



The Western Pennsylvania Hospital School of Nursing

Alumni Newsletter

Winter 2022

President's Message

Dear Fellow West Penn Alumni:
Our world continues to go up and down during this pandemic time. As we begin to see an end, it just sucks us into another concern or variant. Please, I do not mean to offend anyone, but as a nurse I believe all should get vaccinated and boosted, and please stay safe. The alumni are going to remain strong and our reunion continues in April.

I am so excited that this is our reunion year and am pleased to be seeing our members again at the luncheon in April 2022. I never imagined when I graduated in 1977 that I would be retired from nursing and become the president of our alumni. We are working hard to make this a great reunion. We are sending this out early to remind those who may be thinking of applying either for themselves or recommending someone for a distinguished Alumni award that the deadline is February 4, 2022. We posted this information on our Facebook page to also aid with more applications. Please do not hesitate to apply as there are so many great nursing alumni working, and please give yourselves credit for what you do so well.

Along with the criteria for the Distinguished Alumni we also have our dues sheet and our registration information/sheet for the reunion both Friday, allowing guests and Saturday- alumni only.

Keeping this brief as we have much within this newsletter.
Sincerely,

Patti Black, RN
President

2022 Board and Executive Committee

Patti Black, President
Alyce Duffus, Treasurer
Janet Shadle, Secretary
Mary Rodgers Schubert, Immediate Past President
Board Members: Mirella Ferraro, Kathy Frechione

Inside

2022 Alumni Reunion Registration	2
Outstanding Alumni Award Nominations	3
In Memoriam: Remembering Our Fellow Nurses	5

Upcoming Alumni Meetings

Our final meeting for the year was held on
Tuesday, December 7, 2021.

Mark your calendar! Below are the dates for our 2022 meetings. Check our Facebook group for more details, including times and locations. We encourage all alumni to join us for networking and camaraderie!

Upcoming 2022 Dates

All 2022 meetings for the year will be held at 5:30 p.m.

March 1, 2022

June 7, 2022

September 6, 2022

December 6, 2022

The 2022 Reunion is being planned to be live.

More information on reunion events may be found on page 3.

2022 Alumni Reunion

We welcome all West Penn Alumni to reconnect with classmates and friends at our 2022 reunion. You won't want to miss these events as they only occur every five years. Registration is now open! Mail your form in to register today.

Friday, April 29, 2022 - *We welcome all alumni and their guests to attend*

The National Aviary

6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

700 Arch Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

\$75/person

Includes dinner, habitat access, and parking

Cash Bar

Saturday, April 30, 2022 – *Traditional All-Alumni Reunion Luncheon and Awards Celebration*

The Fairmont Pittsburgh

510 Market Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

\$50/person (Alumni from 1972 and before are complimentary, but registration will be required.)

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Registration with Coffee/Tea

11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Luncheon and Awards Celebration

A block of rooms will be available for \$229/night

"West Penn Nurses Alumni" 1-888-270-6647

2022 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete clearly, print clearly, and make checks payable to the West Penn Alumni Association by April 11, 2022. You can also register online here: <https://form.jotform.com/cmemanage/2022WP-ReunionRegistration>
Send to: Robin Wagner, WPHSONAA, 2400 Ardmore Boulevard, Suite 302, Pittsburgh, PA 15221.

NAME(s): _____ Class: _____

ADDRESS: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone with area code: _____ Email address: _____

I WILL ATTEND THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

Event	Cost	Number of Reservations	Total
Friday, April 29, 2022 The National Aviary Includes: Dinner, Habitat Access, & Parking Cash Bar	\$75		
Saturday, April 30, 2022 Traditional All Alumni Reunion Luncheon & Awards Celebration The Fairmont Pittsburgh (Alumni from 1972 and before are complimentary, registration is required.)	\$50		
Association Dues - Regular Member	\$50		
Association Dues - Supporting Member	\$50+		
I cannot attend but wish to make a donation			

TOTAL AMOUNT: _____

NO CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT. PLEASE KEEP A PERSONAL RECORD OF REGISTERED EVENTS.

2022 Alumni Reunion: Award Nominations

Call for: Outstanding Alumni Award Nominations

An added feature for the 2022 Reunion is the recognition of West Penn School of Nursing Alumni who have excelled in the areas of leadership, community service, innovation/entrepreneurial, and education. There are thousands of West Penn Nurses practicing around the world and doing exceptional work. Submissions may be self-made, or you may nominate a fellow colleague or classmate.

We will recognize outstanding West Penn School of Nursing Alumni who have excelled in one or several of the following categories:

Innovation/Entrepreneurial | Leadership | Community Service | Education



Qualifications:

- Be a graduate of The Western Pennsylvania Hospital School of Nursing
- Be able to satisfactorily demonstrate the qualities outlined for the selected award
- Only fully completed nomination packets will be reviewed. Packet must include: current resume/CV; answers to the 3 questions for the specific category, and three letters of support

Timeline:

- Nomination deadline: **February 4, 2022**
- Nomination packets can either be mailed or submitted online.
- Online Form: <https://bit.ly/3nzirOC>
- Mailing Address:
Robin Wagner
2400 Ardmore Blvd.
Suite 302
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
- Nominations reviewed: **February 7–25, 2022**
- Award finalized at alumni meeting: **March 1, 2022**
- Awardees notified: **Week of March 7, 2022**
- Awards given at reunion: **April 30, 2022** (*recipients are expected to attend the luncheon*)

Innovation/Entrepreneurial

Nominee has been an **integral** part of creating/implementing an innovation at their place of work or within their community that has advanced patient care and/or a healthcare outcome, or provided significant cost savings, and solved a workflow problem.

