Fall 2010 Alumni Activities Planned

By Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, and Jena Dickinson, Alumni Association President

The Alumni Association of Clarkson College is busy organizing activities to celebrate anniversaries for years 1950, 1970, 1980, 1985, 1990 and 2000. Plans are underway to have a celebratory brunch Thursday, Sept. 16 at 10 a.m. in Howard Hall on the College campus. Following the brunch, the Alumni Association will host its annual meeting. At 1:30 p.m., Ollie the Trolley will begin bringing guests to Trinity Cathedral for Convocation.

On Friday, Sept. 17, there will be a tour of the new Bellevue Hospital and Medical Center from 1 to 3 p.m.

A continuing education event (CEU), “Pandemic Issues and Ethics,” will be held from 7:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Sept. 18. Cost for the event is $20 for paid Alumni Association members and $30 for alumni who are not paid members. That evening, there will be a dinner in the Storz Pavilion in the Clarkson Tower on The Nebraska Medical Center’s campus. Entertainment will be provided by humorist Mary Maxwell, and the reunion classes will be honored. Cost for the dinner is $30 per person or $50 per couple.

To register for the fall alumni events, see page 19.

A memory book will be compiled and given to honored class attendees at the brunch or dinner. Help to make the memory book interesting by submitting your experiences, favorite pastimes and family updates. Even if you are unable to attend the event, you are welcome to submit the form. A picture or two is also welcomed.

We Need You: Contribute to Fall Reunion Information

Alumni from the honored reunion classes (1950, 1970, 1980, 1985, 1990, 2000) are welcome to submit information and help complete the memory books that will be given out during the fall alumni activities (details above). Please submit information to Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131 or e-mail your information to vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu.

The Alumni Times is a quarterly publication that is distributed by the Alumni Association of Clarkson College at 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131. For story or photo submissions, please contact Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, at 402.552.3516 or via e-mail at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu.
President’s Corner: New Year, New Leadership

I hope everyone is having a safe and wonderful summer. The Alumni Association has been busy getting ready for another great year. The new Alumni Association board took office in June, and we are energized and ready to mix, mingle and network with old friends and new acquaintances. The Alumni Association will continue to publish quarterly newsletters, and organize special programs and events to bring alumni together.

I am privileged and honored to serve as the Alumni Association President this year. I look forward to working and meeting with many of you. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions regarding the Alumni Association.

Here’s to a great year!

Jena Dickinson
Alumni Association President
402.552.3632 | dickinsonjena@clarksoncollege.edu

Alumni Add Fun to Finals Week

On Monday, April 26, the Alumni Association provided snacks for students taking their finals for the spring semester at Clarkson College. Snack stations were set up in the Residence Hall lobby and outside of the Success Center. Students were very appreciative of the Alumni Association for providing the snacks and adding a little fun to a stressful week.

Scrapbook Day: Back by Popular Demand

Due to the overwhelming response from the first attendees, the Alumni Association has reserved the work room at Archivers at Village Pointe in Omaha for Saturday, Aug. 14 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. for the second Scrapbook Day. Clarkson College alumni and their guests are invited to join in the fun and spend the day creating scrapbook pages. Scrapbooking tools (decorative scissors, punches, etc.) will be available for use, and other supplies will be available for purchase, or you are welcome to bring your own. The store has an extensive inventory for purchase of all the supplies you would need for scrapbooking and card making. Novice to experienced are all invited to attend. Cost for the workday, including breakfast, lunch and snacks, is $20 per person. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first serve basis, as the workspace accommodates 32 people.

Information Services Department Donates Refurbished Computers

The Information Services department at Clarkson College works with different community groups in donating older computers used at the College to those that express a need for technology items. The department recently donated 15 refurbished computers and accessories to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to use in its community center. “We worked with some folks at UNMC to get the computers to the reservation,” said Larry Vinson, Director of IT. “We will continue to assist in this project as well as other projects from groups who have a need for computers.”

Clarkson College Scholarship Honors Dr. George Loomis

Clarkson College is offering a scholarship in memory of Dr. George W. Loomis, a founding member of Internal Medicine Associates of Omaha. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor and others, this scholarship will perpetuate the memory of a special physician.

Classically trained in clinical pathology and internal medicine, George was a local version of Hugh Laurie’s character in “House.” He was a world-wide hunter and beloved mentor in a rough, brilliant package. But he was also more than that. Teamed with Henry Luhnow and Fred Ware, he set standards for quality during what many now refer to as the “Golden Age of Medicine.” The trio’s work ethic was astounding, their teaching unequalled and their collective sense of humor something to behold.

George could be withering in his intolerance of incompetence. His ability to recall names of former patients, great hunting locations and the medical literature were legendary. He consumed the Wall Street Journal and the New England Journal of Medicine right up to the end. During his final illness, I visited his bedside, and he asked if I had seen that week’s issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. I said “yes,” and he immediately quizzed me about one of the articles. When I answered correctly (whew!), he closed his eyes and said, “You read it.”

