Dr. Ann Schiele, an amazing nurse, leader, and educator, will always remain in our hearts.
A SONG of GRATITUDE

THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF DR. ANN SCHIELE...

By Michael Curtin

A BEAUTIFUL AND FITTING WAY TO HONOR THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ANN SCHIELE IS WITH A REFLECTION ON THE NATURE AND CAPACITY OF GRATITUDE.

Ann Schiele grew up in the tiny village of Sherwood, Ohio (1950 population: 554). She was the daughter of Lee Wallace and Frances Rosebella Moats, who owned and operated the only funeral home and ambulance service in the area.

This sparsely populated area of northwestern Ohio holds some of the nation’s richest agricultural soil, and long has attracted migrants to help work the fields.

As a young girl, Ann observed the physical and spiritual comfort provided by her parents to many in need - and the grateful, transforming responses to it.

“My parents had a tremendous influence on my decision to care for others,” Ann recalled. “My mother was a nurse and I witnessed what she did as a nursing professional – providing unparalleled care and compassion to those in need. It wasn’t
As a young girl, Ann observed the physical and spiritual comfort provided by her parents to many in need—and the grateful, transforming responses to it.

“Every parents' generosity and kind works confirmed that nursing was the right path for me, and I've never looked back.”

Her path began at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Toledo, where she earned a nursing diploma before heading to The Ohio State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
Gratitude is a virtue too seldom practiced. Gratitude never compels. It inspires. Ann Schiele was a study in gratitude. Gratitude sings a joyful song. It was her song.

ANN’S DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

MCCN colleagues and friends came together on December 1, 2022, to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Ann Schiele. Mission Leader and Associate Professor Sean Lansing, PhD, shared this reflection, “This afternoon, we celebrate a unique individual who helped us dream of what is possible when generosity, love, and sacrifice are made real to build a better community. We honor a leader whose life made an indelible mark on our college and our community. Dr. Ann Schiele, whose legacy of leadership, compassion, and empowering others to excellence remains a hallmark of our approach to education.”

KINDNESS AND JOY WERE HER SUPERPOWERS

Relentless drive isn’t usually associated with kindness. But Ann Schiele was a rarity. Her brand of mission-driven relentlessness was kind, gentle, and transparent. She possessed a deep reservoir of grace, making her unceasing appeals innocent, seemingly effortless pulls on behalf of a mission she loved, and one we all should love.

Her dominant character trait spawned endless, humorous stories among Mount Carmel staff and supporters about how Ann persuaded them to take on another task, be part of another initiative, make one more gift. She also possessed a gift of wry, self-deprecating humor. The combination of these traits made her appeals irresistible.

In July 2014, as she transitioned to emeritus status, Ann told this publication: “Fifty-two years with an institution is a long time to be in one place, but I really do love Mount Carmel. I love who we are, our mission and the Sisters of the Holy Cross. It’s everything I’ve wanted in life. I feel like the luckiest person alive.”
ANN’S FAMILY REMEMBERS HER TIRELESS DEDICATION

Just as her parents inspired Ann Schiele, she in turn was an inspiration to her husband of 57 years, David, and their three children – daughter Cynthia Anderson and sons Michael Schiele and Eric Schiele.

One of Ann’s traits most fondly remembered by family members was her ability to find time for them, no matter how busy her professional life became.

“She was a wonderful mother to our three children,” David recalled. “She always found time to be involved in their lives and activities even if she was loaded with problems at work.” Later in her career, she was similarly dedicated to their five grandchildren.

While Ann was navigating the transition of the Mount Carmel School of Nursing to an accredited, four-year college, “as well as working on her PhD, she spent nearly every night studying after the rest of us called it a day,” David said. “Amazingly enough, she never complained.”

Michael, who now lives in Burlington, Vt., remarked, “She was always able to find the time to be there for everyone. I will never understand how she managed her tireless schedule.”

And in all her interactions, Michael added, “She made people feel special and it wasn’t an act. It was sincere. When growing up you don’t realize that not everyone has that, not until you are older and have more perspective. We were very fortunate.”

Eric, now living in Rye, N.Y., is grateful for the example of his mom’s “almost supernatural” emotional intelligence. “She made people feel like they were the most important in the world when she talked with them.”

On a humorous note, Eric recalled his mother “possibly had the worst sense of direction I’ve ever encountered. She would get lost so often looking for the fields at my soccer tournaments that my coaches, who adored her, used to call her The Pathfinder.”

Eric and Michael expressed gratitude for their mother teaching them, by showing them year after year, that a person can achieve success as both parent and professional. And do so exclusively with positive, loving energy.

Editor’s Note: The Lamp was unable to reach Ann’s daughter, Cynthia Anderson of Brunswick, Ohio, by the deadline for this article.

ABOUT GUEST AUTHOR

MICHAEL CURTIN

Michael F. Curtin is retired from The Columbus Dispatch, after a 38-year career as a reporter, editor and associate publisher. He also served as president, chief operating officer and vice chairman of The Dispatch Printing Company.

Curtin is beginning his seventh year on the board of the Mount Carmel Foundation. He previously served on the boards of the Mount Carmel Health System and the Mount Carmel College of Nursing. His oldest sister, Kathy, is a 1967 graduate of the then Mount Carmel School of Nursing.

