



# BEYOND THE CAP

MGH NURSES' ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC

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## **Message from the NAA President**

Dear MGHNAA members,

I am writing today as President of the MGH Nurses' Alumni Association asking for your assistance. As we head into our very exciting 150th anniversary year, the Alumni Association's Board and volunteers are engaged in a host of important activities, certainly with a huge focus on the 150th celebration but also on the ongoing work that supports our mission. I've never seen such enthusiasm and energy, and I invite you to become part of it.

We have recently added six new volunteers to various committees. We would love to have more participants, particularly for the 150th Homecoming Committee, the History Committee, the Professional Development, Research and Community Engagement Committee, and the Membership Committee. Most of the work can be done virtually.

The MGHNAA is thriving because members volunteer their time. If you've ever wanted to get more involved, this is your opportunity. In this coming year we will not only be organizing our anniversary events, but also laying the groundwork for the future of the Association as the standing committees plan for 2023 and beyond.

To learn more about the 150th Anniversary Celebration and/or other committees' work, please contact the MGHNAA office, 617-726-3144 or email [mghnursealumni@Partners.org](mailto:mghnursealumni@Partners.org) with information about your particular interests.

Thank you for being part of this wonderful community.

Best Wishes,

Ann Quealy, BSN, MSN

At our recent Homecoming, two lovely blue and ivory Bulfinch plates were donated by an alumna to the NAA. We were negligent in not getting the name of the donor. Would the donor please e-mail/ phone us their name, address and phone number, with maybe a few words about the plates acquisition. The MGH NAA phone: 617-726-3144, email: [mghnursealumni@partners.org](mailto:mghnursealumni@partners.org). Thank you very much. Bobbie Nemeskal, for the group



Visit us on the web at: [www.mghnaa.org](http://www.mghnaa.org)  
Email us at: [mghnursealumni@partners.org](mailto:mghnursealumni@partners.org)  
Contact us by email, telephone, or through your class agent

### NAA News

The website is being updated regularly now. You can find electronic payments, registration and other forms, back issues of this newsletter, information about the upcoming 150th celebration, "and much much more." [www.mghnaa.org](http://www.mghnaa.org)

### MGH News



We are saddened to report the death of one of the pillars of the hospital, Dr. W. Gerald Austen, pioneer cardiac surgeon, at age 92. Known to many of us from our student days (& sometimes nights) in the White OR, Dr. Austen was the youngest Chief of Surgery in the hospital's history and a mentor to all who sought his advice for over 65 years. He is pictured here with his wife Patty at our NAA Homecoming in 2011 when Patty, a graduate of the Simmons College SON, was named an honorary member of the MGH NAA. They met on White 6, a true MGH romance.

For his complete obituary see: [www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/boston-ma/w-austen-10922632](http://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/boston-ma/w-austen-10922632)

### IHP News

The Fundraising Gala, the first in several years, was held in October. The event, for which the NAA had purchased five tickets, raised over \$300,000 for the school.

Led by an idea from our Professional Development Committee, the NAA made a \$3000 donation to the Ruth Sleeper Center at the IHP. The funds will be used in the students' public health course, "to develop standardized teaching materials for a diverse population."

The IHP and its President Paula Milone-Nuzzo, have been named one of the Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts by The Women's Edge and its partner, *The Boston Globe Magazine*. Factors that went into the evaluation included revenue, operating budget, governing board makeup, innovative projects, and workplace and management diversity. Several other health care &/or MGH-related businesses also made the list. For the complete list visit:

[www.bostonglobe.com/2022/10/28/magazine/top-100-women-led-businesses-massachusetts-2022/](http://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/10/28/magazine/top-100-women-led-businesses-massachusetts-2022/)

### History/Archives News

A paper authored by Mary Larkin, Susan Fisher & Kenneth White was presented by Dr. White at the American Association for the History of Nursing annual meeting in September. It is titled, "From a One-Year Experiment to 150 Years of Nursing Education: Reflections on the Origins of the Massachusetts General Hospital School of Nursing." Using newly available content, it tells the as yet unpublished story of the genesis of the school's founding in 1872-3. Print publication in one of the nursing journals is being considered. This effort represents a new collaboration between the NAA and the IHP.

The Russell Museum has reopened to the public several days per week and resumed the wintertime monthly lectures, available either in person or on Zoom. They are free but registration is required. Upcoming on November 15 from 6-7pm is, "Examining CRISPR: The Power and Promise of a Gene Editing Tool," presented by Dr. Keith Joung, MGH Department of Pathology, from 6 to 7 pm. To register for this event, go to <https://mghmuseumcrispr2.eventbrite.com>. The museum website has more details: <https://www.russellmuseum.org/>

