As you know, 2014 is a year of transition for me. As I ponder the meaning of transition, I find that Mr. Webster says it's the process of changing from one condition to another – or an alteration.

Friends, transition describes my entire life – especially in the context of alteration. I think of my career as a whole cloth that I've altered many times: As a team, we have collaborated on – and been a catalyst for – many positive and rewarding changes over the decades.

As I look back on my varied experiences and the strong, powerful women and men I've met along the way – students, Sisters of the Holy Cross, faculty and staff, community members, health system leaders – I liken them to colorful strands woven into the tapestry that is my life at Mount Carmel. Some, like my dear mentor Eleanor Wilson, MSN, RN, stand out as tendrils of gold – shining reminders of how far I've come; others are rich with pigment, reminding me of all the fun – and sheer joy – I've experienced along the way. But all are integral to the weave that defines the pattern of my journey – I cherish them all. And, as I prepare to relinquish leadership of the College into the capable hands of Dr. Christine Wynd, I think about what's next for me.

One of the threads that runs through my life is my desire to see nurses practicing at ever higher levels. Another is my interest in working with people who need access to healthcare. An opportunity to twine these together exists in the Nursing Center for Family Health, a partnership of MCCN and Lower Lights Christian Health Center, where MCCN graduate students, who train as advanced practice nurses, will soon be joined by those entering our new DNP program. I want to help this endeavor make a difference in this community by working with Lower Lights and Mount Carmel to broaden the ability to offer better access to healthcare for the uninsured.

But, as for me – I am just a tiny stitch in the multihued, sturdy fabric of compassion and excellence that are interwoven throughout MCCN. I'm excited to see the wonderful changes that will take place in the future of the College and I'm excited to turn my personal focus to what's next.
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With more than half a century of nursing experience at Mount Carmel—the last 42 in a leadership role in nursing education—Ann Schiele surely holds the record for length and loyalty of service, which is matched by an equally impressive record in innovation and achievement. Ann's commitment to Mount Carmel spans the breadth of the institution—from School to College—not only inspiring and implementing the transformative growth of programs and facilities over the years—but also setting the pace for others in advancing excellence in nursing education.

As a young staff nurse in the early 1960s, Ann quietly walked the night-dimmed corridors of then Mount Carmel Hospital, attending to the needs of patients and feeling a deep, personal satisfaction with the profession she had chosen. Ann demonstrated professionalism beyond her years, exercising her ability to inspire and lead others. Ann came by that ability naturally, inspired by her upbringing in small-town Sherwood, Ohio, which she describes. "My parents had a tremendous influence on my decision to care for others. They owned and operated the only funeral home and provided the area's only ambulance service. Ann recalls, "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 unusual for her to serve lunch to homeless men passing through on the railroad, or to be called to help nearby migrant workers who needed healthcare or help delivering a baby. My father, of course, provided transport to the nearest hospital."

There is no hiding it—Dr. Ann Schiele's enthusiasm for nursing and for Mount Carmel's excellence in nursing education is apparent to all. Like a heart that symbolizes love, Ann wears MCCN on her sleeve. And, her July 2014 transition from President/Dean to President/Dean Emeritus will not change Ann's commitment. "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."
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**The Inspirational Years**

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“My parents’ generosity and kind works confirmed that nursing was the right path for me, and I’ve never looked back. The nursing profession is an exciting one, rich with unlimited career opportunities, and I’ve been blessed with amazing experiences.”
After earning a diploma in nursing from St. Vincent’s in Toledo, Ann made a move that was very much in keeping with the personal drive and enthusiasm for learning that she exhibits today as a leader – not only at Mount Carmel – but also in the community and the nursing profession. The pursued education beyond what was required at the time for a career in nursing, earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from The Ohio State University. It was through one of her classes that she was introduced to Mount Carmel, where she became a staff nurse in 1961. In just four years, she found her passion in nursing education as an instructor at then Mount Carmel School of Nursing.

Ann continued her lifelong learning at The Ohio State University, going on to earn a Master of Science in Nursing and a PhD in Higher Education.

While associate director, Ann was a driving force in the School’s endeavor to reach a higher level – becoming an accredited college. The proposal to transform the School of Nursing’s widely acclaimed three-year diploma program into a college, offering the same excellence and caring in nursing education – arose in the mid-1980s and was approved by the end of the decade. The idea received strong support from the Sisters of the Holy Cross and from Sister Gladys Marie, who was then CEO of Mount Carmel Health System.

As part of the administration, Ann was a member, along with Eleanor, of the visionary team to transition the School of Nursing (a diploma program founded in 1903 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross) into Mount Carmel College of Nursing (MCCN) in 1999. This transition was a challenging one – from a three-year nursing diploma program to a four-year college, offering a baccalaureate degree in Nursing. Ann credits the support of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the Mount Carmel Health System as significant to the success of the transition.

"Even with such support, the decision process was given a great deal of time and thought; due to our sensitivity and loyalty to our alumni who were graduates of the diploma program." — Ann Schiele

The School of Nursing Years

Teaching soon led Ann to nursing education administration. In 1972, she was invited to become associate director of then Mount Carmel School of Nursing, working alongside her beloved mentor, Eleanor Wilson, MSN, RN, the School’s director. Ann credits Eleanor, who was known for her own special caring manner with patients, families and students, with helping her to grow into the professional she is today.

"Because it was uncommon then for someone to have a bachelor’s degree in nursing, Eleanor saw me as a good candidate for associate director. I will forever be grateful for her vision."
of the Holy Cross and the Mount Carmel Health System. Ann credits the support of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and from Sister Gladys Marie, who was then the School’s director, to a four-year college, offering a baccalaureate program to a diploma program founded in 1903 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the Mount Carmel Health System. The proposal to transform the School of Nursing (a diploma program founded in 1903 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross) into Mount Carmel College of Nursing, a position she has held with honor, humility and dignity for 24 years – earning her the distinction of longest-serving president of any college or university in Ohio.

On March 15, 1990, the Ohio Board of Regents granted authorization for the School to transform to Mount Carmel College of Nursing. Ann’s beloved mentor enjoyed the good news for only one month before passing away – following a lengthy and courageous struggle with leukemia. Ann then found herself solely responsible for both the completion of the diploma program and the introduction of the BSN program. Later that year, she was appointed President/Dean of the new Mount Carmel College of Nursing, a position she has held with honor, humility and dignity for 24 years – earning her the distinction of longest-serving president of any college or university in Ohio.

“...I really consider Mount Carmel to be more like family than work. I’ve experienced so much joy in watching the School of Nursing grow into the College of Nursing, it is today.” – Ann Schiele

Of course, everyone knows that Ann did much more than watch as accomplishments and recognitions accumulated for the College. Her visionary leadership in transitioning the School to the College was just the beginning. With her can-do spirit and gifts for collaboration and team building, Ann has long been known for taking on challenges and reaching goals. An exceptional motivator, she empowers her faculty and staff to become their best, to advance their education and the College, and to pay it forward. She encourages them – and students – to embrace lifelong learning to meet personal and professional goals. Her focus of “find a mentor, be a mentor” resonates throughout the College. With energy, genuine caring and her famous sense of humor, Ann facilitates teamwork that leads to continued excellence for individuals and MCCN.
She dug right in. In 1991, with the leadership of Kathy Espy, she oversaw establishment of the Learning Trail program to enhance the college experience of a culturally diverse student body. Five years later, she and the faculty initiated the highly innovative RN-BSN Completion Program, enabling hundreds of professional nurses to further their knowledge and credentials through education.

Ann also is credited with assembling a highly qualified MCCN Board of Trustees to help advance the College. Comprised of key community leaders, and Sisters of the Holy Cross, it provides oversight for the College, as well as a springboard for helping launch these new programs and other endeavors.

"Our Board of Trustees has been stalwart and true in their encouragement and support – the advancements of the College are not my achievements alone, but are shared by the Board, faculty and staff, Mount Carmel Health System and, of course, the Sisters of the Holy Cross."

–Ann Scheele

A Decade of Growth

In the most recent years, Ann has been a champion for not only continuing to advance academics, but also for improving and expanding the campus.

A proponent of evidence-based practice in nursing education, Ann’s philosophy is center stage in creating new degree programs and other initiatives to advance student and faculty achievement.

In 2003 – the same year MCCN celebrated 100 years of excellence in nursing education – Ann led a team that developed a highly successful Graduate Program, now offering five tracks leading to Master of Science, nursing.

In 2007, she brought about the innovative, highly competitive, 13-month Second Degree Accelerated Program as one of four undergraduate program tracks leading to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. And, in 2011, the Online RN-BSN Completion Program that also includes an innovative relationship with parent company, CHI Trinity Health, and Loyola University Chicago/Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, occurred on Ann’s watch.

Also in our centennial year, construction began on the state-of-the-art Center for Learning and Education, which opened one year later in 2004, also housing the Health Sciences Library. In honor of our milestone birthday, a highly respected artist, Eric Grohe, beautified our entrance wall with a lovely mural.

In 2007, Ann cut the ribbon to open our new student residence complex, Angela Hall and Holy Cross Hall, to accommodate 144 students. The on-campus apartment-style residence halls add greatly to our student recruitment and retention abilities.

In 2012, Ann was a central figure on the collaborative team that established the 11,000-square-foot Mount Carmel Clinical Skills and Simulation Center (CSSC), a joint initiative of the College, Mount Carmel Medical Education and the Mount Carmel Medical Staff. This state-of-the-art, $1.1 million evidence-based instruction facility benefits nursing students, medical residents, nurses, physicians, EMS personnel and healthcare associates from the community, as well as meets the healthcare needs of patients and communities.
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In 2011, in collaboration with Mount Carmel Health Sciences Library, the Consumer Health Library was opened on campus. Emphasizing understanding and treatment of disease as well as prevention, health and wellness, the free, comprehensive medical library is open to all members of the community as a "source of truth," providing access to information through books and periodicals, as well as the Internet.

Through these last dozen years, Ann has created partnerships with other colleges and universities – Wilmington College, Ohio Dominican University, Lake Erie College and the University of Findlay among them – to bring nursing education to their students. And, in 2015, it is anticipated that – following months of meticulous planning – the College’s first Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program will become a reality, allowing high-performing nurses to reach the educational pinnacle of nursing practice and enabling nurse educators to teach at the highest level of academia.