Like so many supporters of Mount Carmel, he considers it his good fortune to have known and worked beside Ann Schiele to advance the many good works of Mount Carmel.

State Representatives Mike Curtin and Mike Stinziano with Ann at the 2014 Champagne and Diamonds Gala.
Dear Friends,

It is both an honor and a pleasure to be serving as the interim leader of Mount Carmel College of Nursing (MCCN). During my tenure, I have been consistently impressed by this college and by the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends who participate in and support the extraordinary nursing education offered here.

“The legacy of MCCN is exceptional. The need for professional nurses is great. These two factors are key to the goals we are working toward achieving. Financial sustainability, expanding enrollment, and continually enhancing the educational programs offered will be essential for continued success.”

The amazing motivation and dedication demonstrated every day by the faculty and staff is an invaluable competitive advantage for the College and I am grateful for their service and expertise.

You can’t evaluate the legacy of MCCN without mentioning Dr. Ann Schiele. In addition to tributes at the recent Scholarship Celebration and Dinner, and a special Celebration of Life at the College, this issue of the LAMP is dedicated to her.

I hope you enjoy the feature story that highlights her life and legacy. This special tribute was authored by Foundation board member and unabashed Ann Schiele fan, Michael Curtin.

Mike is just one example of community leaders who have served and continue to serve Mount Carmel. I’ve found the greater Columbus community to be welcoming and inclusive, from the Rotary to the Catholic high schools. MCCN has strong and unwavering support from a broad, diverse group of individuals and organization – another testament to the College’s value here.

Our internal diversity, too, is a great point of pride. We continue to set the example for institutions of higher learning by leaning into diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice.

While the search for a new leader of the College is now underway, I will continue to serve in that capacity until the position is filled. As I do so, I keep in mind the legacy and pioneering spirit that Dr. Schiele demonstrated throughout her long tenure here. It’s an honor to serve in this position and I am grateful for the opportunity.

Allan Hoffman, PhD
Interim President
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Allan Hoffman, PhD
Interim President

March 20, 2023
Summer session registration opens

March 27, 2023
Spring break begins

April 17, 2023
Fall semester registration opens

May 6, 2023
Commencement

September 30, 2023
Homecoming, hosted by the Mount Carmel Alumni Association at The Grand Event Center
820 Goodale Blvd.,
Columbus Ohio 43212
The 2022 Scholarship Awards and Donor Recognition Dinner was held on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, at the Hilton Easton. At this year’s event, a total of 272 scholarships were given to 135 MCCN students. The scholarships provided totaled $663,680 - with $543,500 of that amount coming through the Mount Carmel Foundation.

In addition to remarks by Mount Carmel Foundation President Deanna Stewart, Foundation Board Member Michael Curtin, and Mount Carmel Health System CEO Lorraine Lutton, the event featured video tributes celebrating the lives of Kathy Espy and Dr. Ann Schiele, both of whom were College leaders and donors to Mount Carmel scholarships.
The American Electric Power Scholarships
Alfreda Asare
Adesewa Ayeni
Sasha Balbuena
Hajayeabu Bangura
Leetchoucy Blaise
Suhair Eleye
Yasmeen Hutcherson
Khadiatou Kane
Ramata Kane
Maura Ramos Yanez

Dr. Craig and Deborah Anderson Scholarship Endowment
Ryan Davis
Sydney McGlinchey
Allison Mershon
Kelsey Miller
Amber Montana
Alise Ruble
Sumitra Timsina

Michael A. Anthony, MD, Scholarship Endowment
Ryan Davis

Brenda Binkley Memorial Scholarship
Aimee Foltz

Beth Ann Bishop Memorial Scholarship
Renee Miller

Lori Burleson Caldwell Scholarship Endowment
Kate Donkoh
Esther Kissi

Cardinal Health Scholarship
Ronnie Al-Hijazin
Alexis Albanese
Megan Bash
Ava Brickner
Isaac Brown
Jennifer Mason
Elizabeth Pierce
Devin Power
Kimberly Warren
Kwok Wong

The Cardinal Health Scholarship Fund
Ayan Ali
Suban Alif
Walaa Hussein
Ranjita Subedi

A. Jean Huck Clark Scholarship Endowment
Kyla Fitch

Class of 1963 Scholarship
Megan Kirsop
Allison Mershon

Honor Class of 1970 Scholarship
Caitlin Remick

Honor Class of 1971 Scholarship
Brittney Falls

Dorothy Cluff Memorial Scholarship
Ronnie Al-Hijazin

Mother M. Constantine Community Service Scholarship
Jalen Perkins
Chastity Stump

Margaret F. Cordle Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Alexandra Duncan

George N. Corey Memorial Scholarship
Amina Aslam

The Ray and Phylis Crook Scholarship in Memory of Sister M. Blanche, C.S.C
Caitlin Remick
Kaitlyn Smith

The Charles and Barbara Dolan Memorial Scholarship
Calah Mwangi

The Dolan Family Scholarship
Alexandra Duncan

Kathy Donnelly Memorial Scholarship
De Von Ortiz
Morgan Thompson

The Kathy Espy Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Kadra Abdulahi
Kate Donkoh
Naima Jama
Princess Stephen

