

Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association

General Meeting as part of the 2015 Homecoming

Date: August 15, 2015

Present: Brenda Foucault (President); Madge Casper (Vice President); Libby Ketchem (Treasurer); Ellen Wathen (Recording Secretary); Gayle Rood (Corresponding Secretary); 107 attendees total.

1. **Welcome** – Brenda welcomed all alumni and guests to the annual meeting of the 2015 Homecoming. Linda White provided the address to the alumni – update on DHS: electronic documentation system (Epic); joint ventures, staff positions – demand greater than supply; representation in tristate; destruction of Doctor Plaza and Dr Rusche office to build Hospice House with breezeway to hospital; and advisory board think tank as suggestion for alumni to provide knowledge of experience.
2. **Nurses Honor Guard** – Debbie Hamilton provided information on this honor guard program as a ceremony to honor nurses at funeral home or funeral services. Alumni interested in this program should contact Debbie Hamilton.
3. **Class Recognition** – The alumni recognized for 25 years were the classes of 1986 through 1990. The alumni recognized for 50 years were the classes of 1961 through 1965. The honorees present provided a brief summary of careers.
4. **Archive Picture Identification** – a request was made by the Health Science Librarian, Gail Lee, for assistance from alumni to assist with identifying individuals in photos. Anyone interested in assisting Gail can contact her at 812-450-3385.
5. **Memorial Service** – Alumni who have died over the last 5 years were honored.
6. **Recording Secretary Update** – Alumni were reminded that the meeting minutes from August 2014 are available on the DHSON link on www.deaconess.com. Poster with screen shots of website and explanations on how to access link were provided. The alumni were also reminded of the annual seminar co-provided by the alumni association along with Deaconess Hospital. Summary of 2015 seminar was provided. Details of the 2016 program will be in the next newsletter and the brochure will be posted on the alumni link on the hospital website.
7. **Treasurer's Report** – Funds were provided to the Health Science Institute for half tuitions of direct descendants of DHSON alumni. We had educational requests totaling \$9698.25 for fiscal year 2014/2015 thus far. Scholarship winners for those entering nursing school were announced – Allyson Schneider (\$2500 - Purdue), Kelise Ayers (\$1500 - USI), Rachel Ziliak (\$1500 - USI), Lillian Schnautz (\$500 - USI), and Ellen Thompson (\$500 - WKU). Alumni funds in the Foundation available are \$56, 354.19. There are currently 255 paid alumni members. A reminder about annual dues is placed in the annual newsletter. The Board decision to match funds donated to the Hospice House was announced as an effort to support the cause as well as recognize the school of nursing. A figure has not been determined, but any interest can be directed to a Board Member – all contact information is listed on our link on deaconess.com.

8. Nominations – Vice President and Treasurer nominations were held. Madge Casper was nominated and re-elected for Vice President. Libby Ketchem was nominated and re-elected as Treasurer.
9. DHSON Pins – Brenda shared company resource for nursing pins. This is also shared in the annual newsletter. The theme for Homecoming was Deaconess pins through the years. All in attendance at homecoming received a canvas bag with the emblem of our pins and a gift inside.
10. Blessing, Lunch, Class Photos – A blessing was provided prior to lunch. Alumni visited with one another and participated in class pictures. Displays of past pictures and uniforms from the school of nursing were displayed for all to enjoy.
11. Next meeting in 2016 – the next annual meeting will be Aug 13, 2016, in Conference Center Rooms B & C on the first floor near the main lobby at Deaconess Gateway Hospital in Newburgh, IN. A reminder will be placed in 2016 newsletter.