The Legacy Years

Ann’s list of accomplishments and accolades – from peers, faculty, students and alumni, as well as the community – is long and glowing. In 2000, she was named YWCA Woman of Achievement, in 2006 she received the Mount Carmel Foundation Heritage Award, in 2008 Ohio Dominican University bestowed an Honorary Doctorate upon her, in 2013 she received the OSU Legenda in Nursing Award and in 2014 she was recognized by Columbus CEO magazine Healthcare Achievement Awards with the Lifetime Achievement Award.
Ann’s passion for the education of outstanding nurses has a positive impact on thousands of people: the graduates of Mount Carmel – men and women who are realizing their dreams of careers in nursing. MCCN faculty members, collaborators, communities served by Mount Carmel’s excellent alumni, and patients and their family members who receive the best in compassionate nursing care because of Ann’s dedication and vision.

Ann always recognizes and shares credit with her team, her faculty, and her collaborators, frequently expressing appreciation for everyone who supports Mount Carmel’s excellence in nursing education, beginning with the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the Mount Carmel Health System.

“I don’t think I have a legacy! All the people in the college collectively, we’ve all taken the best things from each other. I think the legacy of the college a hundred years from now will be that it cares about its students.” – Ann Schiele, as quoted in Columbus CEO

In transitioning to Emeritus status, Ann will continue to serve the College and the community in many ways. In addition, she looks forward to enjoying more time with her husband, the College and the community in many ways. In addition, she looks forward to enjoying more time with her husband, David Schiele, at their home in Westerville, where frequent visitors include their three children and their spouses, and of course their five beautiful grandchildren.

Ann’s legacy is rich, particularly her vision recognizing the importance of preparing students to be outstanding professional, credentialed nurses to meet the needs of our community and beyond.

Her legacy of giving, teaching, serving and building will continue to benefit many, through The Ann E. Schiele Presidential Endowment Fund, recently established.

Congratulations on the next step in your journey, Ann!
Dr. Schiele’s Successor Named

Following an extensive national search, the Mount Carmel College of Nursing Board of Trustees, together with the Mount Carmel Health System, has named Christine Wynd, PhD, RN, the College’s new President/Dean, effective July 2014. Most recently, Dr. Wynd served as Dean and Strawbridge Professor, Breen School of Nursing at Ursuline College in Pepper Pike, Ohio. We invite you to learn more about Dr. Wynd in the Fall issue of the LAMP.

Record-Breaking Year

In 2013 MCCN enjoyed another record-setting year for excellence in nursing education! From our very first graduating class in 1906, which had a total enrollment of 13 students to 2013, with 3,121 total students, we have come a long way in 130 years! Here’s how the numbers break down: Freshmen = 176; Sophomores = 154; Juniors = 171; Seniors = 171; SDAP = 64; and RN-BSN = 211. Of these undergraduate students, 84 attend our satellite campus at Fairfield Medical Center (MCCN-FMC) in Lancaster Ohio. Our Graduate Program continues strong with 274 enrolled. Both the number of male students (an all-time high at 106) and the Online RN-BSN Completion program are at record-breaking numbers, as well.

New Online! Nursing Education Master

To meet the demands of nurses who are busy with work and family, but also want to advance in the profession, our Master of Science Nursing Education track is now available in an online format, in addition to traditional face-to-face classes. The new Online Nursing Education, which begins this Fall, prepares nurses to enter the academic classroom as faculty, ready to educate the next generation of nurses, or to take on staff development responsibilities in a healthcare setting. Graduates of this track will have met the academic criteria of the eligibility requirements for the National League of Nursing’s Certified Nurse Educator™ examination.

Planning for the Future

In anticipation of offering a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program, MCCN appointed Penny Mazalik, PhD, CNM, IBCLC, as director. Dr. Mazalik, who has been teaching at MCCN more than three years, is currently exploring development and accreditation requirements. Her expertise as a certified nurse midwife and nursing educator provides an outstanding foundation for this position. She previously was on faculty at Loyola University-Chicago during the development of its DNP program. Updates to come.
In recognition of her unparalleled commitment and dedication to the field of nursing education, as well as her many accomplishments, the Mount Carmel College of Nursing (MCCN) Board of Trustees has established The Ann E. Schiele Presidential Endowment Fund.

“This Endowment honors Dr. Schiele’s incredible vision, as well as the extremely positive impact she has had on the College, on students and faculty members. It also recognizes her impact on other educators, her colleagues, and patients and donors, as well as in our community, including business and government leaders and our neighbors in Franklinton and beyond,” said Jan Burkey, director of Development, MCCN who will oversee the $1 million campaign.

The Endowment Fund will focus on five key areas that represent Dr. Schiele’s philosophical legacy of student success, educational excellence and partnerships:

- **Student Scholarships** – for MCCN students demonstrating leadership skills, high academic abilities and financial need, the Fund will help them achieve their goals of serving others through careers in nursing. Scholarships will be offered at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Honor Scholarships will be offered for quality improvement projects to students demonstrating leadership skills, high academic ability and financial need.

  - **Academics and Research** – to ensure our faculty continues at a very high level of quality, funds will be used to recruit top-tiered faculty; establish and fund endowed faculty professorships and chairs will help recruit and retain the highest-quality faculty, enhance student educational opportunities within the field of nursing, and advances in their fields.

  - **System, and CHE Trinity Health; creating and supporting new research ideas and programs, introduced new technologies and enhanced the quality of existing programs through research, innovation and program development, and to provide the ongoing enrichment of our faculty and staff, she developed new faculty and chairs; advance instruction programs; develop new research ideas and faculty.

  - **Community** – the Endowment offers a pathway to greater community impact by providing expertise, resources, and funding to cultivate educational, community and clinical partnerships to meet the greater needs of healthcare.

  - **Collaboration** – with each of our 14 hospitals and the Mount Carmel Foundation; to meet the greater needs of healthcare.

  - **Emphasizing** – the value of connectedness, she re-energized families around the world.

  - **Empowering** – her faculty and staff, she developed new skills – gained at MCCN as they care for patients and the skills – gained at MCCN as they care for patients and families around the world.

  - **Presidential Endowment Fund** – for MCCN students demonstrating leadership skills, high academic abilities and financial need, the Fund will help them achieve their goals of serving others through careers in nursing. Scholarships will be offered at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Honor Scholarships will be offered for quality improvement projects to students demonstrating leadership skills, high academic ability and financial need.

  - **Campus Multi-Year Foundation Campaign** – for MCCN students demonstrating leadership skills, high academic abilities and financial need, the Fund will help them achieve their goals of serving others through careers in nursing. Scholarships will be offered at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Honor Scholarships will be offered for quality improvement projects to students demonstrating leadership skills, high academic ability and financial need.

To make an outright gift to the Fund, make a pledge, or gifts to the Endowment.

Donors may use the attached envelope or visit https://donate.mccn.edu/donatenow to make a contribution online. To discuss Planned Giving opportunities, donors are invited to contact Jan Burkey, director of Development, MCCN, at 127 S. Davis Ave., Columbus, OH 43222.

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Faculty – endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed endowed 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Q: What drew you to a career in philanthropy?
Jan: I love meeting people and getting to know them whether they turn out to be donors or not – when you strike a bond or have common interests, it makes them feel good and I feel good. What better profession to be in: building relationships and helping people help others. Fundraising is actually fun – I have the opportunity to meet a lot of people (I’ve always been a “people person”) and I’m a good listener and hopefully make others feel comfortable talking to me.

Q: What started your career in fundraising?
Jan: You have to believe in what you’re raising money for. One of my passions is the wonders of nature and preserving habitat for species. I had the opportunity to work for The Nature Conservancy for 11 years and that’s where my appreciation and interest in fundraising developed. As director of marketing and communications, I told the story about preservation and shared it with donors, accompanied them on field trips, helped create special events and campaigns for donors, and witnessed first-hand how donor appreciation made many programs possible.

Q: What drew you to Mount Carmel?
Jan: I was well-acquainted with the excellent care provided at Mount Carmel hospitals, so when my former colleague Florence Gresamar, who served as director of the Mount Carmel Foundation for many years, asked me to join her here in 2002, I was delighted and eager to come.

Q: How did you become the development officer for the College?
Jan: It was Dr. Schiele who identified the need to have a development officer on site – dedicated to the College of Nursing. With the tremendous growth that the College was experiencing, she knew it was imperative to have a full-time person devoted to philanthropy.

Q: What do you love most about what you do?
Jan: Building relationships with donors! Our donors are so generous and it’s my job to help them understand and appreciate the value of nursing and the struggles students face in funding their education. Because every one of us has had – at one point in our own or a loved one’s life – a significant interaction with a nurse, it is a cause that everyone can appreciate and embrace. What I try to do is find the right fit between each donor’s ability to give and their desire to make a difference.

Q: Isn’t it hard to actually ask for money; not everyone can do that!
Jan: Not when donors understand the return on their investment – we turn out amazing nurses at Mount Carmel! My job is to make prospective donors aware of the positive impact their gift can have on another person’s life. Whether it’s a scholarship for an individual student, a new program, or funding for other resources that will directly help educate and recruit many students and faculty, all these ultimately benefit society through better healthcare.
for our communities. Each gift – no matter how large or how small – is like a pebble in a lake, sending concentric circles of benefit in all directions.

Q: Honestly, aren’t the bigger gifts more meaningful?

Jan: Every gift to the College matters – just as every note in a concert performance matters. I can relate it to my background in music. A single note makes a beautiful sound, but when you combine notes to create the melody – and combine other notes to create the harmony – the resulting synergy is what matters. Larger gifts can have a tremendous impact, but it’s the feeling the donor has when making the gift that is the real joy of giving. That’s how fundraising is: by combining the generosity of ALL our donors, together we create a symphony!

Q: What do you see as the impact of The Ann E. Schiele Presidential Endowment Fund – in both the short and the long term?

Jan: The impact will be tremendous. When one thinks about the future of healthcare, we know that nurses will continue to play a powerful role – an increasingly more important role, with more responsibility. This means the demand for highly educated, skilled nurses will significantly increase. This Endowment is a wonderful tribute to Dr. Schiele’s legacy and will ensure excellence in nursing education not only through scholarships, but also through new programs, partnerships and initiatives that – like the pebble in a lake, or the symphony orchestra – will expand and resonate for generations to come.

MY JOB HAS ALWAYS BEEN REWARDING, HOWEVER THE CAMPAIGN THAT IS UNDERWAY NOW – THE ANN E. SCHIELE PRESIDENTIAL ENDOWMENT FUND – IS VERY SPECIAL TO ME.

Q: What has been your biggest challenge – or largest effort – to date?