Carla Fry Memorial Scholarship
Kelsey Miller
Kimberly Warren

Phil and Joann Hall Scholarship Endowment
Amina Aslam

Morgan Breanna Hicks Memorial Scholarship
Saynab Ahmed
Brittney Falls

Holy Cross Heritage Scholarship Endowment
Abigail Bentley
Frances Collins
Rebecca Hughes
Johnie Saas
Michelle Tchounguen

The Else L. Huebner Memorial Scholarship
Calah Mwangi

David Hunt, MD, Scholarship
Lauren Lewis
A’Nah Levels-Henderson
Chloe Troyer

Magdalen Chaffin Jeffrey Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Yvonne Spencer
Kimberly Warren

Ed “Pete” and Barbara Kelley Scholarship Endowment
Caitlin Remick
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS CONTINUED

Mount Carmel Foundation Board Members Rebecca Nelson and Alyncia Bowen, PhD, with Mount Carmel Foundation Scholarship recipients

MARJORIE BOLTE KELLY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Brittany Dye
Allison Fisher

MARY LINARD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Kadra Abdulahi

PATRICIA A. MCKNIGHT, MS, RDN, LD SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Alexandria Strait

MONSIGNOR JOHN J. MCMAHON SCHOLARSHIP
Olivia Chandler
Alexandra Duncan

THOMAS & MARY ELLEN MILLER SCHOLARSHIP
Suban Alif
Amal Saeed

THE MARY KIEFER MILLER ’65 SCHOLARSHIP
Noel Ingram

DR. JERI A. MILSTEAD SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Karissa Weekley

MICHAEL MISCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Tyr-Michael France

FLORENCE E. MOSES NURSING SCHOLARSHIP
Reagan Sheehan

MOUNT CARMEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Claire Anthony
Victoria Boslet
Frances Collins
Alexandra Duncan
Aimee Foltz
Katherine Hoover
Chloe Troyer
Luke Warner

MOUNT CARMEL COLLEGE OF NURSING BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHOLARSHIP
Ronnie Al-Hijazin
Rachael Griffin
Jessica Kupisch
Gabriela Rodriguez
Kennedy Wilson

MOUNT CARMEL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP – Undergraduate Students
Kristin Bailey
Abigail Bentley
Hannah Blount
Ava Brickner
Camryn Bury
Austin Carey

Nadira Hajasul
Rylee Higgenbotham
Vaughn Hoff
Sara Hope
Mikaela June
Rachel Keefe
Esther Kissi
Jessica Kupisch
Renee Miller
Alise Ruble
Leah Schaad
Chloe Troyer
Lauren Walsh
Kin Wong

MOUNT CARMEL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP – SDAP Students
Victoria Boslet
Frances Collins
Kaylee Fannin
Lindsey Flexer
Jessie Graf
Rebecca Hughes
David Hunt
Emma Lambeck
Christina Lombardi
Lily Wilson

PATRICIA B. MULLINS SCHOLARSHIP
Saynab Ahmed
Kate Donkoh

SHANNON PARTLOW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Ayan Ali

JOHN AND GENIE RATAICZAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Jalee Helmuth

JILL MARIE TREGO RILL SCHOLARSHIP
Megan Bash
Ava Brickner

MARION RODENFELS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Amina Abokor
THE DR. ANN E. SCHIELE PRESIDENTIAL ENDOWMENT
Saynab Ahmed
Lucky Alidhuxu
Katherine Brown
Kadiatou Diakite
Ruth Hopler
Tiffany Lasch
Deanna McClain
Calah Mwangi
Johnie Saas
Alicia Thompson
Caytlyn Veletean
Luke Warner

ROBERT G. AND KATHRYN R. SCHWEMLEY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP – Undergraduate Students
Camryn Bury
Kadiatou Diakite
Emilee Gavan
Rylee Higgenbotham
Edward Karagezyan
Megan Kirsop
Lauren Lewis
Gary Lingenfelter
Sydney McGlinchey
Adreanna Swindells
Sumitra Timsina
Lauren Walsh

ROBERT G. AND KATHRYN R. SCHWEMLEY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP – Graduate Students
Katherine Brown
Ruth Hopler
Deanna McClain
Alicia Thompson
Caytlyn Veletean
Luke Warner

ADRIENNE M. PETERSEN STAPANIAN SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FOR PEDIATRIC NURSING
Olivia Chandler

DELORES STREET – OHIO CONTRACTORS SCHOLARSHIP
Abigail Bentley

RUTH ANN THOMAS AND PAUL MURPHY SCHOLARSHIP
Jennifer Mason

HOPE TICKLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Adreanna Swindells

MONICA AND STEPHEN WALTER SCHOLARSHIP
Sira Bah
Justin Barnhart
Megan Bash
Caitlin Remick
Johnie Saas

JOSEPHINE WALTERS CARESTAR SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Rachael Griffin
Brenna McCombs

TAMMY WEIDNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Elizabeth Pierce
Adreanna Swindells

MARY SUSAN WHEAT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Alexandra Duncan
Renee Miller
Gabriela Rodriguez
Sumitra Timsina
Chloe Troyer