- Describe the innovation (500 words maximum)

Or

- Nominee is a nurse entrepreneur who has created an innovative business, product or service advancing health care.
 - What is your business, product or service? (250 words maximum)
 - What need does it serve? (250 words maximum)

Submit three letters of support for your nomination. Letters must be from individuals who have first-hand knowledge of your involvement with the innovation or entrepreneurial endeavor. Letters may be from supervisors, colleagues, staff members, partners, funders, etc.

2022 Alumni Reunion: Award Nominations Cont.

Leadership

Nominee shows a track record of leadership for five years or more, and demonstrates several of the following attributes:

- Held position(s) of leadership that are responsible for directing/supervising individuals/groups.
- Works collaboratively within complex environments.
- Facilitates innovation; advocates for safety and wellbeing of those whom they are responsible, e.g.: colleagues, employees/staff, or clients/patients.
- Proactively utilizes critical thinking and data to implement change.
- Recognized as a role model, coach and/or mentor by colleagues/staff.
- Advocates for the nursing profession.
- Maintains membership in professional organization(s).
- Play(ed) a key role in the development of projects/programs within the facility/organization/community that has enhanced agenda/goal/mission.
- Promotes/practices effective stewardship of financial and human resources.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Describe how your leadership advanced the strategic plan, mission or goal of a facility or organization or community. (250 words maximum)
2. Provide an example of a positive impact you had on a colleague, employee or mentee. (250 words maximum)
3. Share a special story that demonstrates how you advocate for the nursing profession. (250 words maximum)

Submit three letters of support for your nomination. Letters must be from individuals who have first-hand knowledge of your leadership abilities. Letters may be from supervisors, colleagues, staff members, mentees, etc.

Community Service

Nominee shows a track record of community service for five years or more, and demonstrates several of the following attributes:

- Held position(s) within a community service organization(s) where being a nurse was required or provided an added benefit to the organization.
- Community service organization may include but not limited to: governmental or social service agencies, religious organizations, military, not-for-profit health related clinics, volunteer organizations, etc.
- Works collaboratively within the organization; is seen as a team player and a valuable member of the organization
- Facilitates for safety and wellbeing of those within the organization.
- Recognized as a role model, coach and/or mentor by others.
- Advocates for the nursing profession.
- Participated in the development of projects/programs within the organization that has enhanced its agenda/goal/mission.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Describe what attracted you to this type of community service. (250 words maximum)
2. Provide an example of a project or activity you were directly involved with that by being a nurse provided an added benefit. (250 words maximum)
3. Share a special story that demonstrates the benefits of this community service. (250 words maximum)

Submit three letters of support for your nomination. Letters must be from individuals who have first-hand knowledge of your community service. Letters may be from supervisors, colleagues, staff members, mentees, etc.

2022 Alumni Reunion: Award Nominations Cont.

Education

Nominee shows a track record of being in education for five years or more, and demonstrates several of the following attributes:

- Held position(s) in education (academic or service) being responsible for teaching individuals/groups.
- Demonstrates knowledge of current clinical and educational methods.
- Demonstrates evidence-based practice in teaching.
- Instills critical thinking, critical reasoning and critical judgement in all activities.
- Creatively stimulates students to pursue advanced knowledge and skills.
- Recognized as a role model, coach and/or mentor by colleagues and/or students.
- Advocates for the nursing profession.
- Maintains membership in professional organization(s).

Please answer the following questions:

1. Describe how your ability to teach advanced the strategic plan or mission or goal of a facility or organization or community. (250 words maximum)
2. Provide an example of a positive impact you had on a colleague or student. (250 words maximum)
3. Share a special story that demonstrates how you advocate for continuing nursing professional development. (250 words maximum)

Submit three letters of support for your nomination. Letters must be from individuals who have first-hand knowledge of your teaching abilities. Letters may be from supervisors, colleagues, students, etc.

In Memoriam: Remembering Our Fellow Nurses

It is with sadness that we share the loss of the following alumni. We thank them for their countless years of service and dedication to the field of nursing!

Linon Segellon Letrick (1973) | Passed away March 21, 2021

Betty McKisson | Passed away June 20, 2021

Lydia Geisel Schaefer (1956) | Passed away Sept. 23, 2021

PA Student Loan Relief for Nurses Program

The PA Student Loan Relief for Nurses (SLRN) Program provides a financial incentive, in the form of student loan relief, for nurses who have worked tirelessly fighting the COVID-19 pandemic to continue within the nursing profession. Qualified SLRN applicants could be selected to receive student loan relief of up to \$2,500 for each year of work (beginning with 2020) for no more than 3 years with a maximum benefit of \$7,500.

For more information, please visit: PHEAA.org/SLRN

In Gratitude

Alumni greatly appreciate donations made in honor or in memory of members of the alumni, both living and deceased. These donations are used to continue the alumni's efforts to support the school of nursing, the faculty and students.





The Western Pennsylvania Hospital
School of Nursing Alumni Association
2400 Ardmore Blvd, Ste 302
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Western Pennsylvania Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association 2022 Membership Dues

Every graduate is a member of our alumni association, but providing dues enables the Association to fulfill its mission. We ask that you be as generous as you can. Thank you!

Select a membership dues contribution level.

☐ Regular Member \$50

☐ Supporting Member \$50+ Amount Included _____

Current Name _____

Name at Graduation _____

Address _____

Class Year _____ Phone Number _____

Email (future newsletters will be sent via email) _____

Please make check payable to the Alumni Association of West Penn Hospital School of Nursing.

Send to: WPHSONAA 2400 Ardmore Blvd, Ste. 302 Pittsburgh, PA 15221