Jan: Well, I started at Mount Carmel when the campaign for the Center for Learning and Education was underway. Seeing it open and now watching students and faculty using the library resources and classrooms today is very gratifying. Having been a part of the 100th Anniversary of the college in 2003 was a very exciting time, too. My job has always been rewarding, however the campaign that is underway now – The Ann E. Schiele Presidential Endowment Fund – is very special to me. To say Dr. Schiele’s impact at Mount Carmel over the years was “enormous” is an understatement. I’m very excited and honored to lead this initiative to honor Dr. Schiele and share this tribute opportunity with our alumni, friends, donors, and the community at large.

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To make an outright gift to the Fund, make a pledge, or discuss Planned Giving opportunities, donors are invited to contact Jan Burkey at (614) 234-3837, by email at jburkey@mchs.com or by mail at 127 S. Davis Ave., Columbus, OH 43222. Donors may also visit https://donate.nccn.edu/donatenow to make a contribution online.
Dorm life at Mount Carmel College of Nursing isn’t what it used to be. Gone are the days of a kindly, but eagle-eyed, housemother who kept track of who observed curfew and who didn’t.

“Although today’s apartment-style residence halls – Angela Hall and Holy Cross Hall – that opened in 2007 are very different from the dormitories our School of Nursing alumni recall, the need to ensure student safety and well-being is still of paramount concern,” says Colleen Cipriani, MA, director of Student Life.

Through a generous donation from the Mount Carmel Foundation, a new Resident Director Internship has been established. The internship is intended for an adult graduate student who lives on site and is responsible for managing the residence halls on nights and weekends, serving as the “go-to” person for emergencies, student illness and other issues, as well as building community and serving as a resource for resident students.

Colleen, along with Jan Burkey, director of Development, MCCN, co-wrote the grant leading to the new position. Colleen will supervise the individual, who will live in his or her own apartment in the residence halls, may earn credit toward a master’s degree in psychology or counseling and has career aspirations in Student Life or a related university-focused arena.

Community life, which accounts for a big part of our traditional students’ college experience, has been handled by resident advisors – peer students who also live in the residence halls. The new intern will meet weekly with the RAs to hear concerns and plan activities to help build community and a sense of family among the residents.

“We’re very grateful to the Foundation for allowing us to hire our first intern. Having an adult presence for our students on weekends and evenings will not only enhance their sense of security and safety, but will also enrich the student experience for all,” Colleen says.
The growl of saws, boom of hammers and whisper of paintbrushes resounded through the halls, as renovation, replacements and refurbishment keep our physical space looking good. Faculty, students and visitors will all benefit from our hard work:

- Replaced all office and classroom windows in Marian Hall
- Replaced chilled water unit in Marian Hall
- Installed new HVAC units in all Marian Hall offices and in the Eleanor Wilson Room
- Replaced sinks in Marian Hall offices with bookcases
- Renovated elevators in Marian Hall
- Installed new wood flooring in the Center for Learning Excellence (CLE) and Marian Hall elevators and outside of CLE elevators
- Installed new carpet in Lounge, CLE and Marian Hall hallways, and first floor offices
- Installed new drapes on stage in gym
- Installed new window coverings, pictures and lamps in Lounge
- Recovered couches and chairs in Lounge
- Rekeyed all rooms in Marian Hall to create one standard master key
- Installed security cameras in hallways on all floors of Marian Hall, as well as the Rec Room
- Stripped old wallpaper in hallways on second and third floor of Marian Hall and repainted
- Replaced ceilings in hallways on second, third and fourth floor of Marian Hall
- Replaced worn furnishings in administrative offices
were nominated by members of the central Ohio nursing community as those who provided exemplary service to this population and whose actions and lives can be seen as legendary.

Based on a national model developed to recognize outstanding physicians, the Local Nursing Legends program is overseen by the Friends of Nursing History Steering Committee of the Medical Heritage Center (MHC) at The Ohio State University. The MHC was established to collect, promote and preserve the rich health sciences history of central Ohio. The Friends of Nursing History Steering Committee also guides the MHC’s nursing history efforts, including the acquisition of historical materials and the organization of a lecture held annually. The nurses recognized as Local Nursing Legends are valuable part of this nursing history.

**Legends in Nursing**

- **Ann Schiele, PhD, RN**, MCCN President/Dean, was among a dozen individuals honored this year as a “Legend in Nursing” at a ceremony at The Ohio State University Prager Health Sciences Library. Dr. Schiele was recognized for directing the transition of Mount Carmel from a diploma program to a fully accredited, degree-granting College in 1990.

- **Jeri Boylan Milstead** ('57), PhD, RN, was also honored as a 2013 Legend in Nursing. A Mount Carmel alumna, Dr. Milstead is retired Professor and Dean Emerita, University of Toledo College of Nursing, and an internationally known expert in public policy and the politics of healthcare. She currently serves as a member of the MCCN Board of Trustees.

The Local Nursing Legends are chosen for their significant contribution to the nursing profession and the healthcare of people in central Ohio. Pioneers in their field, these nurses

**Katheryn Fernandez, PhD, RN; Catherine Maurer Baack, MS, RN-BC, CNS; Nancy Lang, MSN, RN; Ann Smith, PhD, RN, CRRN, ANP; and Deborah Huff, APRN-BC**, all faculty members, were integral to MCCN’s receiving the 2013 National League of Nursing’s Hearst Foundations in Excellence Geriatric Education Awards.

One of six schools nationwide to receive this award, MCCN was recognized for Nursing 406 curriculum, a course for caring for older adults. Winning institutions are chosen based on their adherence to NLN’s Advancing Care Excellence for Seniors
Outside surgery, Jeremy fosters relationships throughout the hospital and the system that enhances service to patients and staff.

Educated at Mount Carmel College of Nursing with his entire professional career spent at Mount Carmel, Jeremy embodies our mission and core values. Our mission is reflected in every decision Jeremy makes in the best interest of the patient, in Jeremy’s efforts to lead by example, in his empathy with staff, and in the high level of service he provides to patients, physicians and staff, within surgery and throughout the hospital. Jeremy demonstrates a high degree of compassion and respect for others and empathizes with the patient’s point of view. He never loses sight that everyone in surgery, throughout the hospital and throughout the system, works for the larger healthcare ministry at Mount Carmel.

“This is my second family, I’ve worked here half my life,” said Jeremy. “To think of working somewhere else doesn’t enter my mind.”

Jeremy also serves as the Lifeline of Ohio Organ Procurement (LOOP) liaison for MCE. In this role, Jeremy is the lynchpin enabling MCE to facilitate organ donations from patients who suffer an untimely death. Thanks to his strong efforts, MCE won the Silver Medal of Honor three times from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources and Services Administration for achieving and sustaining national goals for organ donation.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Jeremy overcame incredible odds in his personal life—surviving not one but two brain tumors. He had surgery twice in his own department by surgeons and staff he works with very closely every day. Jeremy placed his life in their hands, which was comforting; but as the former neurosurgery clinical manager, he was well acquainted with the associated risks of his procedure. After his second surgery, Jeremy had a longer recovery because he had to learn to walk again. Due to lost feeling on one side, Jeremy had his car altered so he could continue to drive. This experience fueled his passion for the patient perspective.

Congratulations Jeremy! And thank you to all our nominees for representing the true essence of Mount Carmel so well.

MCCN was recognized for outstanding marketing and communications for the LAMP, the Viewbook and other publications, as well as Crisis Communications readiness planning.
Dear Friends,

I hope you are as excited as I about the many initiatives and enhancements in store for us from the College’s newly appointed coordinator of Alumni Relations, Michele Uhl Born (’75) and alumni volunteer, Phylis Motz Crook (’63) (see page 22).

The plans for Generational Alumni Board Leadership will enrich our experience as alumni. I hope you will consider serving – the requirements are: new board members must also be members of the Mount Carmel Alumni Association; attend monthly meetings (August through May), and be willing to serve at least three years, as well as in a leadership role as a committee chairperson. If you are unable to commit to board membership, please consider serving on a committee – your presence, ideas and enthusiasm are sought and welcomed.

There is also a need for you to become a mentor through the Alumni-Student Mentor Program, also described on page 22. It is already underway with mentors representing those with nursing experience ranging from less than one year to more than 51 years! Some alumni mentors are retired, most are still practicing – it’s not too late to sign up!

Don’t forget – everyone who is a graduate of Mount Carmel is an alumni – but only those who have paid dues are members of the Mount Carmel Alumni Association. If you’re not a member, won’t you please join us? Annual dues are only $30; lifetime dues are $250.

I look forward to hearing from you and I hope you enjoy reading our new blog on the MCCN website … and, please don’t forget to “Like” us on Facebook and “Follow” us on Twitter!

Sincerely,

Susie Loik Parsons (’76), BSN, RN

President
Mount Carmel Alumni Association
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MOUNT CARMEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BOARD 2014-15
President:
Susie Loik Parsons (’76)
Vice President:
Debbie Dunn Boggs (’75)
Secretary:
Pat Steele Skunda (’72, ’10)
Treasurer:
Jill Young Wallace (’73)
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Linda Doss Murcko (’75)
Homecoming Chair:
Scholarship Chair:
Brenda Wheeler (’78)
Finals Breakfast Chair:
Jill Trego Rill (’76)
Orientation Chair:
Archives Chair:
Judi Hollern Brown (’74, ’12)
Members at Large:
Sandy Gehres Parker (’97),
Karen Holt Powell (’82),
Melissa Stacy-Cull (’05, ’10)
Deidra Filarski Weatherby (’08,’13),
Mary Ellinger Woodyard (’97)
Ex Officio Members:
. Coordinator of Alumni Relations:
Michele Uhl Born (’75)
. Director of Development, MCCN,
Mount Carmel Foundation: Jan Burkey
. Alumni Volunteer: Phylis Motz Crook (’63)

A beautiful autumn day, typical of Ohio’s “Indian Summer” welcomed 158 alumni and friends to the 2013 Annual Alumni Homecoming and Luncheon on October 5. Last year’s 50-Year Honor Class, 1963, had a strong showing with 38 “rare and beauteous flowers” in attendance as they were called by one of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. Alumna Pat Winslow Ruck (’63), RN, was delighted to be the raffle winner of a lovely quilt, handmade by the most senior graduate in attendance, Dorothy Greenfio Cluff, RN, class of 1942. The quilt raffle raised $1,120 for the MCAA Scholarship and Loan Fund. Other donations for the Fund totaled $1,482 and the Mimosa Bar raised $215.