DR. ROBERT WHETSTONE SCHOLARSHIP
Aimee Foltz
Jalee Helmuth

FRANK AND LILLIAN WILL SCHOLARSHIP
Alexis Albanese
Walaa Hussein
Ayan Ali
Mikaela June
Lucky Alidhuxu
Esther Kissi
Suban Alif
A’Nah Levels-Henderson
Claire Anthony
Jennifer Mason
Sira Bah
Brenna McCombs
Tenae’ Barnes
Amber Montana
Justin Barnhart
Samuel Palmieri
Leah Boyce
Devin Power
Isaac Brown
Danna Paola Rendon
Taylor Cochran
Nicole DeVaul
Alexandria Strait
Caitlin Foley
Ranijta Subedi
Tyer-Michael France
Kennedy Wilson
Kaylin Hintz
Vaughn Hoff

REGINA SALLEE WILLIAMS AND ROBERT M. WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
Sira Bah

RACHEL ZOOK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Taylor Cochran

MARTHA DILLON ZUNICH, RN, JD, AND THE GRIM FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
Lauren Lewis

MCCN Board Members Beth Kowlaski and Devray Kirkland with MCCN Board of Trustees Scholarship recipients
Mount Carmel alumna Jeri Milstead ’57, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, ANA Hall of Fame, is a legend in nursing and health care public policy. To George Biddle ’13, BSN, RN, she is grandma. Although separated by a generation, they are both grounded in the educations they received – decades apart – at Mount Carmel.

Dr. Milstead, a Distinguished Alumna who served on the MCCN Board of Trustees for nine years, earned her nursing diploma from the School of Nursing in 1957. She went on to earn her BS and MS in nursing from The Ohio State University. Her doctorate in political science from the University of Georgia was completed while she taught at Clemson University.

Biddle earned his bachelor’s degree in communications and business from Eastern Michigan University and his BSN through the Second Degree Accelerated Program (SDAP) at MCCN. While each took different paths, they are both clearly devoted to nursing.

A star baseball pitcher at Newark Catholic High School, Biddle played at Eastern Michigan and then went pro for two years with the Kansas City Royals organization. He entered the SDAP program at age 26 and, after completing the 13-month, intensive course of study, began his career as an ER nurse at Mount Carmel West.

Biddle’s focus on a health care profession began in a rather unconventional way. He was fascinated by the television program House, and all of the technical language and procedures it depicted. “I used to watch episodes non-stop,” he said.

Nursing does seem to run in the family, though, so his entrance into the profession may have been inevitable. His grandmother and his sister are nurses. Of course, when it was time to identify a program, he discussed it with Milstead. Her experience at Mount Carmel and familiarity with the SDAP led her to recommend it to her grandson. “He lived here, with me, while he was in the SDAP program,” said Milstead. “But I hardly saw him. He would come out for dinner, then head right back to studying after that.”

“It’s an intense program, not something I think I would have been ready for right out of high school,” said Biddle. “Some of the best parts of the program were how accessible the faculty were, the instruction and testing were very good, and it has a really high pass rate.”

Biddle’s father passed away suddenly while he was a student at MCCN. He went to class the next day. “Not everyone would do that, but I felt like I should be there, rather than at home, simply grieving,” he said. He recounted that tough day and the tears shed in class, but pushed through to continue in the program, a testament to his resilience, no doubt built through the ups and downs of high school, college, and professional sports, which likely taught him to fight through adversity. His dad, who also was his long-time coach, would have been proud of his son’s perseverance.
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After graduation, and his initial work at Mount Carmel West, Biddle headed to Ohio State’s Wexner Medical Center, first in the PCU, then to the ER, his first-choice practice location. The pandemic saw him volunteer to do COVID-19 testing in Ohio’s prisons. “We tested 1,200 people on the first day and 1,800 on the next day,” he said. “What we found out was that these prisons, one in Marion, Ohio, was the most active COVID hot spots in the country, with an 80% or so positivity rate among inmates.”

“He will volunteer for any opportunity,” said Milstead. “Taking full advantage of what might come your way is a good way to approach a nursing career.” She certainly took that tact, teaching and leading at Clemson University, Duquesne University, and as Dean, University of Toledo College of Nursing. She retired from Toledo in 2008, and remains interested and active in health care public policy as it pertains to nursing.

Milstead recently noticed arts and humanities were not required content in nursing education in Ohio. “I wrote the Board of Nursing a letter sharing why we still need to include those subjects in nursing education. It’s really what sets us apart from medicine and pharmacy. We just can’t do without ethics, social justice and other related subject matter that is learned through the arts and humanities, not the sciences,” she said.

“That’s a good lesson for today’s nursing students, too,” said Milstead. “Don’t forget the humanity of nursing. There is so much more technology in today’s nursing. Never forget that there’s a patient under all that who needs a human touch.”

Biddle added, “Education is important, so you have to keep working to stay on top of things. Things can get routine for you, but don’t take shortcuts. And developing the ability to handle whatever comes up is key. Remember, patients are someone’s mom, brother, or friend. I would love to see more guys in nursing because I think they bring a unique perspective to the health care setting.”
**Niche Ranks MCCN Best Value College**

Mount Carmel College of Nursing was rated as the 2023 best value college by Niche, a site that uses public data and 140 million user reviews to produce rankings and report cards on every school and college in the U.S.

The ranking is based on U.S. Department of Education data on net price, alumni earnings, graduation rates and student debt.