George went out of his way to show kindness to nurses, therapists, technicians and office staff he worked with. They all respected and adored him. He also happened to be close personal friends with Pat Perry, former President of Clarkson College, and her husband, Sam, making this memorial scholarship even more meaningful. Thank you to the donors and to George for a lifetime of medical service.

PTA Program Update

Clarkson College has recently introduced a 16-month Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) transfer program. The first group of students started in fall 2009 and will graduate December 2010. This program is tailored to meet the needs of students seeking to continue their education, change their college career path or individuals looking for a second career. Enrolled students study for one year in Omaha to complete the same curriculum as the 24-month PTA program. Students are then able to complete clinical rotations in their hometown during their final semester.

The idea for this new program option originated from the growing needs of our students, and feedback from students, the community and the physical therapy profession. Annually, 25-30 percent of new students come into our PTA program with a previous college degree, and 88-92 percent of students enter the current program having successfully completed at least some college credit. This new program meets the growing need regionally and nationally for health care professionals. Employment of physical therapist assistants is expected to grow by 35 percent from 2008 through 2018, much faster than the average for all occupations, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

If you are visiting the College, feel free to stop by to see how things have progressed or to say “hello.”
Meet Your 2010-2011 Alumni Association Officers and Board

President
Jena Dickinson, B.S.

Jena graduated from the Health Care Business Management program at Clarkson College in 2008. She currently works at Clarkson College in the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) as a Project Manager. Last year, she served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors as a director and is very excited about her new role as president.

Vice President
Carla Dirkschnieder, M.S., RHIA

Carla graduated from Clarkson College with her Master of Science in Health Care Business Leadership degree in 2007. She is the current Director of Health Care Business programs at Clarkson College. Last year, she served on the Board of Directors as treasurer.

Secretary
Kassie McKenny, M.S.N., R.N., CNE

Kassie graduated with her Associate of Science in Nursing degree and Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from College of Saint Mary. She received her Master of Science in Nursing degree from Clarkson College, and she currently teaches basic skills and fast track nursing students at the College.

Treasurer
Ann Hagenau, M.S., RT (R) (M)

Ann received her Associate of Science in Radiologic Technology (RT) degree in 1995, her Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging (MI) degree in 1995 and her Master of Science in Health Services Management degree in 1997. She is currently an instructor for the RT/MI program at Clarkson College. Ann has served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors for three years as a director and looks forward to her new role as treasurer.

Director
Joan Blum, M.S.N., ACNP

Joan received her diploma from Clarkson College in 1981, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 1986 and her Master of Science in Family Nurse Practitioner degree in 1998. She obtained her Master of Science in Nursing degree in 1993 from Drake University. She joined Clarkson College faculty in June 2004 and is currently an Assistant Professor. She also works as a Nurse Practitioner at Heartland Oncology and Hematology Associates. In her free time, she enjoys flower gardening, reading, family and friends.

Director
Sue Leutzinger, M.S.N., R.N.

Sue is an Assistant Professor at Clarkson College, teaching basic skills at the freshman level and medical-surgical nursing (clinical and theory) at the sophomore level. She also teaches the nurse refresher clinical component. Sue has been with the College for six years and previously worked at the Nebraska Medical Center for 15 years. In her spare time, she loves to swim, camp and spend time outdoors.

Director
Rachel Thompson, R.N., B.S.N.

Rachel is the course coordinator for the Clarkson College BSN program’s Health Assessment course. She has been an Instructor for three years and loves the students and the continued learning that she receives through her job. She is married to Clark Thompson, who is also an Instructor at the College. She and Clark have two children Mackenzie, 1, and Carlie, 2. She enjoys gardening, swimming and reading in her free time. Her future plans are to finish her Master’s degree, continue teaching and eventually pursue her PhD.

Director
Nicki Hardin, M.S., R.T. (R) (M) (CIIP)

Nicki graduated from Clarkson College in 1995 with an Associate of Science in Radiologic Technology degree and a Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging degree. In 1997, she graduated with a Master of Science in Health Services Management degree. Nicki currently works as the Manager of Radiology at Children’s Hospital in Omaha.

Jeanette has been a Case Manager for the Ortho/Neuro specialty at The Nebraska Medical Center for 15 years. She is also an active pain management advocate and a member of the Pain Resource Network (PRN), which provides support for pain management at The Nebraska Medical Center.

Added Alumni Benefits to the Referral Program

By Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, and Denise Work, Director of Admissions

Many of our students tell us an alumnus inspired them to pursue a career in the field of health care. Clarkson College and the Alumni Association want to recognize the impact you have on prospective Clarkson College students.

We are writing to introduce the added benefits to you, our valued alumnus, when utilizing the Alumni Referral Program. For every student that lists you as an alumni referral on their application, the College will send you a $25 gift card once they begin classes. You will also have the option to apply this $25 gift for an Alumni Association membership or renewal.

In addition to the gift card, your name will be added to a drawing for an iPad. The drawing will take place next summer, and the winner will be announced in the 2011 July/August issue of the Alumni Times.