Distinguished Alumna, Nerina Jackson Stepanovsky (’78), PhD, MSN, RN, CTRN, who was nominated by her husband, Tom Stepanovsky and accompanied by him, her mother, Norma Jackson, and several other family members and friends from Florida won the $100 raffle. Ann Curtis McCrery (’58), RN, won $150 and Annabelle Kiraly Robinson (’57), RN, won the $50 prize.

The most recent graduate at the Homecoming was from class of 2012: Anita Baljak Mitchell (’12), BSN, RN, who earned her BSN from Mount Carmel College of Nursing at Fairfield Medical Center campus. Future graduates who attended the luncheon for the special purpose of thanking alumni for their $2,000 scholarships, included 2013 scholarship recipients Anne Turville, a student in the traditional BSN program; Sallie Markham, a student in the Second Degree Accelerated Program (SDAP), and Brian Draher, also a traditional BSN program student. Other honor classes – (those ending in a “3” or an “8”) – were represented as well:

1948 = 3
1958 = 21
1963 = 38
1968 = 7
1973 = 9
1978 = 11
2008 = 2

1963: 50-year Honor Class
1968: 45-year Honor Class

Brian Draher (’14) and proud mother Theresia Ormus Draher (’78)
Collaborating to BENEFIT Alumni & Students

Two alumnae are working hand-in-hand to build a robust and rewarding Alumni Association that will continue to serve past alumni, as it positions to meet the needs and interests of future alumni.

"Since 1995, when I was brand-new to the eight-hour-a-week position, I've kept in touch with our active alumni as it has expanded over the years," recalled Crook. "During that time period the College has undergone dramatic changes, with skyrocketing enrollment, numerous new programs and a mix of traditional and nontraditional students," she noted.

Michele, who has served on the Alumni Association Board since 2008, and most recently as co-president with Susie Loik Parsons ('76), BSN, RN, will step down from these roles as she takes on the newly expanded position.

“As the efforts of Phylis, the Mount Carmel Alumni Association board members and myself begin to bear fruit, our alumni gifts of time, talent and philanthropy will be another aspect of Dr. Schiele’s legacy,” Born says. "Dr. Schiele recognized that many of our more recent graduates were not connecting to the Association the way their predecessors had. She knows how important connectedness is for all of us and wants to ensure that the Association will continue into the future as a strong and supporting presence for all alumni and the College,” Born adds.
The Mount Carmel Alumni Association has been around for a long time – since 1913 when Bertha Liston (class of 1906) was named its first president. One can imagine Bertha and her fellow former classmates gathering to renew acquaintance and reminisce. Alumni kept in touch through regular correspondence – with paper and pen – and by attending the annual banquet and region-based luncheons.

Fast forwarding to recent graduates – full-fledged members of the digital age who typically have not experienced the enjoyment of handwritten notes, often whether writing or receiving them – one may be hard pressed to find this group sitting down face-to-face, as their communication choice is primarily by email, text and social media platforms these days.

Dynamic Duo
In October, Phylis Motz Crook (’63), RN, retired after 18 years as coordinator of Alumni Relations and remains close at hand in the role of alumni volunteer collaborating with Michele Uhl Born (’75), BSN, RN, CHFN, who was named her successor. Together, they have big plans for strengthening the Alumni Association.

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A Vision for the Future

A Strategic Planning Committee reviewed the vision of the Association and determined that continuing to provide philanthropic support for nursing scholarships will remain a major focus. In addition, other avenues for supporting the College, students and alumni are being identified.

Out of approximately 4,500 or more living graduates from both the School and the College, only 2.3 percent are paid members of the Association. Of those who are active – attending the annual Homecoming Banquet, making contributions and helping in other ways – the average age is 57.

"These statistics signaled to us that we need to do more to engage graduating students and recently graduated alumni if we hope to see the next generation step forward to support the Association," Born notes.

“One of the initiatives I’m very excited about is moving toward Generational Alumni Board Leadership," she explained. “Phylis and I want to see alumni of all ages – from each nursing program, including diploma, bachelor’s and the graduate level – to share in decision making and service to the alumni, students and college. All have unique and different perspectives, experiences and suggestions to contribute, so we’ll recruit alumni representation from each decade, as well as each nursing program at MCCN, starting with the 1960s to the present, to serve on our MCAA Board of Directors," Born added.

Phylis recalled that, "When I started at Mount Carmel, there was only one program – now there are so many opportunities for today’s nursing students to advance their education. The possibilities for nursing careers are diverse and numerous – everything from bedside nursing to nurse practitioner and soon a doctoral level, but no matter how much Mount Carmel evolves, it’s still the same home many of us grew up with and love – that has not changed," Crook added.

Other planned programs, activities and enhancements, include:

* **Alumni-Student Mentor Program:** One freshman and one sophomore student are paired and then joined into a triad with an alumni member in a dynamic program. Enhanced learning and professional growth experiences of the undergraduate throughout his/her collegiate tenure, as well as a strong supportive friendship with an adult who can provide guidance and advice, will result. The program began as a pilot in January with a kickoff party in the residence halls where the freshmen and sophomores got to know one another, enjoyed pizza and learned how the program works. We need alumni to serve as mentors. As an alumni mentor, each is asked to call, text, email and/or visit students as needed – at no cost to the alumni member. All that’s required is a warm heart, a desire to connect, a willingness to demonstrate professional and friendly guidance, and a computer and Internet access. The Alumni Relations Office will provide timely ideas to facilitate this mentorship.

* **Scholarship Program:** The Alumni Association Board awards scholarships through the Alumni Association Scholarship Endowment Fund and also makes loans to students to help defray the cost of their education. Your help is needed to serve on the scholarship committee of the board to review applications and conduct interviews with the applicants.

* **MCAA Class Representative:** This volunteer position will be a great way to bring classes together again. Each representative will be the “go-to person” for their class, to update classmates’ names, addresses and emails, and find out what they are up to. Class representatives will be the glue that keeps classes together. The alumni office will offer suggestions and formats for contacting your classmates and bear the mailing costs. All you need is a computer and Internet service!

* **Finals Breakfast Events:** For many years the alumni association has hosted breakfasts for students during finals week in December and May, offering food, support and a calm environment. Now this year, we began offering free student uniform alterations.
• Student Support Network: Alumni can put their heads together with students to provide assistance in areas such as resume preparation and interview role-playing. There is also a need for your help in the Mount Carmel Clinical Skills and Simulation Center, where you can volunteer to work with professors and students.

• Membership/Communication Network: Remember how nice it was to receive cards and letters when you were a student? Alumni are needed to write letters to students who have been accepted into MCCN. These letters will be scripted for the alumni expressing your heartfelt reasons for choosing Mount Carmel. Also, letters and congratulations are being sent to the new grads, so help is needed in this area, as well. Of course, the Alumni Association will bear the cost of postage and provide stationery.

• MCCN Orientation Day: Held in August each year, the MCAA assists incoming students and their families in a variety of ways, from serving as event ambassadors and providing new student goodie bags to hosting a Columbus Sights and Sounds Fun Day Trip for the College’s newest Nightingales.

• The MCAA Fairfield Chapter: Graduates of the MCCN at Fairfield Medical Center program have expressed interest in establishing an alumni program based in Lancaster, Ohio. There is a role for local alumni to become involved in this new endeavor.

• The Alumni Homecoming: Of course, we continue to strengthen our annual “coming home” to the College for renewing alumni relationships, recognizing our scholarship award winners and touring the College. A chairperson and committee are needed.

21st Century Communications
“We will continue to stay in touch with alumni through this magazine, the LAMP, where Phylis’ considerable talents and personal familiarity with Mount Carmel alumni will be put to good use as she continues as alumni editor,” Born said.

“With the advent of electronic communications, our opportunities to connect with alumni have expanded exponentially – in fact our presence on the social media platform, Facebook, increased our reach last year with more new persons ‘liking’ us all the time.”

As a convenience to alumni we plan to post educational and Continuing Education opportunities, as well as information about events, such as alumni excursions and mission trips, on our updated alumni webpages. We also plan to host CE evening lectures.

“Look for our electronic newsletter, ALUMNNews, which debuted last year, and our new ALUMBlog, launching later this year. We are confident that by continuing to publish the LAMP, along with these new electronic, digital venues, we will reconnect with our longtime alumni – and connect with more recent graduates,” Born said. “Our goal is to offer many means of engagement for our alumni, as 2014 is the beginning of our vision for more alumni being involved with their alma mater,” she added.

We invite you to be part of the new Mount Carmel Alumni Association with us!

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Thanks to a generous grant from the Mount Carmel Foundation, our alumni archives are now displayed in a new exhibit in the Mount Carmel Health Sciences Library. Display cabinets showcase a century’s worth of priceless keepsakes, and new display panels feature class composites. In addition, a history mural depicting a timeline from 1886 will be installed this May to complete the exhibit. The history mural portrays the founders of Mount Carmel Hospital who invited the Sisters of the Holy Cross to come to Columbus to manage the new hospital. The mural depicts each decade to 2014 when MCCN President/Dean Ann Schiele, PhD, RN, transitions to emeritus status, and it features early day photographs, along with descriptive vignettes from the founding of the School of Nursing, through mid-century, to present day, visibly demonstrating milestones and achievements through the years.

**Bits and Pieces**

Steve Roksandic, MBA, MLIS, director of the Mount Carmel Health Sciences Library, often lamented that the archives – in the lower level of Marion Hall – were out of sight of most prospective viewers. As a professional librarian, he knew that the numerous items – including nursing uniforms, caps and pins, medical instruments, class photographs and yearbooks, and historic documents – would be well received by alumni, students, faculty, staff and visitors.

“Every time I went down there, I became more concerned about how these precious items could be made available,” Roksandic said. “I saw so much history just sitting there, displayed but not in a highly-visible area. Then I would come upstairs and see...”
today’s students focusing on their electronic homework and using technology to complete nursing projects. I thought, ‘these young ones ought to have a better chance to see how those who came before them worked and studied and cared for their patients.’ I knew that this project will give students such a feeling of belonging, knowing the strong tradition they are now a part of,” he added.

His idea to bring into the present the objects of the past was the seed for the commemorative project, which came about through the collaboration of the Development office, the Alumni Association and the Health Sciences Library, along with the support and encouragement of President/Dean Ann Schiele, PhD, RN.

Generous Funding
Jan Burkey, director of Development, MCCN, championed the idea to the Mount Carmel Foundation, writing a grant proposal that detailed all aspects of the multi-pronged project.

