



THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SPRING IN THE CAROLINAS



From the President

*More than
Numbers....more than
ever!*

2003 at Carolinas College of Health Sciences started on a high note any way you look at it.

- Enrollment, at well over 400, was the largest ever for a spring semester.
- We now offer eight academic programs (excluding CPR and continuing education), up from one in 1990 and four in 1998.
- We now employ 53 faculty members (up 29% from a year ago) and 78 total personnel (an increase of 34% over spring 2002).

Helping to make that growth possible was approval of our largest ever expense budget, nearly \$4.8 million, not including capital items, and the addition of about 3000 more square feet of office and classroom space. The number of alumni donors to the College reached an all time high in 2002, contributing significantly to our ability to grow without sacrificing our high standards.

In spite of all these encouraging figures, however, I am reminded that CCHS is about much more than the number of students, faculty, square feet, and funding. A quick look at the past month's medical news reveals a needy world around us: hasty decisions lead to tragic transplant outcomes; deceptive practices at the administrative levels in for-profit health care systems erode public confidence; care suffers due to language differences between providers and clients; and compromised standards of care result from inadequate levels of staffing. Such situations have rocked the comfortable notions many of us hold about healthcare.

If ever there were a time for a place like

CCHS, it seems that it is now, more than ever before. At CCHS we strive not only to provide a healthcare education, but also to imbue that education with a liberal arts and science component which seeks to combine the mind and the spirit in an experience that creates better-rounded students - students who can make a living and provide excellent care, but who are also thoughtful and ethical individuals who are involved in their local and global communities.

A major focus of CCHS this year is community involvement. Through the example of alumni, staff, and faculty, and the encouragement of program objectives which require community and political engagement, we will continue to graduate the compassionate, active, and giving citizens for which we are recognized. Thank you for your role in helping us as we seek to influence the head and heart of tomorrow's healthcare providers.

Ellen Sheppard

Ellen Sheppard
President



School of Nursing

Happy Spring! Spring has arrived, but the senior nursing students are focused on graduation, the goal that they have been preparing for the past two years. These graduating nursing students are concentrating on two things: successfully completing their last semester and passing the NLCEX-RN examination. As alumni, I am sure you remember those days; however, you also know that graduation and becoming licensed as a Registered Nurse are not the end of this professional journey.

One of the values that Carolinas College of Health Sciences instills in all students is to recognize the importance of lifelong learning. The need to continue

that quest for knowledge or professional development is essential to all health professionals as the knowledge base in medicine and nursing continues to grow exponentially.

So what exactly is professional development? Professional development is what you as a health professional do to remain current and competent in your area of expertise. In many institutions, a plan for your professional development is a requirement of your job. At Carolinas College of Health Sciences School of Nursing, we value opportunities for continued professional growth as it makes us better faculty. Professional development can be completing a continuing education seminar related to an area of practice. This type of professional development is probably the one with which most of you are familiar; however, professional development can be so much more.

Professional development can be pursuing a graduate degree in nursing. One of our faculty, Mary Griffin, did just that when she completed her Masters in Nursing from Gardner-Webb University in December 2002. Professional development can be achieving formal recognition for clinical expertise through specialty certification. In December 2002, Cathy Borysewicz, lead faculty in the Behavioral Health course, took that step as she achieved national certification as a Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Professional development can be receiving additional training to serve as a resource in a specialized area. Another faculty member, Sherri Marlow, was selected to complete the program evaluator course offered by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). Upon completion of this course, Sherri became a NLNAC site visitor and completed her first nursing program evaluation site visit in February 2003.

As nursing students at CCHS, you developed a zest for learning. As alumni, I wish for you to continue that passion. Professional development is a gift you

should receive often, as it provides you with an excellent opportunity to reenergize yourself. Spring is a time for new growth. Give yourself a chance to take advantage of the renewed spring spirit in your career through professional development.

Debbie Blackwell

Deborah Bechtel-Blackwell
(Deborah.Blackwell@carolinashealthcare.org)
Dean, School of Nursing



School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences

Spring is here and graduation in July is drawing near. All of the students are hanging in there and are looking forward to the spring convention in Greenville, SC. We have twelve students in our Class of 2004 for next year and have a waiting list. If you have friends or acquaintances who are interested, please direct them our way. Cynthia Bean, the chemistry instructor, and I just attended the Educator's Conference sponsored by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. Nationally, the shortage is here and laboratory personnel are in great demand.

Please mark your calendar for National Laboratory Week, April 20-26.

Have a good spring and let us hear from you.