Want to win an Apple iPad? Read on to learn more.

In order to receive these tokens of our appreciation, the student needs to provide your name as an alumni referral on his/her application. Students can apply online at ClarksonCollege.edu or an application can be mailed to them.

Clarkson College offers online and on-campus options in Nursing, Health Care Business, Radiologic Technology, Medical Imaging, Imaging Informatics, Physical Therapist Assistant and many Professional Development opportunities. If you haven’t visited us on the Web recently take a look for yourself at ClarksonCollege.edu and help us spread the word.

We realize that our graduates are our best advocates to promote Clarkson College programs, and we thank you for being such a positive role model!
A nursing research symposium was recently hosted by the spring Adult Medical Surgical II nursing students and faculty to connect current students with Clarkson College alumni. The Service-Learning program was designed to showcase nursing research and evidence based nursing practice in the acute care setting, connecting the students and the institutions where they participate in patient care. The Nebraska Medical Center (TNMC) and the VA Medical Center in Omaha, Neb. and the Alegent Health Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa participated in the event. A nurse researcher from each institution was invited to share current research at his/her institution. Nursing research was presented during the breakout and poster sessions by nine five-member student panels.

The event’s keynote speaker was Dr. June Eilers, Ph.D., A.P.R.N., CNS-BC, Clinical Nurse Researcher at TNMC. Dr. Eilers opened the program with her presentation “Promoting the Advancement of Nursing through Research.” Dr. Eilers shared her personal journey from bedside nurse to nurse researcher. She discussed the process of nursing research and closing the gaps in patient care with evidence based practice. Dr. Eilers’ presentation was informative, and the audience responded well to the role of the nurse researcher. Students commented that Dr. Eilers was able to “make research sound fun.”

Shelia Lawton-Peters, R.N., M.S.N., ANP-BCC, CCRN, Magnet Coordinator and a Nurse Practitioner at Mercy Hospital, presented “Nursing at the Bedside: Changing Rituals Through Research.” Her presentation reminded the experienced audience members of times gone by such as “sippy diets, clinilab and bedrest seven days post partum,” which provided a good chuckle. Lawton-Peters also explained the impressive nursing and ongoing collaborative research at Mercy Hospital. The hospital was one of two hospitals in Iowa and five nationally that was invited to participate in a collaborative research study with the University of Iowa and Iowa Foundation for Medical Care.

Mary McClenathan, R.N., B.S.N., presented her Clarkson College capstone project, “Development of an Intentional Rounding Education Program for VA Medical Center Staff.” Congratulations to McClenathan for graduating from Clarkson College with her MSN degree in May 2010. We appreciate our guest speakers offering their time and sharing their experiences with the guests, faculty and students — our future alumni.

Please accept this invitation to join the Alumni Association of Clarkson College. Your participation in helping meet the purpose of the organization “to be the link between the College, the Alumni and the greater community by acting as an ambassador, image builder and advocate” is welcomed.

Alumni Association dues are $25 per year. The membership is June 1 through May 31. Dues should be received no later than August 31. You will receive the Alumni Times quarterly, invitations to alumni events and periodic special mailings. Anyone who graduated 50 or more years ago receives a free membership and is included in the “Nifty Fifty” category. If you graduated 50 or more years ago, please return this form marked “Nifty Fifty.”

About You
Your name: __________________________
Maiden name (if applicable): __________
Spouse’s name: __________________________
Address: __________________________
City: __________________________ State/Province: __________
Zip: __________ Country: __________
Home phone: __________________________
Cell phone: __________________________
Work phone: __________________________
Home e-mail: __________________________
Current employer: __________________________
Business address: __________________________
City: __________________________ State/Province: __________
Zip: __________ Country: __________
Current position/title: __________________________
Class of: __________________________ Nifty Fifty: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Degree(s) earned: __________________________

Membership Information and Dues
Alumni Association dues are $25 per year. Make checks payable to “Alumni Association of Clarkson College.”

Membership dues (membership year: June 1 – May 31): $25
Contribution to the Alumni Scholarship Fund: $ __________
In Memory of (name): __________________________
In Honor of (name): __________________________
Total amount enclosed: $ __________

Please send your payment and the completed membership form and survey (on page 8) to Alumni Coordinator, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.
Alumni Association of Clarkson College Survey

Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey below. Your input is greatly valued and assists the Alumni Association in providing programs and activities for alumni members, meeting regulatory requirements for the College and updating alumni information.

Alumni Events

Please rank the following topics in order of interest to you (with one being the most important and six being the least):

- Continuing Professional Education (CEU) events
- Community involvement activities
- Alumni Day and weekend activities
- Increased communication
- Member benefits
- Social events

Please list any continuing education topics that would be of interest to you:

Please list any activities in which you would like to participate:

What is the best way to notify you of upcoming alumni events?

- E-mail
- Alumni Times newsletter
- Website
- Personal invitation

Post-Graduation Information

Do you have any career or personal stories that would make for interesting future articles in the Alumni Times newsletter?