“This endeavor is an important tribute to the architects of our past and trailblazers and role models for our future,” said Burkey in describing the goal. “It commemorates the Sisters of the Holy Cross, the many graduates of both the School and the College, our visionary leaders – from Mother M. Angela Gillespie, CSC, in 1886 to Dr. Ann Schiele in 2014 – and numerous accomplishments and important milestones over the years,” she added.

Burkey stressed that members of the Mount Carmel Alumni Association, including Judi Hollein Brown (75, ’12), and Pat Steele Skunda ’72, ’10, who co-chaired the Alumni Association Archive Committee, worked tirelessly unearthing treasures, and collecting information. For the mural, they gathered photos and chronologically noted milestones of the School and College. For the exhibit, they helped prepare them and coordinated with Library Science student interns from the University of Akron, whom Roksandic had recruited to assist with professional archiving duties. Many dedicated people put in countless hours identifying, researching and developing decade-by-decade milestones.

“This dynamic display will visually inspire others as it commemorates and celebrates Mount Carmel’s continuing legacy of care,” Burkey noted. “We are truly grateful to the Mount Carmel Foundation for recognizing the benefit and value of documenting the College’s strong foundation and enduring mission for future generations.”

Our Next Century of Excellence in Nursing Education

This forward-looking vignette, set amidst modern-day photographs, including the beautiful Grohe mural, which graces the entrance of the College, and milestones from the most recent record-breaking and technology-filled 10 years, embodies the mission and values of Mount Carmel.

“As we enter our twelfth decade, we stand steadfast in our commitment to excellence in nursing education,” notes Dr. Schiele.

“We will always reflect on our beginnings and take pride in our advancements, but we also look ahead to an ever-expanding horizon that promises persistent change. Innovations in healthcare delivery, and advancements in medical technologies and treatments, as well as expanding roles for professional nurses at all levels challenge us to constantly examine our practices and evolve our outcomes as we endure to educate nurses of the future. That is our hope … and our promise.”

Our hope also is that you will find an opportunity to make time to visit us soon, share fond memories of your days at Mount Carmel as you find your photo on the Class Wall, reminisce as you view the beautifully preserved archival display, and experience for yourself the stunning new History of Mount Carmel Excellence in Nursing Education Mural.
Impressions of Nicaragua … from MCCN student Shelby Langenkamp

On the /f_ light home, Shelby wrote about a story that stood out for her:

“I think the one thing that really struck me was hearing from the woman who received the house from Amigos. [Amigos for Christ is a nonpro/f_it organization working in Nicaragua.] Her faith just astounded me and she credited it all to God. She was so thankful for us being there. I also thought it was so wonderful hearing how a house like that comes about. One of their neighbors takes them and their families in to live with them for however long it takes. And everyone pitches in to help them raise the money for their portion (around $600). /T_hey have very little to start with and they give everything they can. And, instead of being jealous, they are so glad for their neighbor. I about started crying when she was talking to us. And seeing just how much their lives were changed with this house.”

A new opinion I now have:

“/T_hey are so loving and kind and work harder than anyone I’ve ever met. /T_hey work hard every day just to have the few things that they do. And they are so appreciative. /T_hey are also the most faith-/f_illed people I have ever met. /T_hey pray and pray because they know that God answers prayers.”

Participants in May 2013 Nicaragua Mission Trip

Students: Katherine Anderson; Katherine Friesz; Paige Hadley; Shelby Langenkamp; Ann Mangino, RN, (master’s student); Alisan Miller; Mollie Obert; Abigail Porter; Stephanie Rienschield; Deven Riley; Hailey Ropp; and Olivia Sapia

Trip Leaders: Faculty members Mary Gregg, MS, RN, CNM, and Kellie Greene, MSN, RN

Alumni: Brittany Unthank, RN (’12)

CHALLENGES

Students Grow on Mission Trip to Nicaragua

“/A_s future nurses, our students who experienced the annual mission to Nicaragua will have more empathy for non-English-speaking patients,” says assistant professor, Mary Gregg, who led 12 students on the May 2013 trip.

“This trip stretches students and is eye-opening in so many ways,” says Gregg. For example, students learned about the importance of clean water to health, about the tough working conditions for healthcare professionals in other parts of the world, about patient care, about how it feels to be in the minority and to need interpreters to communicate.

“It’s not that they were insensitive to these factors before, but experiencing these realities intensifies the impact,” she adds.

Gregg described how she, the students and other two co-leaders (instructor Kellie Greene and recent MCCN graduate, Brittany Unthank, who participated in the same mission trip as a senior in 2012) dealt with the unique challenge of beginning the mission by digging trenches, carrying gravel, and laying pipes for a clean water project to bring indoor plumbing to the residents’ homes for the first time.

“This was brutally hard work in very intense heat. Here in the United States, bulldozers would have been doing this job,” she notes. “Our students showed they were up for whatever the mission asked of them.”

Eyesight for Christ

The MCCN group stayed at the Amigos for Christ Mission and assisted their staff. Following the work on the fresh water project, for three days the group assisted the international group OneSight (a humanitarian branch of Lens Crafters/Sears Optical/Target Optical) as they examined and fitted about 2,500 people with new eyeglasses and sunglasses.

“We always have a terrific group of students, and this year was no exception. Their work ethic just shone through, and I am really proud of them and of their accomplishments.”

For pleasure, the group climbed a volcano, visited a school and played soccer with the kids, shopped in town, went to the Pacific Ocean beach, and each evening had fellowship with the Amigos staff.
Impressions of Nicaragua ... from MCCN student Shelby Langenkamp

On the flight home, Shelby wrote about a story that stood out for her: “I think the one thing that really struck me was hearing from the woman who received the house from Amigos. [Amigos for Christ is a nonprofit organization working in Nicaragua.] Her faith just astounded me and she credited it all to God. She was so thankful for us being there. I also thought it was so wonderful hearing how a house like that comes about. One of their neighbors takes them and their families in to live with them for however long it takes. And everyone pitches in to help them raise the money for their portion (around $600). They have very little to start with and they give everything they can. And, instead of being jealous, they are so glad for their neighbor. I about started crying when she was talking to us. And seeing just how much their lives were changed with this house.”

A new opinion I now have: “These people are so loving and kind and work harder than anyone I’ve ever met. They work hard every day just to have the few things that they do. And they are so appreciative. They are also the most faith-filled people I have ever met. They pray and pray because they know that God answers prayers.”

Participants in May 2013 Nicaragua Mission Trip
Students: Katherine Anderson; Katherine Friesz; Paige Hadley; Shelby Langenkamp; Ann Mangino, RN, (master’s student); Alisan Miller; Mollie Obert; Abigail Porter; Stephanie Rienschield; Deven Riley; Hailey Ropp; and Olivia Sapia
Trip Leaders: Faculty members Mary Gregg, MS, RN, CNM, and Kellie Greene, MSN, RN
Alumni: Brittany Unthank, RN (’12)
I knew from a very young age that I wanted to be in the medical field and enjoyed watching out for others.

Making the Circle Wide

It’s true that nurses can do just about anything with a degree in nursing – including careers that don’t have all that much to do with nursing. On the surface, that seems to be the case with my career. I knew from a very young age that I wanted to be in the medical field and enjoyed watching out for others – my mother was a nurse, and when I was growing up in Mercer County, my first job was working as an aide in a nursing home.

When it came time to settle in at college, Mount Carmel College of Nursing was a great fit, but I was anything but a typical nursing student. While my classmates and friends were most interested in critical care patients, I was focused on hospice and community health. I loved working with the elderly, and my interests grew further away from direct, hands-on patient care to broader issues. When my professors at Mount Carmel saw that my passion was gravitating away from an interest in the clinical arena, they encouraged my growing interest for public service and government and began to groom me.

They worked with me and my schedule when I landed a position as a page in the Ohio House of Representatives, and later internships, including on the Ohio Senate Health Committee and at the Ohio Department of Health – starting me on a path that would eventually circle back to the healthcare-related role I enjoy today at Cardinal Health, where I’m vice president of Government Relations. I was surprised and flattered when lawmakers came to me for advice about legislation they were considering regarding whether to allow heart catheterizations in smaller hospitals. This was about 1993 and they acknowledged, that – as a nursing student – I had more clinical knowledge about the issue than they did. That was pretty amazing to me!

I thought about changing my major early on at Mount Carmel when I realized that nursing was not my calling. However, the dedicated faculty – in particular Dawn Hughes, advisor for the Student Nurses’ Association at Mount Carmel (SNAM) – saw leadership potential in me and encouraged me to run for a board position on the National Student Nurses’ Association. It was thrilling to win that seat and it helped me realize that my political interests were very strong and should not be denied.

During my senior year I worked in the legal office of the Ohio Dental Association (ODA), where I saw how important it was to advocate for one’s profession and to create meaningful public policy that has a lasting impact on healthcare. I’m very grateful that Mount Carmel was open to helping a young person who wanted to go in a...
different direction. Nursing really is a career with unlimited possibilities and the College not only inspired me to follow my heart, but also helped me on my path, as they continue to do for so many others today.

Following graduation and earning the credential RN – after being in the first class to take the state Board of Nursing examination on a computer – I continued as a lobbyist for the ODA while working weekends as a nurse for elderly patients who lived at First Community.

After about two years, I accepted a job at Columbia Gas, which took me out of healthcare for a season, but gave me additional experience in lobbying. More importantly, it allowed me to develop a niche in fundraising and grassroots work that, after another two years, helped me land a position at Cardinal Health where I’ve been for 13 years.

People say that imitation is the best form of flattery – that is true for me in that the other passion Mount Carmel instilled in me – through modeling – is a desire to help others – abroad or in our own backyards. For me, that desire is focused on helping women.

In November, Cassi Long Baker ('95), was recognized as one of 12 local 2014 “Women You Should Know” by Women for Economic and Leadership Development (WELD). These women are honored for making a positive impact on the economic and leadership development of women in central Ohio by having their achievements showcased in a beautiful calendar for the upcoming year. The women are selected based on their extraordinary leadership roles within their respective fields and in community and women’s efforts. Congratulations, Cassi!

Initially, I began my focus on women at Cardinal Health and was the first co-chair of a new initiative called WIN (Women’s Involvement Network). The goal of WIN is to help grow women’s careers at Cardinal Health, make it the best place for women to work.

Helping women here is important, but helping women there (Uganda) is powerful. One Christmas, I bought bracelets made by women in Uganda as gifts for a few friends. Everyone loved the story behind the jewelry: for the Ugandan women, this was their sole source of income.

