

BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE ASSOC. 1

Dear AA1 Members,

January, 2024

Happy New Year to all our AA1 members and their families! We are all hoping for a happy and prosperous 2024, good health, better economy and world peace! Thank you to all of the nurses and health care staff for their unyielding care and concern for their patients and clients!

Our 2003 Annual member Spring meeting was held on Zoom and our speaker was, Sunny Yoo Ruggeri, class of 12/16. Sunny is a PHD student and shared her dissertation project "Factors associated with medi-cation non-adherence in chronic diseases, cancer and breast cancer." She is looking at therapy side effects and helping educate patients and a support system in place for patients. Sunny has been working on this for some time and we appreciated her summation. We had 20 AA1 members sign up for this meeting on Zoom.

For our Annual April dinner meeting, April 9, 2024 at 5pm, the AA1 Board is looking at restaurants to hold our member meeting for this year, possibly Stonebridge in Milford. If you think you would like to attend a restaurant meeting this year, you can bring a friend or significant other, and the AA1 is able to pay 50% of your dinner bill, bar drinks not included, please contact Cathy Nucera, V Pres.- 203-449-6944 text or cathy.nucera@gmail.com (please contact Cathy before February 17,2024, so that we have enough attending to secure a venue or we may have to do a Zoom meeting.)More information to come in our March newsletter

AA1 will be having our election of Board Officers at our 4/9/2024 meeting. The slate of officers are the current officers in their positions, for the next 2 yrs, but if anyone is interested in any of these positions, please contact one of the of the Board members to add your name to the officer roster to be voted on 4/9/24.

BHSN Historical items- we have had several members request the blue danube and clear plates and clear cups from our storage unit last year! That is so wonderful to support our Continuing Education fund with a donation of your choice and to receive a part of our BHSN history! We still have several of the blue and clear plates and clear cups available, if anyone is interested in these items. Please contact one of the AAI officers.

Scholarships- receiving our 2023 AAI Continuing Education Scholarship in Nursing- was Sunny Yoo Ruggeri, class of 2016 and Maura Lynch, class of 2010. Best of Luck in your future endeavors!
AA1 also has given an award at Bridgeport Hospital during nurses week in 2023 to Katrina Williams RN.

Continuing Education Scholarship application information- is on the AA1website, www.BHSNAA1.org. For any AA1 member who would like to apply for a scholarship, being in good standing and continuing with their nursing career, applications will be accepted during an *extended time period- between February 1, 2024 through March 30, 2024*. Please go to the web site for an application and guidelines and/or you can contact Caren Silhavey for any further information @ 203-375-4553 or email at Silhavey@att.net. Scholarships will be awarded after all information required has been reviewed and a Board decision is made. (*a copy of the application/guidelines is included with this newsletter*)

AA1 has made donations in 2023, Our mission is to encourage and support nursing continuing education, lifelong learning, and to collaborate with allied associations.

- 1) The Bridgeport Hospital Foundation for the Burn Unit,
- 2) The Red Cross- for where help is needed and for blood services,
- 3) The Bridgeport Rescue Mission for meals for the needy,
- 4)The Salvation Army for meals for the needy,
- 5) The New England Shriner's Children Hospital,
- 6) The Wounded Warrior Project- for the wounded recipients.

AA1 website- The updated AA1 Bylaws along with past newsletters, our membership pamphlet, the AA1 Mission Statement, scholarship application and guidelines and AA2 organization information are on our website- www.BHSNAA1.org

Deceased Members: Several of our AA1 members have passed on in 2023 and 2024-They will be sadly missed!

*Patricia O'Brien Maurer, cl of 1953 (deceased- 1/2024) Barbara Cimelus Rogers, cl of 1960 (deceased 9/2023)
Elaine Berger Mileski, cl of 1954 (deceased-5/2023) Nancy Kasper Savinsky, cl of 1956 (deceased 1/2024)
Barbara George Plungis, cl of 1959 (deceased 9/2023) Margaret Wynne, cl of 1956 (deceased 4/2023)
Patricia Collins Palumbo, cl of 1955 (deceased 8/2023) Arline Blodwell Wyllie, cl of 1944 (deceased 5/2023)*

Funeral Delegations- AA1 usually sends a delegation to attend the funeral of our deceased members in the local area. If we are unable to send a delegation because of distance or other circumstances, the AA1 will donate, in their memory, to our Continuing Education Fund or at the family's request. **We are in need of volunteers for our funeral delegation; there is a stipend for your service. AA1 has extra, cleaned, gray wool BHSN nursing capes to loan to AA1 members who would like to join our funeral delegations.** If anyone has any BHSN pins that they would like to donate to AA1 for our delegation to wear on the capes at our member's funeral and if anyone is available to attend funerals, if only occasionally, please contact Cathy Nucera, VPres.- 203-449-6944 or cathy.nucera@gmail.com for more information.

If anyone knows of any AA1 members who are in nursing homes, in the hospital, or who has passed away, please let Dottie Connolly know, AA1 secretary- 203-922-8022 or Dotconn0119@gmail.com

Officers of AAI: President: Mary Toohey-Repko- 203-378-9783
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AAI Webpage: www.BHSNAA1.org

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Treasurer: Debi Petrushonis- 203-231-3306
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