- Yes — please describe:

- No

Do you use the College-offered Webmail for alumni?

- Yes
- No

If no, would you be interested in using it?

- Yes
- No

How would you rate your satisfaction with your Clarkson College experience? Please rank the following attributes from one to four in order of your experience at the College (with one being the strongest):

- Academic advising
- Faculty quality
- Course content
- Academic environment/excellence

Thank you for participating in our survey!
Your input is greatly appreciated.

CEU Event: Pandemic Issues and Ethics

Health care professionals are invited to participate in an interactive educational event structured to enhance their understanding of issues and ethical considerations related to pandemics.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010
Agenda:
7:30 a.m. Sign in and welcome
8 a.m. “Overview of Past and Present Pandemics”
Philip Smith M.D., FACP, FIDSA
Chief of infectious disease at The Nebraska Medical Center and Director of biosecurity, biopreparedness and emerging infectious diseases
Sharon Medcalf, R.N. M.Ed
Biopreparedness Education Program Director at the University of Nebraska Medical Center
9:30 a.m. Event break
9:45 a.m. “One Major Medical Center’s Emergency Preparedness Plan”
Shelly Schwedhelm, R.N., M.S.N.
Director of emergency/trauma/disaster services at The Nebraska Medical Center
10:45 a.m. “Exploring the Ethics of Isolation and Quarantine”
Kristin A. Watkins, MBA
Librarian and Grants Coordinator at the Center for Preparedness Education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University
11:45 a.m. Evaluations and event wrap up

Event registration information information on page 10.
CEU Event: Pandemic Issues and Ethics

Event Registration Information

Online: ClarksonCollege.edu/Programs/Professional_Development/Pandemic_Issues_and_Ethics/
By Phone: 402.552.6148 or 402.552.2311
Credit card payment only.

In Person: Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Office of Professional Development
Lower Level of Clarkson College
101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb.

Registration Form

To register for this event via mail, please detach this section and return to Office of Professional Development, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131. Registration forms must be received by Friday, Sept. 10.

Name: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Full address: ____________________________ State: ____________________________ Zip: ____________________________

City: ____________________________ Zip: ____________________________ Hometown: ____________________________

Home phone: ____________________________ Cell phone: ____________________________

E-mail address: ____________________________ Please provide your e-mail address for event registration confirmation.

Registration fees:

☐ Clarkson College Alumni Association member $20
☐ Clarkson College alumni $30
☐ Clarkson College Student Alumni Association member $10
☐ Clarkson College student $20
☐ Health care professional that is not Clarkson College alumni $40

CEUs requested: ☐ Business ☐ Nursing ☐ Physical Therapy ☐ Radiologic Technology

Payment type:

☐ Cash ☐ Check or money order (made payable to “Professional Development”)

Credit:

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card number: ____________________________ Security code: __________ Expiration: __________

Cardholder's name (please print): ____________________________

Cardholder's address (if different than above): ____________________________

Cardholder's signature: ____________________________

Your signature will authorize this transaction.

Questions

E-mail: professionaldevelopment@clarksoncollege.edu
Phone: 402.552.6148 or 402.552.2311

Thank you for your interest in this event.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Presentation of Awards to Faculty and Staff Members

Every year, a faculty and staff member who goes above and beyond in fulfilling the College mission is recognized. This year, Andreia Nebel, Physical Therapist Assistant program Director, received the Dr. Patricia Book Perry Faculty of the Year award, and Will Montgomery, Registrar Representative, received the Distinguished Service award.

Selection of the Faculty of the Year award recipient is one of the highest honors Clarkson College can bestow upon a faculty member. The following was written about Andreia in her nomination form:

Andreia is a teacher of the human domain, as well as an instructor of technical skills. When it comes to professional competency and breadth of knowledge in teaching, few professionals match Andreia. She brings excellence to the classroom and has taught a diverse number of courses, all of which are equally extraordinary. She inspires all around her to be a better professional and person.

The Distinguished Service award was established to recognize a staff member who exhibits leadership and demonstrates outstanding service to the College. The following was written about Will in his nomination forms:

Will is a cornerstone of information in the Registrar’s area. He continually processes information, creates reports and gets back to you in a timely manner. He is very much a critical thinker who can process situations easily. He is always respectful in conversations with the public, students, faculty and staff. You really feel like he drops everything when you call.

Congratulations to Andreia and Will!
Alumni Association Centennial Held June 5

The Alumni Association of Clarkson College Centennial celebration was held June 5. Alumnae in attendance took a historic Ollie the Trolley tour, visiting The Bellevue Medical Center and significant landmarks within the history of Omaha and the College.

One of the tour’s highlights was a visit to the former College dormitory located at 520 South 26 Street. During the stop, Penny Wilcox ('49) and Marjorie Schimonitz ('50) shared some of their adventures while living in the dorms. Their funniest memory entailed hiding their beer bottles in the flowerpots outside of the dorm and disposing the empty bottles in the church trash bins next door. Wilcox and Schimonitz remembered which rooms they lived in and how the nursing arts were taught on the first level of the building. The touring group enjoyed the stories and sights shared throughout the tour.