Everyday I use my nursing education to solve problems. Nurses are taught a unique way of thinking – the development of a care plan requires a mind that can quickly identity issues, visualize the best outcome, zero in on potential unintended consequences and break down into steps the actions needed to reach the goal that is best for each patient. That’s pretty much what I bring to bear on legislative health issues and I’m grateful to Mount Carmel for the foundation that has been a springboard for my career – and my life.

My best friend and I circled that idea around to helping local women by founding, along with two other women, soHza (www.sohza.com). This is a business venture – with the motto "helping women here by helping women there" – in which we curate collections of beautiful jewelry handmade by women from around the globe. We partner with local women-led non-profits and share 15 percent of the sales with organizations such as the Women’s Fund of Central Ohio, the YWCA and others.

I love what I’m doing at Cardinal Health, and it really demonstrates applying daily what I learned about healthcare at Mount Carmel. I’m responsible for government relations in all 50 states. I’m the person who identifies issues, develops plans and lobbies state legislators to make and pass laws that result in patients having better access to pharmaceuticals and medical and homecare products needed to get and stay well. My team and I often identify state concerns that become federal issues – in which case we are able to advocate for many patients across the country.
Nerina J. Stepanovsky – Distinguished Alumnus 2013

Nerina J. Stepanovsky (’78), PhD, MSN, RN, CTRN, always held a deep-seated belief in providing quality pre-hospital care to ensure survival for U.S. troops in service of our national interests.

As a testament to her ability to put her beliefs into action, Nerina, who currently is a program director and professor at St. Petersburg College in St. Petersburg, Florida, retired in 2009 at the rank of Lt. Colonel from the U.S. Air Force Reserve, Nurse Corps, 45th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron after having served 20 years. Before that, she served with the Ohio Army National Guard Nurse Corps for a total of 28 consecutive years of service to our country.

A high achiever on many levels, while serving as an officer, Nerina simultaneously worked in the civilian sector and attended classes. Shortly after earning her diploma from Mount Carmel School of Nursing, she enrolled at Franklin University in Columbus and earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing while serving in the Ohio Army National Guard, Nurse Corps. She immediately began a Master of Science in Nursing at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, where she earned her MSN in 1992.

Just a dozen years after that, she entered Barry University in Dayton, Ohio, where she earned her MSN in 1992. Shortly after earning her diploma from Mount Carmel College of Nursing, she enrolled at Franklin University in Columbus and earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing while serving in the Ohio Army National Guard, Nurse Corps. She immediately began a Master of Science in Nursing at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, where she earned her MSN in 1992.

Just a dozen years after that, she entered Barry University in Dayton, Ohio, and was awarded a PhD in Higher Education Administration and Learning in 2007.

Highlights of her military career include the decision to follow her dream to become an Air Force Flight Nurse by changing her service from Army to Air Force and attending flight nurse training at Brooks AFB, Texas, where she later was served as adjunct instructor, Flight Nurse Course.

She has accrued over 800 crew hours in various aircraft, including the C-130. Among her awards are the Meritorious Service Medal with 1st Oak Leaf Cluster, National Defense Medal with 1st Bronze Star and the Global War on Terror Medal, in addition to other Commendation and Achievement medals.
“It was a very positive experience to care for guys and gals who risked their life for us,” Nerina said recalling the service men and women wounded in combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan whom she helped evacuate from Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

As chief nurse of the 622nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron operating out of Tampa’s MacDill Air Force Base, Nerina oversaw the evacuation. She and other members of her unit worked a 23-hour shift to move a plane-load of stabilized wounded to Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington, DC. Following a 10-hour flight, the soldiers stayed over night there before being placed aboard other planes that would take them to medical facilities closer to their hometowns.

However, she and fellow reservists were called upon to continue their journey – to transport one severely burned soldier to Brooke Army Medical Center at San Antonio – before heading back to Florida. She was astonished to note that the patient had been turned over to doctors at San Antonio before being placed aboard a commercial plane that would take him back to Florida. He was turned over again at Andrews Air Force Base – the plane had overshot its destination – before being flown to San Antonio military hospital. She said she was humbled to see the soldiers and nurses who risked their life for us, Nerina said recalling the service men and women wounded in combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan whom she helped evacuate from Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

“Any little thing you did for them, they were extremely grateful,” Nerina said.

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Alumni Association Updates

STAY IN TOUCH!

Alumni Vision

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

Alumni Library Accounts:

Visit www.mccn.edu/library to register for your account providing 24/7 access to news and information.

Send Us Your Email Address

MCCN and the Mount Carmel Alumni Association are sending more and more information via email. Send your email address to pcrook@mccn.edu.

Class of 1952 Get Together

Ruth Mathews Strickler ’52, who retired to Arizona many years ago, was in Columbus this past June to visit friends, stay with her son for six weeks and meet her brand-new twin great granddaughters.

While in Columbus, Ruth hosted a get together of many of her classmates from Mount Carmel School of Nursing, Class of 1952. Ruth also invited Pat Brown Gates (’53), who winters in Arizona where she often hosts alumni luncheons, and Pat’s classmate, Phylis Motz Crook.

The afternoon was full of laughter, hugs and “remember whens?” They still call one another “girls,” and why not? They were girls when they met 64 years ago in Mount Carmel Hall. And they can still name all the floors by the names of the saints for which they were known: from 2N, which was St Joseph’s, 3N St. John’s, to 3S St. Anthony’s, all the way up to 9, which was St. Brendan’s.

It was a special afternoon that they look forward to repeating, as they still have a lot to talk about!

NOTE TO ALUMNI:

In support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the Institute of Medicine’s joint report, “The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health” that calls for 80 percent of nurses to have their BSN by 2020, MCCN is offering Mount Carmel School of Nursing alumni a 25 percent tuition discount on Online RN-BSN Completion Program coursework at MCCN. This discount is offered to School of Nursing graduates who are not receiving another tuition discount from MCCN or from Mount Carmel Health System. This offer will be effective beginning summer term 2014 for a period of three years, at which time it will be reconsidered. For more information about the RWJF 80/20 initiative, see http://www.hsti.org/newsletter/2011/05/future-of-nursing/.
Two out of 52 from Class of 1952

Two classmates among the 52 members of the Class of 1952 stand out for having continued well past the usual retirement years — having served for 61 years each — thanks to their shared love for the profession.

June Richardson Todd (’52), who was featured in a *Columbus Dispatch* article last year, has fond memories of her years at Mount Carmel, especially the mud. Although June was one of the School’s first African American graduates — along with three other women from the all-female graduating class that year — she recalls that, as a nurse, race was never an issue.

It’s not surprising that her co-workers at the North-west Side practice of Charles Tweel, MD, from which she retired in May 2013, describe June as a “ball of energy.” Dr. Tweel says that she was a favorite among staff and patients, who “like seeing her more than they like seeing me.”

Todd is also credited for bringing humor and energy to the office every day. Her co-worker Beth Shanam adds, “She’s the only 80-some-odd-year-old woman that has an opinion on everything from Hillary Clinton to why Chris and Rihanna should not be together. She’s very with it and hip,” she added.

Todd says that even though she is officially retired, she’s not done working yet. She plans to volunteer at local nursing homes and perhaps at the Worthington Library, coming full circle to a career she also considered — library science. We’re glad she opted for nursing and so are her patients, one of whom — Enid Patterson — describes her as “not just my nurse. She’s my friend.”

Marion Shirkey ’52
61-Year Nursing Career Ends with Her Death in 2013

“She was one tough cookie,” recalled Lisa Frazier ’91, who worked with Marion Shirkey. “She was always there, despite bad weather or bad health. While working she had surgery for breast cancer twice, colon cancer, knee replacement and foot surgery (prior to that she had extensive back surgery). She also commuted on a daily basis to Columbus from Washington Courthouse, Ohio.”

Frazier first met Shirkey (as she was always called) almost 20 years ago when Frazier started as an RN for Ohio Orthopedics. Shirkey had just returned from surgery for breast and colon cancer and continued working after that big surgery at an age when most people retire.

“We formed an instant friendship when we discovered we both graduated from Mount Carmel. Shirley loved to talk about her nursing school days at Mount Carmel. She was very proud of her nursing education and her career as an RN,” Frazier said. “I was very impressed with her unbelievable work ethic and her extensive knowledge of orthopedics, realizing she knew as much as any orthopedic surgeon.”

Shirkey decided in her 70s that she would retire. “We held a fabulous retirement party for her. But she wasn’t really ready to retire and continued working anyway,” she did cut back to three days a week and continued that until about two weeks before she died,” Frazier recounted.

After coming to work with flu-like symptoms but refusing to leave until the staff called her PCP who recommended a visit to the ER, Shirkey instead went home. “She was rushed to the ER a few days a week and continued that until about two weeks before she died,” Frazier added.

Phone-a-thon Goes VIRTUAL!

Mount Carmel College of Nursing Alumni Association will roll out a new fundraising campaign by deciding to hang up the phone and go virtual! Instead of conducting a Phone-a-thon this year, the Alumni Association has decided to reach out to fellow alumni via Facebook, Twitter and other online channels.

Starting in June, classes will be competing to meet fundraising goals in the amount of their graduation year. Class representatives will be working hard to reach out to their fellow classmates online to meet their fundraising goals before the Alumni Association Homecoming on October 11. Class standings will be announced periodically to keep class teams motivated and working together.

The fundraising total, as well as final standings, will be announced at Homecoming. If you want to get involved, contact Michele Born or Phylis Crook (see contact information on page 1).
Mary Richardson (13) lives in Marion, Ohio, and works on 25, the vascular renal unit at Mount Carmel Saint Ann’s Hospital in Westerville, Ohio. She writes, “I loved doing SDAAP (Second Degree Accelerated Program) and it not only made me a good nurse, but a better overall person.”

Anita Balajk Mitchell (12) works in SIMCU at Mount Carmel East Hospital. She began her career there in 2010 as a PCA while she was a nursing student at Mount Carmel College of Nursing at Fairfield Medical Center. She frequently reflects on my journey from a terrified nursing student on my first assignment of interviewing a client at an ECF to my current adventures in SIMCU, and I smile.”

Jena Verbanetz (11) lives in Columbus and works at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in the Hematology/Oncology Bone Marrow Transplant unit.

Jesse Adams Poston (10) lives in Amanda, Ohio. She works at Mount Carmel Columbus Cardiology Consultants.

Ashley Guerini Jaber (10) is recently married. She has a new home in Hoover, Alabama. She works at University of Alabama at Birmingham in their Critical Care float pool. She also works “as needed” for Novastyle as a clinical nurse educator.