### Class Agents

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1944 Barbara Thorburn Sharp Tel. 609-894-8152  | 1962 Alice Sullivan Anderson <a href="mailto:aliceanderson90@yahoo.com">aliceanderson90@yahoo.com</a> |
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| Marjorie Whipple (M) <a href="mailto:whip93@comcast.net">whip93@comcast.net</a>                          | 1972  |
| 1956 Constance Holleran (M) <a href="mailto:hollerac@aol.com">hollerac@aol.com</a>                       | 1973 Elaine Wilson Whelan <a href="mailto:etwhalen60@gmail.com">etwhalen60@gmail.com</a>              |
| Sylvia Prince <a href="mailto:sylprin@gmail.com">sylprin@gmail.com</a>                                   | 1974 Deb Howland <a href="mailto:dhowlandgrowl@gmail.com">dhowlandgrowl@gmail.com</a>                 |
| 1957 Margery Howe Eramo (S) <a href="mailto:margeryeramo@verizon.net">margeryeramo@verizon.net</a>       | 1975 Maureen DiBartolomeo <a href="mailto:mowttennis2000@gmail.com">mowttennis2000@gmail.com</a>      |
| 1958 Janet Thompson <a href="mailto:jbct37@gmail.com">jbct37@gmail.com</a>                               | 1976 Connie Ryan <a href="mailto:connie.starhouse@gmail.com">connie.starhouse@gmail.com</a>           |
| 1959 Janemarie Henrick (S) <a href="mailto:jmhenrick@gmail.com">jmhenrick@gmail.com</a>                  | 1977 Nancy Hanley Ryan <a href="mailto:mhson1977@gmail.com">mhson1977@gmail.com</a>                   |
| 1960 Mary Jane Nassar St. Amour (M) <a href="mailto:mjpst.amour@verizon.net">mjpst.amour@verizon.net</a> | 1978 Claire DeWilde <a href="mailto:c.dewilde11@gmail.com">c.dewilde11@gmail.com</a>                  |
| Priscilla Webster Ramsey (M) <a href="mailto:pwr Ramsey@aol.com">pwr Ramsey@aol.com</a>                  | 1979 Katherine Surman <a href="mailto:katherine.surman@gmail.com">katherine.surman@gmail.com</a>      |
| 1961 Elizabeth Marsh Ream <a href="mailto:erhream5@gmail.com">erhream5@gmail.com</a>                     | 1980 Mary Boss Withey <a href="mailto:mary.boss.withey@gmail.com">mary.boss.withey@gmail.com</a>      |
| Elizabeth Matricaria Hutchinson <a href="mailto:emhoods@gmail.com">emhoods@gmail.com</a>                 | 1981 Suzanne Fusini Collins <a href="mailto:suzcollins@charter.net">suzcollins@charter.net</a>        |
|  | Jo-Ann Quigley <a href="mailto:joann.quigley@gmail.com">joann.quigley@gmail.com</a>                   |

Homecoming 2022

Organizing the 2022 MGH NAA Homecoming was a challenge, but we did it and it was a *wonderful* event. On Saturday September 24, 2022, ninety one alumni and guests gathered at the MGH IHP campus at One Constitution Wharf in Charlestown overlooking the Boston Harbor. We were warmly welcomed by Dr. Paula Milone-Nuzzo, MGH IHP President, Dr. Debra Burke, Senior VP for Patient Care & MGH Chief Nurse, and Dr. Kenneth White, Dean MGH IHP Nursing School. Three IHP students shared with us their very moving and touching stories about their journeys to nursing and the MGH IHP as well as their future nursing plans. The wine and cheese reception was held on the outside deck where beautiful September weather warmed us. A luncheon buffet catered by MGH Catering followed. We thank MGH Catering for their efforts. They came off campus [a first!] to do this for us and succeeded despite the absence of a kitchen at the venue. We are also in debt to the IHP for their generous invitation to use their campus as well as a generous financial donation to help make Homecoming happen. Pictures on page four. Respectfully Submitted, Roberta Nemeskal



**1873 – 1981**

**\*\*150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION\*\***

~ SAVE THE DATES ~

**SEPTEMBER 22, 23, & 24, 2023**

**MGHNAA ANNUAL HOMECOMING**

~ Anniversary Class Celebrations ~  
1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 22**

Seminar Day at the MGHIHP Campus @ 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM  
Breakfast, Seminars, Luncheon, Afternoon Tea & Tours of MGHIHP  
President’s Reception at MGH, Bulfinch 2 @ 5:00 – 7:00 PM in the new Ruth Sleeper Suite

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 23**

150th Anniversary Celebration & Annual Homecoming at the MGHIHP Campus, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM  
Breakfast, Annual Business Meeting, MGHSON Video Premier, Anniversary Speaker,  
Fall Luncheon, Recognition & Awards

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 24**

Breakfast Update at the Russell Museum, MGH @ 10:00 AM – 11:45 AM.  
NOTE: Sunday’s program to be confirmed.  
Presentations on Massachusetts General Hospital, MGH Nursing, MGHIHP, MGHIHP SON

Call your classmates, friends, and plan to attend this magnificent celebration of 150 years!  
Take the trip down memory lane!! Bring your pictures and your yearbook looking back at wonderful times!

**STAY TUNED**

Your personal invitation will be mailed January 2023, with detailed information about all events, registration, hotels, and parking to come.

For questions, email [mghnursealumni@partners.org](mailto:mghnursealumni@partners.org) or your Class Agent



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