After the tour, a luncheon was held in the music room at the historic Joslyn Castle, which was built by Sarah and George Joslyn seven years before the formation of the Alumni Association. The past presidents were honored upon their arrival and were presented with a corsage. Uniforms from the 1900s to the 1980s were on display in the parlor of the castle. JoAnn Acierno prepared the uniforms for the event. Speaker Trish Weber, outgoing Alumni Association President, highlighted the Alumni Association events and introduced the new Alumni Association president and board members. Dr. Louis Burgher, Clarkson College President, discussed current events of the College during his speech, and Alumni Coordinator Rita VanFleet honored the past presidents’ work in keeping the Alumni Association of Clarkson College active. Pam Stanoscheck (year) created a video that was shown at the end of the luncheon, and tours of the castle were given.

Throughout the event, the group enjoyed conversations, and the past presidents shared their challenges of leading the Alumni Association. Collectively, the group agreed that Clarkson College had provided them an excellent educational foundation that helped them tremendously as they pursued their health care careers.

Omicron Epsilon Update

By Judi Dunn, M.S., R.N., CRNP

The Clarkson College Omicron Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society held an induction ceremony on Saturday, April 10 in Howard Hall. Seventeen undergraduate nursing students, 18 graduate nursing students and one nurse leader inductee participated in the ceremony. Rita Van Fleet, Alumni Coordinator and STTI member, provided the keynote address, discussing “2010 International Year of the Nurse.”

Omicron Epsilon Board elections were held recently and the following slate of officers have been chosen to serve from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012:

- Secretary: Bobbie Weber
- Faculty Counselors: Marsha Cravens and Nina Wardell
- Directors: Linda Jensen, Mary Dishman, Michelle Bomer, Tod Eye and Peggy Mazzeo
- Leadership Succession Committee Members: Loretta Pierce, Cyndi McCullough, Connie Wilson and Sue Michalski

They join the current board members who are serving until June 30, 2011:

- Vice President: Cheryl Hellstrom
- Treasurer: JoAnn Acierno
- Directors: Joan Mack, Jeff Peters and Sara Wilke

President-elect Judi Dunn will begin serving a two year term as President on July 1, 2010.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing board members for the great work and dedication they have provided to the chapter. Clarkson College alumni continue to provide leadership and vibrancy to the chapter. It is important to remember that once inducted, an individual is always a member of the honor society. Those who choose to renew their chapter and international dues become “active” members and are eligible to participate in educational programs and other events. So, if you were inducted as a student, please join us! If you would like to explore membership as a nurse leader, please contact Judi Dunn at 402.552.6123 or via e-mail at dunn@clarksoncollege.edu

Want to attend an upcoming alumni event? Check out what’s going on this fall by turning to page 17.
Alumni Class Notes

Class notes will be published in the January/February and July/August editions of the Alumni Times newsletter. We are always happy to hear from alumni and want to share the information with others. If you have a story or information that you would like to share in this section, please let us know. Information can pertain to achievements, awards, marriages, births, deaths, travel and other significant news.

When sending information, please include maiden name, if applicable, and year(s) of graduation and program. E-mail your information to vanbeetria@clarksoncollege.edu, call 402.552.3516 or write to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.

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1930s

Elenor Martin Chambers ('38)
Lives in Skyline Assisted Living in Omaha, Neb. She was the supervisor of the Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital (BCMH) Operating Room from 1941-45. She was well respected by students and doctors.

Doris W. Viedt ('39)
Currently lives in Golden Prairie Manor in Winner, S.D. She retired from the U.S. Army as a Major after 18 years of service. She was in Europe five times and Asia two times during her service. She relayed that a brain tumor ended her military career.

1940s

Winfred Williams Parker ('42)
Lives in Bassett, Neb. She submitted a story last year about the three years she was enlisted in the army, the eight years she traveled for a medical company, and the nine years she spent working for the State Health Department. Winifred stays active by attending regional American Nurses Association (ANA) meetings and spends most of her time volunteering.

Opal Cooper ('44)
Lives in Bella Vista, Ark. and has been retired for 10 years. Her daughter and two grandchildren live nearby. She has 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. She keeps busy writing stories to her grandchildren, making quilts and attending exercise classes three times a week at her church.

Florence Elaine Mortensen Cline ('44)
She and her husband live in Omaha, Neb. and are both healthy and active, for which they are very thankful. They visit Elenor Martin Chambers weekly. Florence stated that Elenor is 93 years old, and she still chat about BCMH. Florence and her husband are active within their church and seek to fulfill its mission statement of making Christ known. She relayed an experience of after a 20-year lapse from nursing, she returned and stated, “Low and behold those young nurses took me in, and it turned out to be one of the greatest experiences of love and respect in the nursing field.” After 20 years of retirement, Florence remains friends with those nurses. She shared that both joy and sadness come to those who nurse. “When you get a few nurses together, there are always great stories,” she said. “A few stories we keep to ourselves!”