Betty Anderson

Betty Anderson
(Betty.Anderson@carolinashealthcare.org)
Director, School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences



School of Radiologic Technology

The excitement of spring and new beginnings for the Radiologic Technology Program is in the air! First, we have completed our fall semester using our new energized x-ray lab-and the impact on both the quality of education for our students and our faculty's ability to impart structured "hands-on" demonstration immediately following procedure lectures has been tremendous! We are in the process of formalizing labs to accompany the Imaging class scheduled for summer semester, and feel this will greatly enhance the student's concept of density, contrast, and radiographic detail. Second, the Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee is in the process of selecting our 20 new students for the class scheduled to begin Fall 2003. The Committee is also changing our prerequisite Introduction to Health Care modules to Introduction to Health Care Specific to the Rad Tech Student, which will include a formal introduction to the clinical sites at

Carolinas Medical Center. And last, but not least, 13 extremely excited students await their entrance into the "real world" as professional Radiologic Technologists following the graduation ceremony scheduled for May 2.

We wish all of you a great spring and hope you will find time to visit the College for a tour of our laboratory!

Susan Stricker

Susan Stricker (Susan.Stricker@carolinashealthcare.org)
Director, School of Radiologic Technology



School of Surgical Technology

It seems that we just said goodbye to spring, 2002, and another spring is here to greet us! Isn't it amazing how busy we all are at work and in our personal lives too! April, Mary Faye, and I are about to send another group out to join the corps of surgical technicians. The faculty and students send our sincere thanks to all alumni that assisted in mentoring the Class of 2003. Due to the constant barrage of technology and new procedures, we recognize how challenging mentoring can be in today's surgical arena. The faculty and students feel fortunate to have such excellent clinical sites. In May, we will begin with twelve new eager students, and, as always, they will be awestruck with your knowledge, skills, and the importance of your role. Be sure to catch the "Grads on the Go" section. A fellow alumnus sends a message to each of you not yet certified. I would also like to take this opportunity to challenge each of you to take the certification exam. You received the education and you owe it to yourself and the profession to complete the process. Please contact me at 704-355-1547 if I can answer questions concerning certification.

Becky Cuthbertson

Becky Cuthbertson
(Becky.Cuthbertson@carolinashealthcare.org)
Director, School of Surgical Technology

Mark Your Calendars!

Revised 2003 Alumni Association Meetings

Dates: Thursday, April 10, 2003
Tuesday, May 6, 2003
Tuesday, August 26, 2003
Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Location: Rankin Education Center (Carolinas College of Health Sciences)

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Follow what you love and it will take you where you want to go. -Natalie Goldberg

News Briefs

Long Lost Friends Meet at CCHS Alumni Meeting

When **Libby Greene** (SON '60) attended the February alumni meeting, she wasn't sure what to expect. She hadn't been receiving the alumni news, because the College didn't have her correct current address. But **Nancy Murray** (SON '54), enthusiastic recruiter for the Alumni Association, had convinced her to attend. She knew several other attendees and was enjoying renewing acquaintances but was totally surprised when **June Lashmit Booth** (SON '57) arrived for the meeting. The two, who'd been close friends in high school as well as in nursing school, hadn't seen each other in forty-three years! After recovering from the shock, they stayed at the College chatting into the night, and were last seen making plans to get together for lunch!

Class of 1952 Celebrates!

On May 2, 2002, several members of the class of 1952 celebrated at the home of **Ann Maynard Ackerman** on Emerald Isle following their 50th Anniversary celebration and tribute at the CCHS Commencement. Memorabilia added to the many memories of their three years at Charlotte Memorial. The weekend was filled with talking, laughter, and many funny stories. **Bertie Oliver Wadsworth, Lolita Ellison Griffin, Hattie Sue Stone Funderburke, Helen McMichael Hester, and Ann Maynard Ackerman** will always treasure this time together.

In Memorium: Rabbi David Zielonka, April 30, 1935 – April 4, 2003

Rabbi David Zielonka, who taught Ethics at CCHS for the past three years, passed away on April 4, 2003. He had triumphed over several serious health problems, but the esophageal cancer he was diagnosed with in late 2002 was too aggressive for even the specialists at Chapel Hill. Hundreds of CCHS students will remember David's gentleness, wisdom, twinkling good humor, and ever-present optimism. They'll also remember the lessons he taught both in class and through his own life: lessons about what is good, fair, ethical, and just. We will miss David, and will hold his family in our prayers. To paraphrase from a reading at his funeral: "Rabbi Zielonka's ship has returned to its home port. It is a homecoming to be celebrated rather than mourned, for it marks the end of a very good journey."

Congratulations, Debbie!

Congratulations to CCHS's Dean of Nursing, Dr. Deborah Blackwell, for selection to the Childbearing and Newborn Advisory Panel of AWHONN (Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses).