MCCN took the No. 1 spot because after a net price of $14,454 per year, median earnings for students six years after graduation were $57,700 per year.

The college has an 80% graduation rate and 98% of alumni are employed two years after graduation.  
*As published in Columbus Business First, Aug. 29, 2022*

**MCCN DNP Named One of the Top U.S. Programs**

MCCN’s Doctor of Nursing Practice Program (DNP) has been named one of the top DNP programs in the United States by registerednursing.org.

The DNP program also includes a new Direct Admit Pathway that provides qualifying MCCN students and alumni with an early assurance of admission into the intended program of study.

To learn more about MCCN’s DNP program, visit www.mccn.edu/DNP.

**MCCN Earns Spot in AACN Pilot Program**

MCCN was named one of ten undergraduate nursing programs to serve as a pilot school for American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s (AACN) new essentials program. This initiative was launched to prepare baccalaureate nursing program graduates with learning experiences that foster resilience, self-care, and well-being, as well as new leadership skills, to meet competency expectations outlined in the 2021 AACN Essentials.

As a pilot institution, MCCN will be on the front lines of innovation and standard setting for nursing education. The new standards call for preparing nurses with specific competencies related to leadership development, professionalism, emotional intelligence, and developing wellness and resilience for themselves and others.
MCAA Annual Meeting and Homecoming

Save the date

Next year’s Homecoming Celebration will be held on September 30, 2023, at the Grand Event Center, once again in Grandview.

Homecoming celebrated in person for the first time in three years

The MCAA Homecoming Celebration was held on September 24, 2022, at the Grand Event Center in Grandview. Student volunteers and Alumni Board members were on hand to greet the 72 alumni who attended. Alumni were able to bid on silent auction items that were donated by various organizations, businesses, alumni and their families. There was a 50/50 cash raffle and a Nurse’s Quilt raffle.

MCAA President Pat Skunda, MS, RN, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and asking Debbie Longstreth Michael, RN, to lead the prayer before dinner. During the meal, Pat gave an update on the Alumni Association and the College. A tribute video about former President and Dean of the College of Nursing, Dr. Ann Schiele, who passed away earlier this year, was shared with attendees.

After dinner, recognition of all the Honor Classes - with a little trivia about what was happening in the world when they graduated - was enjoyed by all.

Prior to closing, the 50/50 cash raffle winner, Jessica Conley ’94, was announced, as well as quilt raffle winner, Theresa Heitzenrater ’72. The quilt was created and donated by Barb Wiswell, sister of Pat Skunda. All silent auction items were awarded to the winning bidders. All proceeds from the cash and quilt raffle and silent auction items are donated to the MCAA Scholarship fund.

“Two of my classmates attended for the first time. It was so good to see Mary Savey and Brenda Long. I know both have been through some personal issues but appear to have come through as the strong women that their faith has made them. Many of our class members have been through their own health problems and deaths of spouses and family members. We all appear stronger for it.”

Dottie Ballard, RN

L-R: Brenda Long Gordon, Jane Vannicelli, Marilyn Furnas Lang, Pat Steele Skunda, Mary Jo Moon Stidham, Dottie Blosser Ballard, Peg Eyestone, Joy Prehm DeFranko

L-R: Ann Shafer Skinner, Jill Michner Tusing, Joy Prehm DeFranco, Bernadette Rapp Coates, Jane Vannicelli Fox
“The Banquet was awesome! We enjoyed the auction that was a huge success largely due to the work and organization by Pat Skunda and her sister. Many of us attending also loved meeting the volunteer students who were truly engaging and respectful to our varied stores to which they graciously listened!”

Maryland Montevideo

Class of 1957: Front Row L-R: Jeri Boylan Milstead, Barb Litzinger Rawn  
Back Row: L-R: Rita Devlin O’Brien, Martha Schorr, Virginia Lambert Kuhns

Class of 1967: L-R: Debbie Longstreth Michael, Marilyn Furnas Lang, Maryland Gates Montevideo.

Class of 1967: L-R: Kathryn Curtin Grady, Kathleen Quinn Matteo


Class of 1977: L-R: Regina Kinney Massey, Roberta Lezan Cwynar, Christina Platkowski Cooper, Jill Trego Rill, Sonia Wright Henry
MCCN named one of the best online colleges in Ohio

Intelligent.com, a trusted resource for program rankings and higher education planning, has included MCCN on its list of the Best Online Colleges in Ohio 2023. The research identifies top schools in the state based on tuition costs, the number of credits required to graduate, and the online coursework delivery format.

Intelligent.com implemented a unique methodology that ranks each institution on a scale from 0 to 100 across six categories. The scoring system compares each school according to tuition costs, admission, retention and graduation rates, faculty, and reputation, as well as the student resources provided for online students.

Drs. Cooley and Waterman granted Emeritus status

Two recently retired faculty members – Dr. Shirley Cooley and Dr. Ann Waterman – have been granted Emeritus status by the MCCN Board of Trustees.

“Dr. Cooley’s spirit of advocacy and leadership at the College has supported the College’s commitment to academic excellence in preparation of the next generation of nurses,” said Jami Nininger, DNP, RN, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, and Interim Academic Dean.

“Dr. Waterman’s drive for excellence and commitment to serving students is demonstrated through her work in the Online RN to BSN, Traditional BSN, and Graduate programs,” said Nininger.