Dorothy Smith Dymak ('48)
Currently lives in Ogallala, Neb. She and her husband, Joe, spent 1948–49 in Al Kabur, Saudi Arabia and Ryhad building Arab-owned Safeway supermarkets. They stayed in a beautiful three bedroom villa and were provided with a car and driver. They said the culture was interesting, and it was a great experience.

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1950s

Marjorie Benson Schimmoniz ('50)
I am retired and live with my husband on a farm in St. Paul, Neb. I have two children and one grandchild. My son, Phillip, is a teacher at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Neb. where he teaches graphic design. He has a Master of Fine Arts degree in Visual Communications in Comprehensive Graphic Design History. My daughter, Donna, has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and works for Game and Parks. She is President of the Association of Nebraska Arts Club and is also a member of the Entomology Illustrators.

Shirley Cornellwell Duncan ('52)
Currently lives in Scottsbluff, Neb. and is retired.

Beverly Zdan Wright Gleiter ('53)
Beverly lives in Eau Claire, Wis. with her husband, Mel. The couple traveled 6,157 miles in Florida last winter, including a cruise to the Bahamas. They flew Jet Blue and spent a week in Cancun, Mexico. They have a silver Prius with MPG of 51.8, and Beverly recently started assisting in the local jail ministries. Having worked in mental health and detox for 18 years, it is a comfortable place for her to volunteer. She has two great-granddaughters, Lily and Gabriella, a great-grandson, Carson, and a new one arriving soon. She sends greetings to all.

Mary Lou Echtenkamp ('54)
Mary Lou lives in Fremont, Neb. and worked as a school nurse, retiring in 1985. She has been volunteering at Fremont Area Medical Center for four years and really likes it. She also volunteers at her church. Mary Lou has three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She said she has good memories from her three years of training. “The basics I was taught still come back in daily situations,” she said.

Lois Johnson Westfall ('54)
I am retired for a few months with my oldest son, Tom, and his family in Lawrence, KS. My future plans are uncertain. I may plan to live with different children in Texas, South Carolina, Iowa and Montana and occasionally come back to Nebraska.

Barbara Lynch Young ('55)
I have retired and lives in Sacramento, Calif. Her last employment was working 13 years for the Sacramento County Health Department in the criminal justice system. They had two jails holding about 6,000 inmates. There, she held various jobs such as conducting sobriety tests, administering prescriptions, serving as an infirmary charge nurse and performing medical assessments of inmates prior to seeing their head nurse and physician.

Betsy Reher Gosda ('55)
She lives in Houston, Texas and volunteers at MD Anderson Hospital as a spiritual care volunteer. Her days consist mostly of “listening” because “everyone has a story.”

Mary Ellen Ritterbush Gutlars ('55)
Currently lives in Tuscon, Ariz. and is retired.

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1960s

Melissa VanWey ('63)
She is retired, enjoys photography, family history and bicycling. She lives in Cary, NC.

Karen Dorf ('64)
I have retired from school nursing on Dec. 11, 2009 after working in the field for more than 40 years. I experienced many phases of nursing during those 40 years: surgical nursing as a supervisor, doctor’s office nurse for eight years, House Supervisor of our local hospital for 14 years, staff nurse at the State Developmental Center for 15 years, retired for eight years, and I returned to nursing after the refresher course. I did school nursing and staff training at the Mosaic group homes for seven-and-a-half years. I now enjoy “me” time.

Jane Hoesly Conley ('65)
I retired from surgical nursing in December 2009. She has three children, six grandchildren, three horses, a pony, a dog and a cat. She loves to travel and travels to Nebraska yearly to visit family. Her mom lives in Nebraska and is 94. She loves to dig in the dirt and is still a farm girl even though she now lives in Knoxville, Tenn. She doesn’t have a computer or e-mail and said she has no time for sitting, stating, “If I sit, I fall asleep.”

Kennetha Boyer Scheer ('67)
Retired from anesthesia due to a latex allergy. She and her husband, Vic, will be celebrating their 42nd wedding anniversary this year. They have two children. Their son is an orthopedic surgeon in Phoenix, Ariz. Their daughter has her Master’s degree in Exercise Science and is moving from Charlottesville, Va. to Omaha, and her husband is a professor going from the University of Virginia to Creighton. Kennetha and Vic welcomed their first grandchild in June.

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Karen Taylor Bogard ('67)
Now enjoys the “good life;” grandchildren, golf, tennis and travel. She recently participated in the Clarkson College Academic Travel Abroad trip to Italy in December 2009.

Letitia Bunker Naprstek ('68)
Letitia lives in Valentine, Neb. with her husband, Dale. Her daughter Dawn is married to Rick McFadden, and they have two sons, Reed, 6, and Rhett, 3. Her son, Tyler, and his wife, Sabrina, were married in October 2009. Letitia works part-time at the Comfort Inn, which gives her time for traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Susan Matson Pinquoch ('68)
Lives in Blair, Neb. and has a blended family of eight children – the oldest is 40 and the youngest is 21. She is expecting her thirteenth grandchild in August. She is involved in organizing women’s Bible studies for annual women’s retreat and is very involved with the TeamMates mentoring program. She loves music and plays piano, sings and loves being a song leader for children. She also enjoys flower arranging and spending time with her grandchildren. She dislikes exercise but does it anyway – mostly so she can eat more, but if it keeps her heart healthy in the process, then that is great, too.

