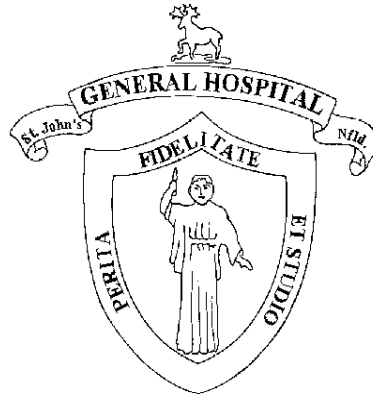


# The Alumni Connection

*“95 Years of Leadership in Nursing”*  
1903-1998

## Executive Committee 2023-2024

**President:** Linda MacPherson, Class of 1995  
**Vice-President:** Kathy Adey, Class of 1996  
**Treasurer:** Pauline Malcomson, Class of 1995  
**Secretary:** Kelly Scaplen, Class of 1990



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This is the thirty-fourth newsletter issued annually to promote communication between the membership.

## Alumni News

### Alumni Association:

The Association exists to promote communication among our nursing school graduates. Membership fees are the primary revenue source funding this newsletter, class reunions, and general operating expenses. Classes preparing for reunions can request financial assistance from the Association to help offset reunion expenses.

### Membership Fees:

Membership fees remain unchanged this year at \$5.00. This nominal amount keeps membership affordable for our graduates. We invite all graduates to become active members and help support our Alumni activities. For 2024-2025 we have 327 paid members.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- We are on the web!  
[www.ghsonalumni.ca](http://www.ghsonalumni.ca)
- There is a stipend available for classes celebrating reunions.

**Mailing Address:**  
**General Hospital School of  
Nursing Alumni**  
**PO Box 28196**  
**48 Kenmount Road**  
**St. John’s, NL**  
**A1B 1X0**

**General Hospital School of Nursing Alumni  
Annual General Meeting  
Thursday, October 3, 2024**

- Welcome & Opening Remarks: President Linda MacPherson
- Grace: Gerry Saunders (Class of 1978)
- Dinner
- Approval of Agenda
- Moment of Silence: Jeanette Walsh (Class of 1965)
- Class Roll Call: Bertha Schofield (Class of 1965)
- Presentations:
  - 50 Years – Class of 1974
  - 60 Years – Class of 1964
  - 70 Years – Class of 1954 A&B – Iceberg recipients
- Review of Minutes of October 5, 2023
- Business Arising
- New Business
  - President, Treasurer, and Alumni Office Report
- Election of Officers
- Next Meeting, October 2 (Thursday), 2025
- Concluding Remarks
- Adjournment

## Scholarship Report

The Executive of the Alumni wishes to thank all those who have donated to The Scholarship Fund. Your continued support of Nursing Excellence in this province is greatly appreciated.

The Initial Contribution to the Scholarship Fund was \$65,000. This year donations, received by the Alumni as of April 30, 2024, was \$798. This does not include donations made by members directly to Memorial University.

The recipient of the scholarship for 2023-2024, an amount \$2,546 is Lauren Fox, a third year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Collaborative) Program Accelerated Option, Memorial University Campus. Congratulations Lauren!

## Donations to the Alumni

Alumni members can make donations directly to Memorial University for the General Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association Scholarship. While the Alumni still accepts donations and sends those monies on to Memorial University, we are unable to print the full list of those who have donated.

These are three methods available to donate to the Scholarship Fund:

### 1. Online

- Visit [www.mun.ca/give](http://www.mun.ca/give) and click “Give Online” in the top blue menu.
- For “Please direct my gift to...”, Click “Other”.
- Write “GHSON Scholarship” under Additional Gift information”.

### 2. By Phone

- Call 709-631-4826 or 1-877-700-4081 (toll Free).