From the Alumni Association President



On January 6, CCHS alumni enjoyed an informal covered-dish "Post-Holiday Party" at my home in northeast Charlotte. The College provided the entrée, and alum brought a delicious assortment of salads, veggies, and desserts. Representation included alumni from the fifties through 2002.

The party was a great motivation for me to finish decorating my new home, and we hope that the event will turn into a new alumni tradition!

Among the topics discussed at the February 25 Alumni Association meeting was Senior Day, which is the focus of the article below. We also talked about the spring Alumni Barbecue, and are still working on a date for it. Finally, the Class of 1953 will be honored at graduation on May 2. We'll see you there! (Tina Arthur 704-599-3950 TinaA_rn@yahoo.com)

Coming Soon: CCHS Annual BBQ

Attendees will remember the inaugural 2002 Alumni Barbecue, held on April 21, as the hottest April 21 on record in North Carolina. And we aren't talking about the pepper sauce! Despite the heat, we all had a great time and vowed to make it an annual event!



Plans are underway now for the 2003 event. A date will be decided at the April 10 Alumni Association meeting, and your invitation will arrive accordingly. We hope that you'll plan to attend, and maybe even volunteer to help!

Senior Cap and Gown Day

On April 14, CCHS alumni will continue a tradition started two years ago: treating seniors to an informal reception on Senior Cap and Gown Day. This is the day when students nearing graduation pick up their caps and gowns, graduation invitations, etc. It's a fun day for seniors, and is the start of the in-earnest countdown to May graduation. The alumni reception is the highlight of the day for most seniors. After all, what college student doesn't relish homemade goodies and the chance to chat with someone who has been in his or her shoes! If you'd like to help bake for the reception, or to attend, please call Tina Arthur, Alumni Association President, at 704-599-3950 or email her at Tinaa_rn@yahoo.com .

Send Your Updates Online!

Your CCHS Alumni Website now allows you to notify us of your new address, phone, or email, your additional degrees, and your current news with just the click of a "Send" button! Go to the college website (www.CarolinasCollege.edu), select "Alumni"



Grads on the Go



Jackie Coleman, SOST 1998, is an alumna with an interesting biography. A native of Purvis, MS, Jackie earned a BS in Medical Technology with an additional major in Biology and a minor in Chemistry in 1980 from William Carey College in Hattiesburg, MS. After working many years in the laboratory setting, she took a sabbatical and taught piano to 25-27 students on a private lesson basis. Four years later, feeling a strong desire to reenter the health care arena, Jackie became acquainted with a parent at her child's school who was enrolled in the CCHS School of Surgical Technology. Jackie was enthralled with the career that her friend was pursuing and decided to take the plunge. She has no regrets. One of those rare individuals who excels in every academic endeavor, Jackie was the first graduate at CCHS to achieve a 4.0 in course work. Upon graduating in 1998, she became employed at Mercy Hospital in the department of Surgical Services. She found the position at Mercy very rewarding as she was allowed to take part in a variety of surgical specialties. One day she would be assigned to Neurosurgery, the next day Cardiac or maybe Orthopedics. Although she enjoys all surgical specialties, her real love is Orthopedics. She remembers the day that she expressed interest in expanding her knowledge and skills related to Total Joint procedures and, well, as they say, "The rest is history." The expertise she demonstrated in Orthopedics has provided her with yet another opportunity. Jackie will be leaving her position at Mercy to work as Private Scrub for Dr. Bob Humble with Oweida Orthopedic Practice. Additionally, Jackie plans to pursue a certificate in Surgical Technologist First Assist. One of the requirements for acceptance in the First Assist program is that the candidate must first pass the standard Surgical Technology certification. Even though Jackie completed the program in 1998, she had never taken the certification (as area hospitals don't require it for employment). Jackie sends a message to all the alumni who have not yet taken the exam, "It's never too late and I encourage all of you to do so."



Jackie Coleman

Jackie and her husband, Bob, have two sons, 19-year-old Chris, a Culinary Arts major, and 17-year-old Josh. Jackie continues to enjoy tickling the ivory keys and is the pianist for her church.

Congratulations to **Kimberly Yarborough**, SOMT 1983, and **Cyndie Hobson**, SOMT 1978, who were recognized on March 13 for their 20 and 25 years of service to the Carolinas HealthCare System, respectively. They both are faculty members at Carolinas College of Health Sciences. Kimberly graduated from NCSU and the School of Medical Technology in 1983. She began teaching hematology, coagulation, and special hematology in 1985 and has her certification as an MT(ASCP) Specialist in Hematology. Kimberly resides in Gastonia with her husband, Danny, and their two children, Torie and Hunter.