Lynnea Lee Wheeler ('69)
After retiring in 2009, she and her husband sold their house in Kansas and began their “expat” adventure. They have enjoyed seeing and visiting many of the places they had only heard or read about, and they have rekindled friendships and added new ones. Their children live in Florida, Kansas, New York and Ontario. Lynnea hopes to catch up with more of her classmates as she and her husband continue their travels.

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Alumni class notes continued on page 16
Karen Kullbom Popelka ('70)
Karen worked for 25 years with Allegent Midlands Hospital in Papillion, Neb., retiring as a RN certified as a diabetes educator. She is married with one son, Brian, and daughter-in-law, Wendy. Karen and her husband have two grandchildren, Owen, 7, and Sophie, 4. Her hobbies are volunteering at church, golf and crocheting.
LoyAnn Kuhlman Rossell ('70)
As a certified occupational health nurse, LoyAnn has had great experiences in the field. She is currently a telephone triage nurse. She has been married to her husband Bob for 39 years, and they have three children – Dave, 34, Rachel, 31, and Sara, 23.
Cheryl Neuroth Olomom ('71)
Currently lives in Baldwin, Mo. and said “nursing has been a wonderful experience.” She worked in hospitals and doctor’s offices, taking on various roles that include diabetic educator, nursing instructor for nurse aides, chemotherapy nurse, geriatric psych nurse, med-surg and now school nurse.
Mary Hamilton Tuggle ('73)
Lives in Shenandoah, Iowa and has worked as a triage nurse at The Nebraska Medical Center for the past 13 years. The triage nurse is the nurse that keeps the doctor’s clinic together. She is the “hub” of activity at work. She completes what the other nurses do not have time to finish, and she serves as a resource for other employees. She stated, “I guess I am the ‘crusty old nurse’ that feels like she’s seen and done about everything.”
Beverly Barthet ('88)
Plans to retire, move to Virginia and become a farmer, raising reindeer and harvesting Christmas trees.
Donna Garbacz Bader ('93)
Published her first textbook in November 2009 for Chemical Rubber Company (CRC) Press. The book, Forensic Nursing: A Concise Manual, is an introduction to forensic nursing for undergraduate nursing students and nurses interested in the specialty of forensic nursing. Donna received her certification in forensic nursing and now works as a certified medicolegal death investigator for the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigation. She has a 35-year background in ICU/CCU/trauma, and she received the 2008 Forensic Science Achievement Award from the American Academy of Forensic Science.
Mary Dobelman ('94)
Mary works with the Dobelman Head and Neck Cancer Institute where she continues to promote cancer education, awareness and cancer research. Working with a multidisciplinary team, she has expanded the program for us. We were so fortunate that the nurses’ and doctors’ early detection and education are key to fighting cancer. She is proud of the impact they are making in Omaha and across Nebraska with their outreach, free cancer screenings and education.
Kimberly LeMay McDaniel ('05)
After graduation, Kimberly started as a part-time RN at Midlands Hospital. She then moved to Meritt Island, Fla., to live near her family, working at Cape Canaveral Hospital for three years as a Per Diem Paid Nurse. As a PD Nurse, she worked on the tele and medical floors and in the ICU, learning from her many experiences in fall 2008. Kimberly was certified as a CMSRN. She currently works as a Hemodialysis Charge Nurse/Staff Nurse in a small clinic, and she is preparing to take the GRE in October for a Master of Forensic Science. She is very grateful for her nursing career is that Clarkson College prepared me to do what I do very well, and for that I am very thankful,” she said.
Abbie Maas Kempcke ('06)
Abbie recently began her position at The Bellevue Medical Center. She was married on Sept. 8, 2007, and she and her husband, Brandon, do not have any children yet.
Mathew Beeman ('07)
Lives in Huber Heights, Ohio and works as an Air Force R.N. “My job is very challenging and rewarding,” he said. “Field nursing is so much fun compared to hospital nursing.” Mathew is married, has a two-year old son and is expecting another son in September.
In Memorium
Betty Haight died in Cisco, Texas on April 30. Betty had an active military career after graduating from the Clarkson School of Nursing. She was the honored alumna during the Clarkson College 120 year celebration.
Kimberly LeMay McDaniel ('05)
After graduation, Kimberly started as a part-time RN at Midlands Hospital. She then moved to Meritt Island, Fla., to live near her family, working at Cape Canaveral Hospital for three years as a Per Diem Paid Nurse. As a PD Nurse, she worked on the tele and medical floors and in the ICU, learning from her many experiences in fall 2008. Kimberly was certified as a CMSRN. She currently works as a Hemodialysis Charge Nurse/Staff Nurse in a small clinic, and she is preparing to take the GRE in October for a Master of Forensic Science. She is very grateful for her nursing career is that Clarkson College prepared me to do what I do very well, and for that I am very thankful,” she said.
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Please Note: Class notes received after this issue went to print will be published in the January/February 2011 newsletter.