Both of these outstanding nurse educators stand as role models and catalysts for excellence in nursing and nursing education. Each has positively impacted numerous individuals through their commitments and effort.
MCCN Microbiology Earns Quality Matters Certification

The MCCN SCIE 125 Microbiology, taught by Professor Joy Voorhees, DVM, earned the first MCCN traditional undergraduate Quality Matters (QM) Certification Mark following a rigorous review process.

The QM Certification Mark is the internationally recognized symbol of online and blended course design quality and represents Dr. Voorhees’s ongoing commitment to creating learning environments that provide learners with a clear pathway to success.

“The Quality Matters Official Review provided the opportunity to reflect on this course and examine it from the learner perspective;” said Dr. Jami Nininger, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Interim Academic Dean, “From accessibility to learner engagement to assessments, the review used internationally-recognized standards and best practices to examine critical course components related to the learner experience and ultimately learner success.”

Dr. Lauren Russo Wins 2022 Justice Award

Congratulations to Lauren Russo, DNP, FNP, assistant professor, for her nomination as a PrimaryOne Health 2022 Justice Award recipient. Dr. Russo was nominated because of her tireless advocacy for her patients for the elimination of health inequities and justice for racial, ethnic and cultural patient populations. Dr. Russo was presented with her award at the 25th Anniversary and Healthcare Justice Award event held on Thursday, Nov. 10, at COSI. Funds from the event support the Healthcare Justice Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships for underrepresented racial, ethnic, and cultural populations entering or advancing in health professions.

Melissa Lowe, MSN, RN, Contributing Author in New Book

MCCN Associate Instructor, Melissa Lowe, MSN, RN, recently contributed to a book titled “The Voices of Black Nurses; our challenges and triumphs during the COVID-19 pandemic.” This book, presented by The Columbus Ohio Chapter of the National Black Nurses Association (CBNA), is a compilation of stories of nurses and students who served, are serving, or plan to serve on the frontline of health care during the pandemic. Proceeds from book sales will go to the CBNA Academic Scholarships.

WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR FACULTY AND STAFF AT MOUNT CARMEL COLLEGE OF NURSING
GREETINGS FROM YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni Vision
The vision of the Mount Carmel Alumni Association is to support Mount Carmel College of Nursing through philanthropic, networking, and mentoring initiatives.

Follow us on Facebook
by visiting www.facebook.com/mcalumniassoc

Send Us Your Email Address
MCCN and the Mount Carmel Alumni Association are sending information via email. Send your email address to alumniaffairs@mccn.edu or visit our website to stay connected.

Has your name changed since graduation?
If so, please don’t forget to notify us so we can amend your educational record and your contact information. Please contact Maggie Miller-Rea, coordinator, Records & Registration, at 614.234.3959 or by email at registrar@mccn.edu.

Alumni Association Dues Payment Instructions
We have two ways to pay your 2023 membership dues: You may mail us a check in the enclosed envelope or, if you prefer the convenience of a credit card, simply use your mobile phone camera to scan the appropriate Square (QR code) below and follow instructions there.

Annual Membership plus fee
$41.50 total

Lifetime Membership plus fee
$257.75 total
Get Involved!

dates

Please stay in touch with the Alumni Affairs office about any changes in your contact information as soon as you can so you don’t miss any news! Also, please let us know your career path since graduation so we can include it in an upcoming issue of *the Lamp* or our online newsletter AlumNews.

**Note Our NEW email address!**

alumniaffairs@mccn.edu

Your College Email Address

Please note: All College email addresses will now be deactivated six months after a student graduates.

Mount Carmel Alumni Association Board

**President:** Pat Skunda ’72, ’10, ’14, MS, RN
**Vice President:** Open
**Secretary:** Jami Nininger ’87, DNP, RN
**Treasurer:** Suzanne Martin ’66, JD, RN
**Members-at-Large:**
- Jody Gill Rocha ’08, ’10, MS, RN
- Angela Snider ’10, ’14, MS, RN, APRN-BC
- Freida Gill ’91, ’97, ’09, MS, RN

**Ex-Officio:** Alyssa LaTorre, senior development officer, Mount Carmel Foundation

**UP dates**

The Alumni Association is to support Mount Carmel College of Nursing through philanthropic, networking, mentoring initiatives.

The vision of the Mount Carmel Alumni Association is to keep you connected.

Send Us Your Email Address

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50-year Honor Class (1972)

**Dottie Blosser Ballard** currently lives in Westerville. She has two children, Judd and Ashley, and two grandchildren, Cole and Klein. "I worked 45 years in outpatient surgery in the OhioHealth system, first as an OR staff nurse and eventually in management. I currently work at COPC Endocrinologists office and trying to retire for the fifth time. I enjoy attending my grandsons' ball games and volunteering for a local dog rescue organization," she writes.

**Sandy Fryer Black** started working at Mount Carmel after graduation and married Kenny Black in March 1973. She then worked at Fayette Memorial Hospital for several years before moving to Colorado and then moving to Kansas in 2021. She has two daughters and one son, as well as two granddaughters and four grandsons. After working in various departments, including home care, emergency care and obstetrics, she retired as a chemo nurse. She writes, "I am enjoying my retirement as the ‘farmer’s wife.’ We are busy raising wheat, soybeans and hay. We have 426 acres around Russell, Kansas. I have always enjoyed being a nurse...it was who I am and who I was supposed to be. I owe lots to my education from the Mount!"