### 3. By Cheque

- Cheque is made out to “Memorial University of Newfoundland”.
- Cheque memo says “GHSON Alumni Association Scholarship”.
- Can be mailed to:

ATTN: Office of Development, Memorial University of Newfoundland  
P.O. Box 4200, St. John’s, NL A1C 5S7

Thank you for your continued support of the scholarship and your Alumni Executive.

## **GHSN Alumni President's Report**

Welcome to the General Hospital School of Nursing Annual Alumni Dinner! What an evening to celebrate friendship and fellowship! If you were as lucky as me, some of my strongest, most important friendships were forged in the halls of Southcott Hall, during 3 of the most challenging, fulfilling years of my life! To look at the vibrant faces of the members as we file in year after year, the impact this school has had on our lives is obvious!

It has been a pleasure to step into this role as your Alumni President this year. I will say it is the members of the Executive Committee that have done the hard work! Thank you to Kathy Adey, Vice President, who has announced she will be stepping down this year. Thank you, Kathy, for your unselfish dedication, and please consider coming back in the future.

Thank you to Pauline Malcomson, who has taken on the treasurer's role this year, and has done an excellent job. The Association is working with our financial institution to set up an email transfer option for our members. We will keep you updated via our website.

Thank you, Kelly Scaplen, who as secretary has kept a tight check on our website, and ensures members have access to up-to-date information.

A huge thank you to Robert Meadus, past President and this year's dinner planner. When you hear the Alumni Association, you automatically think of Bob! He has given and continues to give a huge amount of his time and energy to the Alumni, keeping us all on the straight and narrow! You are so appreciated.

For those of you who do not know we owe a huge thank you to Bob and Jeannette Walsh, who received short notice earlier this year regarding the Archive space at Southcott Hall. They were given one day to move out, or else! Without hesitation, they retrieved the contents of the Archive and are still working to save our history! A copy of the portrait of Mary Southcott has been given a permanent home in the halls of Memorial University School of Nursing, and the original has been transferred under a gift agreement to the provincial museum at The Rooms, thanks to Bob's quick thinking! Amazing!

To the classes celebrating milestone anniversaries this year, congratulations! We hope you have a wonderful time together this evening! A special mention to several classes who are celebrating milestones: the Class of 1954 A&B who are celebrating their 70-year anniversary; The Class of 1964 celebrating 60 years; And the Class of 1974 celebrating 50 years! To the classes who are celebrating reunions Congratulations, and we hope you are having a wonderful time together! A reminder to any class planning a reunion, the Alumni Association has some funding available as noted on our website.

Thanks to your continued generosity, our scholarship fund has been able to support a nursing student in their educational pursuits. If you are interested, you can find how to donate on our website.

Thank you all for your continued support for our organization. I hope you all have a memorable night and have a chance to reflect on your time as a student at the General Hospital School of Nursing!

Thank you,

Linda MacPherson, Class of 1995

## **Alumni Archives Report 2024 Prepared by Jeanette Walsh**

Unfortunately, we lost access to the space located in Southcott Hall where the Archives has been housed in recent years. Bob Meadus was notified early in January that if we did not vacate the room by Monday of the following week, all contents would be sent to the dump! A surprise to say the least, particularly as Eastern Health has been renovating the surrounding area since August but had not notified us. Despite numerous efforts by Bob to speak with someone from Eastern Health, we did not get any satisfaction, subsequently, we evaluated the contents and determined what needed to be salvaged. Thanks to Bob all valuable artifacts and documents were recovered and housed in his basement.

During the winter months, he and I reviewed everything. Historical items were forwarded to the Rooms and Alumni documents preserved.

**Graduate Files:** The Alumni Executive continue efforts to ensure graduate files are current. We rely on individuals/classes to forward information, e.g. address changes, death of a classmate, etc. This input is important as we currently have limited access to other information sources. When notified of a deceased Alumni member condolences are forwarded to the family if possible. Graduate related information is only released for reunion planning or select research purposes.