Save the Date
Alumni Board meetings
(open to any paid member, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the College)
July 22, September 23 and November 18.
Saturday, Aug. 14 –
Scrapbook day. Alumni and guests are invited to the Archives in Village Pointe in Omaha from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. for a day of scrapbooking.
To find out more, see page 2.
Thursday, Sept. 16 –
Brunch, annual alumni meeting and Convocation.
Friday, Sept. 17 –
Afternoon tour of the new Bellevue Medical Center.
Saturday, Sept. 18 –
Continuing Professional Education (CEU) event from 7:30 a.m. until noon. Alumni dinner at 6 p.m. with entertainment provided by humorist Mary Maxwell.
For more information about September’s scheduled alumni events, see page 1 or 19.
May 2010 Clarkson College Graduates

**Academic Excellence Awards**
Presented to the graduate in each program with the highest grade point average.

**Cum Laude 3.50 through 3.64**

**Magna Cum Laude 3.65 through 3.74**

**Summa Cum Laude 3.85 and above**

Honors are distinguished by:

1. **Residency Hours.**
2. **Maintaining a High Cumulative Grade Point Average.**

### Academic Honors

- **Academic honors are bestowed by the College on the basis of academic excellence.**
- Students must have completed the minimum required residency hours.

#### Honor Societies
- **Honor societies and organizations:**
  - Lambda Chapter Lambda Nu
  - Phi Sigma Phi
  - Omicron Epsilon

#### Additional Information

- **Honor societies and organizations:**
  - Lambda Chapter Lambda Nu National Honor Society
  - Phi Sigma Phi
  - Omicron Epsilon

- **Postgraduate Certificates:**
  - Master of Science in Health Care Administration
  - Master of Science in Nursing

### Academic Honors

- **Academic honors are bestowed by the College on the basis of academic excellence.**
- Students must have completed the minimum required residency hours.

### Awards

- **Academic Excellence Awards**
- **Cum Laude 3.50 through 3.64**
- **Magna Cum Laude 3.65 through 3.74**
- **Summa Cum Laude 3.85 and above**

### Additional Information

- **Honor societies distinguished by:**
  - Residency hours.
  - Maintaining a high cumulative grade point average.
  - To qualify for academic honors, students must have completed the minimum required residency hours.

### Registration Information

- **Please accept my reservations for the following events this fall:**
  1. Yes, I will attend the Alumni Reunion Brunch on September 16 at 10 a.m. as your guest.
  2. Yes, I will attend the annual alumni meeting on September 16 at noon.
  3. Yes, I will attend the Clarkson College Convocation ceremony at 2:30 p.m. on September 16.

- **I will ** will not need complimentary transportation to the Cathedral.

- **Yes, I will attend the tour of the new Bellevue Hospital and Medical Center on September 17 at 1 p.m.**
  - Yes, I will attend the CEU offering on September 17 at 7:30 a.m.
  - Yes, I will attend the Alumni Dinner in the Storz Pavilion on The Nebraska Medical Center Campus.
  - Please note: Honors designations were based upon most current information at press time. Clarkson College apologizes for any errors or omissions.

### Alumni Association Membership Event

- **Event Details**
  - **Thursday, September 16:**
    - **Alumni Reunion Brunch**
    - **Convocation ceremony**
  - **Friday, September 17:**
    - **Alumni Association membership**

- **Alumni Dinner in the Storz Pavilion on The Nebraska Medical Center Campus. Details of the dinner event are listed on page 1.**

### May 2010 Clarkson College Graduates

#### Academic Excellence Awards

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  - **Summa Cum Laude 3.85 and above**

### Additional Information

- **Honor societies and Organizations:**
  - Lambda Chapter Lambda Nu National Honor Society
  - Honor Society for the Radiologic and Imaging Sciences
  - Omicron Epsilon

### Registration Information

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It’s not too late to renew your Alumni Association membership!

Becoming a member is easy, too! Simply turn to page 7 and fill out the membership form. The dues are $25 per year, and members receive the Alumni Times quarterly, invitations to alumni events and periodic special mailings.

Annual Spring Garden Walk a Success

Six bricks and a boulder plaque were donated at the annual Spring Garden Walk held Wednesday, May 19. Dr. Burgher opened with welcoming remarks for the Clarkson College Board of Directors members, Clarkson Service League members, faculty, staff and students who attended the ceremony.

Lori Bucholz, President of the Clarkson Service League, expressed her appreciation for the garden dedication. Bucholz and five other Clarkson Service League members attended the event.

Alumni Association Past-President Trish Weber also spoke of her gratitude for the garden. Weber said the garden preserves the precious memories so many have built within the walls of Clarkson College.