**Bernadette Rapp Coats** retired from Hardin Memorial Hospital in Kenton, Ohio, after 40 years. While there, she worked in the ER, home health, and diabetes education. She and her husband, Stewart, have been married from 26 years and have three sons, six granddaughters and three grandsons. She enjoys cooking, baking, gardening, walking, reading, and needlework.

**Peggy Eyestone** retired in 2015 after 43 years of hard labor in the OR- most of those years in cardiac surgery. She feels fortunate to have worked at two excellent heart programs - Mount Carmel and the Mission Hospital in Asheville, North Carolina, where she lived for 28 years. She writes, "I like being retired and being able to do what I want. I have enjoyed traveling, mostly in the U.S. and some abroad. I've been to Spain with a Mount Carmel classmate. In Asheville, I enjoyed flower-gardening. After retiring, I attended "senior school" at the Oscher Life-Long Learning Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill, learning about non-nursing topics with no homework. I am now back in Ohio and a Buckeye again instead of a Tar Heel. I listen to audio books due to vision loss from AMD and I am a dedicated basketball fan (Duke and OSU) and March Madness."

**Saundra Beatty Gentry** worked for several years in a surgical unit after graduation. For the next 21 years, she worked for the American Red Cross as a staff nurse, head nurse, assistant...
director of nursing and director of nursing. She took 10 years off from nursing to be with her daughter and was a substitute teacher for Westerville City Schools. She writes, "I went back to nursing and worked 10 years in a urology office. The last five years of my career I did urodynamics for them and loved it. I have been married for 50 years to Jim and have a son and daughter with two granddaughters. Jim and I are both retired now and enjoy traveling and reading on a beach."

Donna Holtzapfel currently lives in Johnston, Ohio, and is retired, after working for 46 years as a Family Nurse Practitioner. "I attended additional schooling in Cincinnati and lastly at UCLA. I am married with 2 grown children and 3 grandchildren. My current hobbies include flower gardening, and of course fishing and swimming," she writes.

Linda Sipos Huebert worked as an ICU and NICU nurse. She went back to school for a communications degree and then worked as and immunization coordinator for the Erie Health Department, as a health educator for Walter Reed Immunization Health Center, and as a study coordinator/researcher. She is married with one son and one daughter, and has one granddaughter and two grandsons. Linda lives in the Tampa Bay, Florida, area and just returned from an Alaskan vacation. She and her husband travel frequently, play golf, pickleball, biking, and visiting kids in Pittsburgh.

Marilyn Furnas Lang retired in 2011 after working the last several years at the Stephanie Spielman Breast Center in surgical oncology. She and Nick, her husband of 50 years, live in Pickerington Ohio. They spend half of the year in Florida and enjoy lots of golf, traveling, hiking, and spending time with family, especially their three grandchildren.

Judy Krile Stonebarger married her husband Jim after graduation in 1971 and have now been married 51 years. She began working at Lancaster Hospital in a variety of settings until finishing her BSN from Ohio University in 1980. In 1983, Judy began teaching at Mount Carmel. She earned her MS in 1986 from Wright State University. ’I taught junior level med-surg, OB, pediatrics, research and leadership courses. I took over the role of student nurses’ nurse when Sr. Clare Ann retired. We have two daughters, one who also graduated from Mount Carmel. We have four grandchildren. We enjoy our children and grandchildren’ activities. We have enjoyed traveling, gardening and landscaping, and water aerobics” she writes.

Ann Shafer Skinner “After graduation I worked at Galion Hospital (where I met my husband Mike) and Mansfield General where I worked in OB with two former residents from Mount Carmel. I did volunteer work with the Red Cross Blood Mobiles and parenting classes. We moved to Merritt Island, Florida, in 1978 and worked in OB. We moved to Raleigh, North Carolina, in 1984 and, after six years working in a hospital, switched to pediatrics office nursing in lactation consultation,” she writes. In addition, Ann worked with several volunteer agencies (HIV/AIDS, mom’s support groups and retired in 2013, although she continues to volunteer. Her hobbies are church choir, traveling, lots of exercise, swimming, reading and book clubs, cooking, bird, and nature watching, and social times with friends. Her travels have included the Pacific Northwest and western states, the Canadian Rockies, Italy, Argentina, and Iceland.

Pat Steele Skunda worked at Mount Carmel West after graduation for 45 years. She worked on the step-down unit as a staff nurse and Unit Director. Her last 25 years, she served as a night shift supervisor. She writes, "I went back to MCCN in 2007 and completed my RN-BSN in 2010 and a MS in Nursing Education in 2014. I married Mike Skunda in 1977 and we were married almost 45 years until he passed away in 2021. We have two sons and three grand dogs. I have been on the Mount Carmel Alumni Association Board for 11 years. I enjoy reading, pool time, walking, euchre, and visiting friends and traveling. Hope to visit my last three U.S. states soon. Now working on visiting national parks!"