This is my final year updating files. Anyone interested in helping with this work should contact the Alumni Executive or myself at [mj.walsh@live.ca](mailto:mj.walsh@live.ca). Collection of this information is an important and continuing piece of the school's history.

Graduate information can be forwarded to: [www.ghsonalumni.ca](http://www.ghsonalumni.ca) or [ghsonalumni@hotmail.com](mailto:ghsonalumni@hotmail.com)

Unfortunately, we no longer have a collection of caps and capes as we have no storage space.



## In Memoriam 2023 - 2024



*Doris Tuff Tulk - Class of 1945*

*Joan Pike Farnham – Class of 1951*

*Enid Hibbs Barrett – Class of 1954*

*Christine Penny Cole - Class of 1954*

*Mary (Mae) Collins Obermiere – Class of 1959*

*Dulcie Starkes Feltham – Class of 1960*

*June Huxter Jones - Class of 1960*

*Helen Adey Knox - Class of 1961*

*Sandra King Tulk - Class of 1961*

*Shirley Peddle- Class of 1963*

*Sylvia Legge Carew – Class of 1965*

*Roberta Horwood Mercer - Class of 1966*

*Ruby Reynolds French – Class of 1966*

*Marilyn Fisher Symonds - Class of 1966*

*Ruth Mercer Edison - Class of 1968*

*Elsie Mae Symonds Wells - Class of 1969*

*Veronica Hackett Benoit– Class of 1972*

*Karen Elizabeth Smith Jones – Class of 1972*

*Terese Delaney Dykstra - Class of 1973*

*Dale Walters Stagg – Class of 1974*

*Trini Messervey – Class of 1975*

*Roberta Drake Ridgeley – Class of 1975*

*Brenda Quick Hicks- Class of 1976*

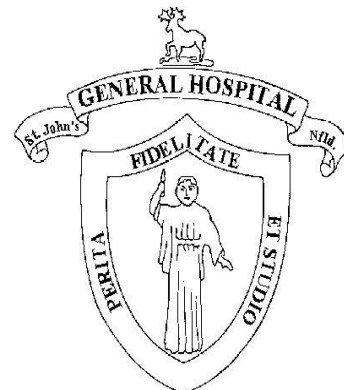
*Ross Riggs – Class of 1977*

*Heather Claudette Burry Cutler – Class of 1981*

*Lorna Doreen Hackett – Class of 1983*

*Karen Suzanne Noseworthy Pritchett- Class of 1992*

*We extend our sincere sympathy to their families and friends. If we have omitted any graduates' names, please accept our apologies. The alumni will forward an expression of sympathy when advised of the death of one of our graduates. We encourage you to contact an executive member if you know of a graduate who has died.*



## **General Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Minutes AGM GHSON Alumni Dinner October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### 1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Robert Meadus, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the celebratory night. He noted it was always a wonderful opportunity to get together with our fellow alumni. He informed the attendees that the GHSON Alumni newsletter could be found on all the dinner tables and extra were located at the executive table, they were placed there for review of agenda, minutes, and reports. He asked that the newsletter be reviewed for those purposes.

### 2. Agenda

The agenda was accepted without any changes. Approval of agenda by Kathy Adey, and seconded by Kelly Scaplen

### 3. Moment of Silence in Recognition of Deceased members.

Jeanette Walsh read the names of the members who the Alumni were notified of that has passed away since the last annual meeting. A moment of silence was held in all their honor. Jeanette talked about the sources to obtain names of deceased members and how some of the names are received as late as the night of the dinner. She reminded everyone the value of notifying the names of anyone who passed away to ensure the names are included in the newsletter and the memorial book. Any deceased notifications received; the family will receive a message of condolences on behalf of the Alumni.

### 4. Class Roll Call

Bertha Schofield completed a roll call of class number in attendance, asking members to stand when their year of graduation was announced. The roll call started at the year of 1949.

### 5. Presentations

The presentations were announced for the milestone years.