Deidra Filarski Weatherby (08 and ’13) lives in Galloway, Ohio. She works the night shift at Mount Carmel New Albany Surgical Hospital as Inpatient Clinical Manager.

Betty Ann Carter Hayes (10) lives in Grove City, Ohio. She keeps busy with grandchildren and volunteer work for her church.

Angela Stalnaker Wilson (05) lives in Frankfort, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. She works as a nurse educator at a local hospital. She is primarily in charge of the Critical Care education of the nursing staff of two hospital campuses. She teaches AHA/CPR, ACLS and PALS courses. She hopes to earn her master’s degree possibly in Nursing Education. She is married and has a son and a daughter. She writes, “I am very impressed with what the College has accomplished over the years even since my graduation eight years ago. The CSCC is such an amazing opportunity for current and future students. I am proud to say I am a graduate of MCCN!”

Christine “Christy” Bosworth Heid (03) lives in Nevada, Ohio, and teaches at Ashland School of Nursing. She is working on her DNP.

Jana Hendrickson Girard (98) lives in Lewis Center, Ohio. She is married and has three children. She works at Ohio Surgery Center in pre-op/recovery. She is busy “being a mom, working and running to and from children’s sports games.”

Robin Colburn Ricker (98) lives in Dublin, Ohio. She has accomplished her “career goal” of being a hospice nurse. She is at HomeReach Hospice at Kobacker House, Ohio Health Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

Mary Ellinger Woodyard (97) is married and says, “My husband and I call ourselves ‘The New Brady Bunch because between us we have three boys and three girls.” She and her husband recently became involved with Charity Newsies. She enjoys crafts, especially quilting. Since 2009, she has worked for the Ohio Department of Health in the Bureau of Long Term Care Quality as the Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program Coordinator.

Diane Pappas Barringer (79) earned her BSN from Ohio University in 1998. She is in her thirteenth year as a school nurse in a preschool – 12th grade program.
Kim Barnes Bockoven ('79) lives in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. She was widowed in 2011, after 33 years of marriage. She has two sons and "no grandchildren, yet." From 2004 to March, 2013 she worked in home health nursing as a field clinician and quality improvement nurse.

Cynthia Carpenter Ritter ('78) is married and has two children. She has worked in ICU, home health, oncology/hematology and private duty capacities in several states. She says she "always loved all the different aspects of nursing and had been truly thankful to have had the best training." Her hobbies include gardening, swimming, sewing and crafts, as well as reading.

Elaire Selby ('78) lived in Alaska for 30 years. She is now a dialysis nurse at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. She writes, "There are so many fond memories of Mount Carmel. I often dream that I am back in school again!"

Karen Schirmer Tacky ('78) lives in Ashland, Ohio. She has been with Samaritan Regional Health System for 21 years and with their home care department for 17 years.

Karen Jo Dye Temple ('78) says, "My Mount Carmel nursing education has taken me to 12 states and West Germany to practice nursing."

Carpenter Ritter ('78) married Karen's husband's cousin. "She became the sister I never had."

Katherine UN Thié ('78) is married and lives in Morral, Ohio. She has had a lengthy career with various positions.

Karen Kaufman Holmester ('76) began her nursing career the day after graduation, working at Fairfield Medical Hospital in Lancaster, Ohio. She currently is with Ohio-Health as the Aviation Medical Coordinator and clinical supervisor. She performs physicals for the DOT and FAA. Her patients are pilots, air traffic controllers and truck drivers. She also oversees all of the clinical operations in a four-physician family practice office. Some of her favorite Mount Carmel memories include "going up to the roof to study with my lawn chair, blanket and coffee, sneaking in the Davis Street side door after being out on a date, eating tuna helper and peanut butter and screaming into the laundry chute at the hospital when we were frustrated."

She adds, "I truly treasured my time at the Mount and have always felt like I was fully prepared as a nurse to tackle anything in my career because of my great education."

Madelyn 'Maddy' Kern delkoche ('74) lives in Erie, Colorado, is married and has two children. She retired in 2012 from The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. She worked with drug trials on the Alzheimer's Unit. She enjoys volunteering at her local food bank, quilting, and going hiking, biking, kayaking and snowshoeing. She and her husband will take an Alaskan cruise in June to celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary.

Beth Campbell Foster ('73) is married and lives in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. She has one son, two step-daughters and three grandchildren. She earned a BA in Health Care Administration from Ohio Dominican College, is a Certified Professional in Health Care Quality and a Six Sigma Black Belt. More than half of her career has been as a home health care nurse. She has spoken to MCCCN's Senior Policy Class on many occasions. She shares, "I feel very honored to explain my advocacy experiences to the students and hope that each of them will have learned something about home health care."

Peggy Ashbrook Alexis ('73) lives in Dublin, Ohio, is married and has two sons. Her career included working in critical care and hemodialysis. She is presently volunteering twice a week at Mid-Ohio Food Bank and with her homeowners association.

Sherry Sexton Merrick ('73) lives in Vermont. For the past 27 years she has been working half time and per diem in the OR at Alice Peck Day Memorial, a small community hospital in Lebanon, New Hampshire. She has been the producer of Revels North's Christmas Revels in Hanover, New Hampshire, for 18 years and counting. She was elected one of Vermont's three Presidential Electors in 2012. She writes, "I am a proud wife, mother and a Vermonter."

Mary Jean Destefani Botos ('68) is married and lives in both Ohio and Florida. She retired from Mount Carmel Health System in 2010. She and her husband enjoy golfing, ballroom dancing, gardening and their three grandchildren.

Barb Pugh Cepley ('68) lives in Columbus, is married and has four children. She continues to work in Mount Carmel Employee Health two days a week. Retirement is not in her near future as she "loves nursing too much."

Terry Lombardo Lindahl ('68) is married and has two children and four grandchildren. She spent 30 years working in NICU. She retired in 2012 and says she is "doing the freedom of retirement, no more working weekends and holidays."

Jeannette Bishop Sanger ('68) earned her BSN from the University of West Florida. Her career includes nursing in med/surg, psychiatric, obstetrics, long term care, hospitals and public agencies. She currently holds a full-time position as a Team Leader and Quality Assurance Manager.
Clinical Coordinator with One Call Care Management. She has been a parish nurse (now known as Faith Community Nurse) at her church since 2001. Her best memory of Mount Carmel is “the many times I have been so proud to be a Mount Carmel graduate, as I have worked throughout the country and realized what a quality education we received. I believe in all that Mount Carmel stands for and hope my small contributions help make a difference in another prospective student’s life – as it did for me!”

Barbara Koger Simon (‘63) was widowed in 2009 and lives in Lancaster, Ohio. She volunteers at a hospice, Pickering House. She enjoys seeing Mount Carmel student nurses there.

Judy Rebhan Bosozwa (‘63) lives in Westerville, Ohio, and has been married for 49 years. Her four children and seven grandchildren are “all very smart, good looking and good students who are busy with all kinds of activities!” She retired in 2003 from being head nurse in an allergist’s office. She and her husband spend winters in their fifth-wheel camper in Fort Myers Beach, Florida. Retirement gives them the freedom to “do whatever we want almost whenever we want.” She remembers that during her “first weekend at Mount Carmel, every freshman went home except for 10 of us. It was scary and lonely but the 10 of us, along with Sister Blanche, managed to have some good times.” She also recalls that at Nationwide Children’s Hospital (aka Kiddieville) we were put in charge of 3 to 11 or 11 to 7 shifts after being there for a very short time, it seemed.”

Mary Jane Bradley (‘63) is married and lives in Cincinnati. She recently retired after teaching nursing for 35 years at The Ohio State University and the University of Cincinnati. “Nursing students are the best and I still miss them,” she writes. “I found my calling during the last decade teaching hospice and end-of-life care.” She is currently involved with Hospice of Cincinnati in a project using the Respecting Choices paradigm, to teach nurses, doctors and social workers advanced care planning skills for seriously ill patients and their families. It is “very rewarding work and is based on the values of caring and compassionate nursing I first learned at Mount Carmel.” She and her husband have five sons between them and five grandchildren. They spend some time in Florida at the beach, golf whenever they can and gather with family at home in Cincinnati.

Marjean McLaughlin Buckner (‘63) lives in Palmetto Bay, Florida. She received her BA in Sociology in 1969, her MS (Adult Education) in 1978 and her EdD in 1988 “all while raising a family of three children, volunteering and fund raising for non-profits.” She is president of M. McLaughlin Buckner Associates Inc., a management and training firm that addresses current issues and concerns of education and the health industry. She was nominated to the International Hall of Fame for Adult and Continuing Education in 2012.

Patsy Fannon Chamberlain (‘63) has lived in London, Ohio, since she was in the third grade. She has worked in an OR-GYN physician’s office since 1977. She enjoys times spent with her husband, children and grandchildren.

Christy Stare Coleman (‘63) lives in Genesee, Illinois, is married and has two daughters and two sons. After graduation, she worked at the then OSU Hospital surgical unit of Dr. Robert Zollinger. After four months, “I returned to my first love – the Mount Carmel OR.” She then worked at Oberlin Ohio Clinic setting up one of the first outpatient treatment centers in the area. She has been a school nurse and worked in a same-day services operating room unit. Her involvement in her children’s schools eventually led to her serving as president of the Illinois Association of School Boards, 2002—2003. She is now a full-time retiree “specializing in golf in Genesee and Florida and keeping an eye out for my eight grandchildren who live within two miles of my Illinois home.” Some of her Mount Carmel memories include starched uniforms with shanks, watching Dr. Kildare and Ben Casey on the black and white TV in the dorm, playing the piano in the rec room and singing along. Fifty years! Where did they go?”

Mary M. Rodocker (‘63) is married and has two sons and five grandchildren. She has a home is Pennsylvania and a farm in Ohio. She is retired and travels extensively, worldwide. When at home she loves babysitting with her grandchildren.

Rhylin Moro Crook (‘63) is married, lives in Columbus and has four children and six grandchildren. She has worked in a physician’s office, as a staff nurse at Mount Carmel West and most recently retired after 18 years as Coordinator of Alumni Relations at MCCN. She continues there as Alumni Volunteer. For many years, she has been Girl Scout volunteer on the local, national and international level. She is currently the secretary of the World Foundation for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts Inc. She and her husband enjoy travel and family times.

Joan Mahel Eastern Fucci (‘63) lives in St. Petersburg, Florida. Her condo on the 37th floor overlooking the Gulf of Mexico “is my daily vacation.” She was widowed in 1994. Four of her five children live near her in Florida, as well as six of her eight grandchildren. A daughter and two grandchildren live in Ohio. She retired in 2012, having
worked over the years in OB, orthopedics and case management. She recalls the "fun we had on our dorm floor in the evening" and "going to Massillon State Hospital for our psych rotation and spending the first night there in a single room with the rain and the shutters hanging against the building – it was like the opening of a horror movie!"