Mary Jo Moon Stidham started working at Springfield Mercy Hospital after graduation, working in the ER, Level 2 Trauma Unit. She also worked at the Madison Correctional Institution as a staff nurse. Met Marty Stidham in 1977 and married in 1979, until he passed away in 2020. Mary Jo and Marty had two children, Kacie (deceased) and Douglas Martin and have two grandchildren – Kinley and John.

She writes, "I retired from nursing in 2013 and moved to Plymouth, Indiana. My best job ever is caring for my grandchildren. My life is blessed with family, friends, and travel. I am the best nurse due to my training and education at Mount Carmel and have treasured memories of those years.”

Fran Repasky Tucker began her nursing career in pediatrics which included hospitals, Head Start Program, public health, well child clinic, and developmental disabilities. She concluded her career as a Medicare/Medicaid surveyor for the State of Ohio. She married Kevin Tucker in April 1974, and they have two sons, one daughter, and three grandsons. She spends as much time babysitting as possible and likes to read, sew, and do cross stitch.

Jill Michener Tusing, lives in Rosemont, Minnesota. She worked as an ICU nurse at Mount Carmel, from 1972 – 1975, then moved to St Louis, Missouri, and work in the ICU at St. Joseph’s Hospital until 1976. She then moved to Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota and worked within University of Minnesota Fairview Hospital System. 1977-1997, med/surg units. 1997, transferred to Nursing and Organizational Staff Development Departments
which involved staff growth, regulatory requirements and survey teams. She retired from nursing in 2016.

Mary Savey Thompson has been married to Tom for 49 years and have five children (four daughters and one son) and eight grandchildren. She and her family have lived in various locations throughout the U.S. and Europe. I worked in a variety of nursing jobs that included pediatrics, med/surg, OB-GYN, postpartum, oncology, preemie nursery, and a smattering of other units when working on-call. She writes, “I pretty much retired from nursing and spent the next 29 years home schooling our children - a busy time but definitely worth the investment. Currently I work with Tom who is in his third year as a biblical counselor. I have been teaching English for about more than five years to a sweet group of native Spanish-speaking women from El Salvador.”

Debbie Hoehn Warniment worked for many years in med-surg after graduation and then spent years in maternal-newborn care as a team leader. “I retired almost six years ago and have never looked back. Ed and I will have been married for 50 years in January, 2023. Our two children - one boy and one girl - live in Washington. We enjoy visiting them. My biggest hobby since retirement is geocaching. Was reluctant to start it but now love it, the new friends we’ve made, the places it’s taken us that I never knew existed. All the awesome hiking and challenges of the hunt. I also do some quilting, love a good wine, and traveling. I will always have wonderful memories of Mount Carmel and my classmates. We were a great group of ladies in our prime,” she writes.

Other Class Notes:

Elizabeth “Libby” Jahahn Stripling (’66) was widowed in August, 2022. She lives in Colleyville, Texas.

Kathleen Quinn Matto (’67) lives in Galena, Ohio, is married and has two sons. Her first job after graduation was at Mount Carmel West on Hamilton Hall (an 8th floor surgical unit). She is now retired. She also worked at Riverside Methodist Hospital and her son’s pediatrician’s office, simultaneously, for 15 years. She writes, “This allowed me to enjoy mothering our two boys as well as keep up with trends in hospital nursing. Now that I am retired, I have enjoyed serving as “nurse” for Catholic Young Adult conferences and our parish’s summer festival. My Mount Carmel education has served me well.” She and her husband enjoy traveling and have visited 50 states. They are members of the Highpointers Club, visiting the highest points of many states in the US (16 for her and 44 for her husband).

Andrea Ratermann Maisberger (’12) lives in Jacksonville, Florida. She earned her CRNA in 2016 from University of North Florida in Jacksonville.
IN MEMORIAM

Mount Carmel College of Nursing and its alumni honor the following graduates who have passed away and extend our sympathy to their family and friends.

Irma Competti Biancamano — Class of 1942, sister of Norma Competti Gurkalis, Class of 1949
Mary Page Day — Class of 1944
Barbara Comerford Kramer — Class of 1947
Phyllis Swoverland Dillon — Class of 1948
Constance Paul Arnold — Class of 1958
Janet Young Donahue — Class of 1959
Robert Charlton Dickover — Class of 1962
Patricia Ann Brown Gates — Class of 1963
Laurel Ann Dubois — Class of 1985

We also acknowledge the loss and honor the memory of those whose lives have touched the Mount Carmel family.

Husband of Virginia “Ginny” Eaton Applegate ’63
Ann E. Schiele

Tell us what you’re up to!

NAME ____________________________________________
ADDRESS __________________________________________
TELEPHONE (____) _________________________________
E-MAIL ____________________________________________
GRAD YEAR ________________________________________
WHAT’S NEW WITH YOU? NEW BABY? NEW JOB OR PROMOTION?
EARN ANOTHER DEGREE? ______________________________

SEND TO: Alumni Affairs Office
Mount Carmel College of Nursing
127 South Davis Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43222
alumniaffairs@mccn.edu

***Are you firmly planted in the digital age? Then fill out our online form to let us know what’s new with you. Log on to the college website at www.mccn.edu and click on Alumni.
Send your email and postal address updates to the Office of Alumni Affairs (contact information on page 7). Your personal information will be used for Mount Carmel College of Nursing business only.

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