- Pins presented to Class of 1998 for 25 years.
- Pins presented to Class of 1973 for 50 years.
- Roses presented to Class of 1963 for 60 years.
- Iceberg trophy presented to Class of 1953 70 years.

Appreciation for years of nursing was celebrated by a standing ovation.

25-year pins surplus were given out to those in attendance who had not received a 25-year pin, until all pins were gone.

### 6. Minutes of 2022 AGM

The President circulated the minutes of the October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, AGM in the GHSON Alumni Newsletter to all tables. The President asked if any errors or omissions. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by Jim Feltham and seconded by Pam Metcalfe.

7. Business arising

There were no items raised.

8. New Business

The president talked about the scholarship (GHSON) set up at MUN. This year's recipient is a graduate of the Class of 2022-2023 at Grenfell Campus. The recipient sent a letter that was highlighted by the President. A message was sent on behalf of the Alumni to the recipient. This scholarship is entirely supported by your donations and the president thanked those who support the scholarship fund.

Robert informed everyone that the president's letter and treasurers financial report can be found in the newsletter on the tables.

9. Election of Officers

Election of Officers occurred. There was one nomination for President, Linda McPherson, Class of 1995. This was moved by Janice Marsh and seconded by Lisa Picco. There was one nomination for Treasurer, Pauline Malcolmson, Class of 1995. This was moved by Lisa Picco and seconded by Janice Marsh. Both motions were carried. Both vice president and secretary indicated their willingness to continue for the 2023-2024 year. Robert will stay on the executive as Past President and Dinner Planner.

10. Adjournment

The GHSON Alumni dinner will be October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at The Holiday Inn. Ensure you submit forms in early when received to secure a dinner ticket. These are located on the website, or you can copy one a friend may receive from the distribution list.

Susan Walsh was presented with a bouquet of flowers for her years of support to the Alumni, especially as dinner planner. Susan will step down from this role and other interested alumni will be welcomed to help plan for next year.

Robert thanked the staff at the Holiday Inn for a lovely meal and excellent service.

The Silent Auction closed at 9:00 pm with thirty-two recipients of silent auction items. Robert thanked people for their support, those who have donated and those who have won, and those who have taken the time to set up the tables today.

There were five draws for prize winners, as well as a door prize and the main ticket seller, the donated quilt. Robert thanked those who donated and those who helped sell the tickets.

Business concluded at 9:30 pm



**General Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Organization  
Statement of Revenue and Expenditure  
September 01, 2023, to August 31, 2024**

**BN Registration Number: 886051796 R R 0001**

**Balance Available September 2023 \$26,126.02**

**Revenues to August 31, 2024**

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Membership             | \$1630.00          |
| Annual Dinner Proceeds | \$19,825.00        |
| Donations              | \$457.00           |
| Total Revenues         | \$21,912.00        |
| <b>Combined Totals</b> | <b>\$48,038.02</b> |

**Expenditures to August 31, 2024**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Dinner (2023)      | \$20,586.13 |
| Office Supplies    | \$1128.16   |
| Website            | \$302.05    |
| P.O. Box           | \$259.00    |
| Class Reunions     | \$100.00    |
| Bank Charges       | \$181.12    |
| Iceberg Awards     | \$498.92    |
| Total Expenditures | \$23,055.38 |

**Total Available August 2024 \$24,982.64**

## Thank You!

Thank you to Robert Meadus for working diligently to locate a home for the portrait of Mary Southcott, it was donated by The College of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador. It has now found a home at Memorial University School of Nursing.



## Reunions

The Class of 1974 are celebrating their 50 Year Reunion this year. In August, 42 classmates were together over 3 days reminiscing old, and still making new, treasured memories. This was made possible by the strong bonds made from 1971 to 1974. It was 3 years that shaped their lives in many ways. The love and laughter, mixed with caring and sharing, continues with all of them today.