Edith (Edie) Kay Hallam (63) lives in Worthington, Ohio, is widowed and has four daughters and seven grandchildren. She is retired. Her career specialty was mother and infant care and education.

Judy Knesl Harness (63) lives in Mason, Michigan, and was widowed in 1988. She has two children and one granddaughter. She retired in 2003 after 40 years of active nursing practice, which included serving in the USN from 1967 to 1969, during the Vietnam War. She was stationed at Bethesda Naval Hospital where she met her future husband, who was also in the Navy. She earned her BSN from the University of Detroit/Mercy in 1996. Her last 20 years of nursing were in Mason working for Sparrow's Hospital's Family Medicine Residency program. She writes, "It seems like only yesterday we were listening to Pat Brown playing the piano in the rec room and singing along. Fifty years! Where did they go?"

Jeannette Bower Heilman (63) lives in Fremont, Ohio. She has three children, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and one step-granddaughter. She retired after nearly 25 years as an ICU nurse at Fremont Memorial Hospital.

Marilyn (Peach) Butterfield Holloway (63) is married and lives in South Bend, Indiana. She has two children and four grandchildren. She has worked in internal medicine and ICU units. Her family spent 29 summers at Diamond Lake in Michigan. She enjoyed classes and workshops at Notre Dame and St. Mary's College. In their retirement, she and her husband spend winters in the Orlando, Florida, area with visits from the children and grandchildren. She writes, "When I think of our days at the Mount, I remember how quickly and deeply our friendships formed. We were surprised, at first, to be called "rare and beauteous flowers." But if Sister Blanche considered us to be so, it must be true! Well my dears, fifty years later who dares challenge that designation?"

I. Nan Shoup McCaughney (63) is a widow and lives and works in Marion, Ohio. She has worked in Florida, California, Pennsylvania and Indiana, as well as Ohio. "I have always been proud to say I am a Mount Carmel grad." At 71 years old, she still works full time as an RN first assistant in the OR.

Ginny Daily Moxman (63) lives in Westminster, Colorado. Her entire career was in dialysis. She writes, "During my senior year at the Mount, a brand new treatment for kidney disease was introduced and none of the employees wanted to do it. Dr. Michael Anthony asked me if I was interested and I said yes." She has opened and managed dialysis centers and units at UCLA, Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, the National Naval Medical Center in Washington, DC, and Denver, Colorado. She shares, "It was so much fun to see a modality at the very beginning and watch the changes over the ensuing 50 years."

Mary Lou Cole Kauch (63). CO lives in Newark, Ohio, is married and has ten grandchildren. She and her husband are busy farming with crops and hounds. She is the Senior Occupational Health/Law Prevention Specialist with Bayer Material Science in Hebron, Ohio. She works full time with no plans to retire. She writes, "Working with well people and keeping them well is very challenging and that is the draw for me." She also shares, "I lose so much to my Mount Carmel education. The organizational piece, taking the linen off the cart in the right order, for instance, was really the beginning of the critical thinking process."

Mary M. Rodocker (63) lives in Palo Alto, California, is married and has a daughter and granddaughter. She has her BSN from The Ohio State University and her Master's Degree in Community and Mental Health Nursing from the University of California. All through graduate education, she worked in emergency rooms, as a visiting nurse and as a public health nurse. Her work with individuals and families who were dealing with emotional and psychological problems led her to get a PhD in psychology. She has a private practice in Palo Alto and San Francisco. She is working part time at the moment and is unsure when she will fully retire. She writes, "What is noteworthy to me is that the only school reunion which interests me is Mount Carmel's. I believe the relationships with classmates that I had during those years helped form who I am today.”

Denise Rush Severy (63) lives in Denver, Colorado, is married and has four children and three grandchildren. Her husband’s time in the US Navy took her to Florida, Alaska and California before settling in Colorado 47 years ago. She is a certified Addiction Counselor and had a private
counseling practice. She has worked as a visiting nurse and in the OR. She is very active in her parish as Lector and Eucharistic Minister. Her passion is studying scriptures. Other activities include reading, hiking and lunch with friends. A special Mount Carmel memory beyond the lifelong friendships is “being under the watchful eyes and ears of Elletiste as she clicked on the paging system to listen and be sure we were following the ‘lights out and quiet’ she had imposed. She also kept a careful eye on us in the lounge when returning from a date – no hanky panky on her watch!”

Deanna Burns Soldier (’63) lives in Springfield, Ohio, and is married with children and grandchildren. Her career focused on pediatric nursing. Her younger brother was hospitalized many times as a child. Children were not allowed on the floors then as visitors, but she went with her parents to pick him up each time he was discharged. The discharge nurse once asked the 9 year-old Deanna what she wanted to be when she grew up. She replied, “A nurse, so I can help others like you do.” She used this anecdote on her application to Mount Carmel and “always felt so fortunate to be accepted. I learned so much at Mount Carmel and in my many years of nursing that helped me so much with my patients, as with all my children and grandchildren.”

Donna Young Wesley (’63) lives in Columbus, Ohio, was widowed in 2013 and has four children. She began her career at Nationwide Children’s Hospital and, after being out of school only three months, was promoted to Head Nurse in the NICU. She worked there six years and then resigned to raise her family. When she returned to nursing she was offered a position at Heimlering Memorial Foundation as a Nurse Supervisor on the night shift. She was there for 30 years before retiring in 2009.

Jacque Lippert Zarbo (’63) lives in North Canton, Ohio, is married with two children and three grandchildren. Since graduation, she has lived and worked in Cincinnati, Denver, Colorado; Newark, Ohio; Stevensville, Mississippi; Aurora, Illinois; and for the past 37 years, North Canton, Ohio. She has worked in ICU, the OR and, unexpectedly, in a migrant health clinic and as a care provider for retired nuns who had been nurses. Her non-nursing employment was in the professional recruiting business with her husband. She currently works in the occupational/corporate world. She writes, “Mount Carmel taught us all to think. So basic, so simple, but critical thinking skills separate us from many of our peers from other educational institutions that we have met along the way. Can you still hear Mrs. Ada Lindsey saying ‘why?’? Jacque enjoys travel, golf, gardening, cooking and friendships.

Clare Mess Jordan (’61) lives in Terre Haute, Indiana. She has worked as a school nurse, psych nurse, home health nurse, Air Force nurse and college health nurse/counselor. She recalls, “Living in the dorm helped us adapt to others who were from different backgrounds, religions and cultures.” She also remembers “how proud our class was to be sent on affiliations as junior students while other schools sent their students as seniors. Yet, many times we Mount Carmel students were the ones who were put in charge!”

Julie Ellenberger Brofard (’59) lives in Galloway, Ohio. She is married and has three children and seven grandchildren. She retired in 2008 from OhioHealth. She worked in the OR for 14 years as a scrub nurse and circulator and helped teach and enforce sterile technique. She shares that “Norma Competti Guikhs (’49) would have been proud. Remember grinning and glowing and how scared we were?”

Dorothy Heuensch Carter (’59) lives in Groveport, Ohio. She has lived and worked in Hawaii and San Diego. She was a private scrub nurse in OR and is retired from OSU East.

Dane Fresshore Brasil (’58) lives in Maumee, Ohio. She was widowed after 46 years of marriage and has four children, seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild and four step-grandchildren. She was sorry to miss her class’ 50th reunion. She had never missed an Honor Year before, but was on a mission trip to the Appalachian area. Other travel has included Israel and the Netherlands, as well as U.S. national parks. She worked for a total of 46 years. The last 26 were at St. Luke’s Hospital in Maumee, Ohio.

Leila Buman Golden (’58) lives in Columbus, Ohio. She is married and has five children and ten grandchildren. She and her husband are retired and spend most of their summers at Lakeside Chautauqua at Lake Erie. She writes, “It provides your needs for successful aging ... many college-level classes, great evening entertainment and spiritual enrichment.” She retired from Mount Carmel West in 1997 as part-time Maternity Patient/Teacher Coordinator and Discharge Planner.

Mary Ann Cochran Giric (’58) lives in Loddbourne, Ohio, and has been married for 55 years. She has eight children and “wonderful grandchildren and great-grand children.” She enjoys camping, crocheting, reading and being with her family.

M. Carolyn Kulp Souders (’58) has been married for 55 years. She lives seven months in Fort Myers, Florida, and five months in Centerville, Ohio. She is retired after 50 years of nursing. She volunteers with her husband at Lee Memorial Hospital of Southwest Florida, a non-profit, charitable organization that assists people in need locally and within the community.”
Mary Lou Jones Yaunam ('58) lives in North Fort Myers, Florida. She is retired from her nursing and nurse practitioner roles, but continues to use her skills to care for her spouse, six children and ten grandchildren.

Bees Eckard Whitington ('58) lives in Columbus, Ohio, and Fort Myers, Florida, six months each. She is married with grown children and is now enjoying the grandchildren. She remembers working split shifts at Mount Carmel West. There was class in the middle of study at night. She has been a staff nurse on neonu and ENT floors. She worked for the State of Ohio Receiving and Diagnostic Center in Columbus and the Gallipolis State Institute. Before retiring, she worked for 26 years at OhioHealth Doctor’s Hospital in Columbus as Education and Quality Assurance Director. She has always attributed her nursing skills, attitude and ethics to her training at Mount Carmel.

Catherine “Kay” Drake Martin ('51) lives in Westerville and has three sons (one deceased), six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She retired in 1991 from Madison County Hospital in London, Ohio. She worked for 40 years in various operating rooms, sometimes as a private scrub nurse. After “hanging out” for a few years, she worked for thirteen years at Jo-Ann Fabrics. She describes her time as a student nurse as “three years of pure joy, most of the time.”

Wanda Geraldine Messeneger Ross ('48) lives in New Albany, Ohio, and is a widow. She met her husband in room 203 on St. Anthony’s floor (3 N at Mount Carmel West). They were married exactly three years after the day they met. She has six children. She worked at Federal Glass and did private duty nursing at Mount Carmel, St. Francis, White Cross and Mercy Hospitals, as well as Dodd Hall at OSU. As a student, she remembers “having oxygen tanks from the basement up to the patient floors to set up oxygen tents.”

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Father of Karen Holt Powell (’92)
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Sister of Carolyn Kulp Souers (’58)

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