of Mount Olive with my BSN in May 2015.
- Emily Barrett Class of 2003 writes... I am volunteering at Watts SON weekly.

Please complete this form and mail to address below with your annual dues.

Last Name: _____ **First:** _____
Maiden Name: _____
Address: _____ **City:** _____
State: _____ **Zip:** _____ - _____ **Email:** _____
Year Graduated: _____ **Telephone:** (_____) - (_____-_____)

NEW News to Share:

Email Address: _____

Amount Submitted for Dues: _____

(Note: Yearly dues are \$30.00 which covers December 1-November 30)

Mail to: Watts School of Nursing Alumni Association, Attn: Treasurer
2828 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 200, Durham, NC 27705-2505