Cyndie graduated from UNC Wilmington and the Medical Technology program in



1978 and has her MT(ASCP) Specialist in Microbiology. Cyndie began teaching microbiology and parasitology in 1982 and has served as assistant supervisor in microbiology at CMC. Cyndie lives in Charlotte with her husband, Clark, and their two girls, Chandler and Cameron. Kimberly's 20 years of service and Cyndie's 25 years of service are greatly appreciated.

Emily Fincher Schlottman

(eschlottman@drewmedical.com), SORT 1998, graduated with a BA in Psychology from UNC-Charlotte in 1993. After earning her AAS from CCHS in August 1998, she returned to her childhood home of Orlando, Florida. She began her x-ray career working for Celebration Hospital, which is one of the most technically advanced, state-of-the-art hospitals in the area. It was a great learning experience. During her time at the hospital, Emily trained in mammography and received her mammography certification. After one year at the hospital, Emily accepted an x-ray position with Drew Medical, Inc., the largest outpatient diagnostic facility in the Orlando area. Within a year, Emily also trained in MRI and CT. In December 2000, Emily was promoted to Clinic Manager for one of Drew's offices located in southwest Orlando. Today, she still manages that clinic and has about twenty people working for her.



Emily Schlottman

On a personal note, Emily has been married to Jim Schlottman for almost 2 years. They attended high school together and met ten years later at their reunion. They recently built a new house in Orlando where they live with their two dogs.

Emily has many fond memories of her days at CCHS. She would love to hear from any former classmates - and has room in her house if you are planning a trip to Orlando!

Have you ever considered that a career in nursing might lead you to working as the RN in a cardiac cath lab or in a vascular lab? Three of our nursing graduates have found themselves in just such roles.

Jamillah Hasan-Jones (704-394-6379), SON 1998, is the interim Nurse Supervisor of the cath lab at CMC. She cares for clients in the pre- and post-procedure areas and has carved new ground for the nurse's role in the cath lab by assisting with the actual procedures. She says that this is an exciting place for nurses, where the role of the nurse is expanding.

Beate Graeter (704-739-9012), SON 1995, has been instrumental in getting things started in a new vascular lab at CMC, the Heinen Vascular Lab. She is writing policies and procedures and has learned how to scrub in on cases going to the OR to assist physicians in vascular procedures.

Micah Johnson Quam (mjquam@msn.com), SON 1997, who also is working in the CMC cath lab, is on the brink of starting a new research project in collaboration with the cardiology physicians. We are hoping to report in more detail about her research experience once the project gets underway.

Think this sounds like an rewarding job? Jamillah is eager to talk with anyone who is interested and give him or her tours of what is happening in this area.

That it will never come again is what makes life so sweet. -Emily Dickinson

A Tribute

Wilma Helen Wright Crawford, SON, died on December 29, 2002, leaving behind an inspiring legacy. Wilma was born July 16, 1930 in Franconia, VA. After graduating from Charlotte Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, she pursued a nursing career that spanned 35 years. Wilma dedicated herself to her nursing and to her family: her husband, Vance; daughter, Cathy, and husband, Wade Putnam (also a graduate of CCHS' SON) and their daughter, Joanna; daughter, Susan, and husband, Charley Hoke; and son, Jim. But her days as a student nurse remained in Wilma's heart, and her energetic response as an enthusiastic supporter of the College and active class representative benefited us all. Together with **Ginny Cloer, SON**, Wilma worked hard to locate old classmates and ultimately inspired our most active alumni class, the Class of 1951! Commenting about Wilma's passing, her dear friend, Ginny, echoed the sentiments of many: "It is a true loss to her classmates, as well as her family."

It's All So Political!

How often have you heard those words, usually uttered in exasperation when what we want to do is blocked by someone else's agenda? But in today's economic world, we must face reality: state budgets are the tightest they've been in fifteen years; patients in our hospitals are sicker; students are arguably more deficient in math, critical thinking, and communication skills than ever; and the healthcare personnel shortage appears to have no end in sight. It's tempting to wring one's hands Alice-in-Wonderland style, or to take the Scarlet O'Hara approach: "I'll think about it tomorrow."

CCHS has chosen, instead, to face the issues squarely.

Janie McCloskey (SON faculty) is serving on a state-wide task force to recommend revisions to the Board of Nursing's Standards of Practice for the state. Among the issues they're tackling, the most difficult is a perennial one: What should be the role of an RN and how will that change in the next ten years?

Deborah Blackwell (Dean, SON) recently convened a panel to present a new approach in patient care planning to nurse educators across the state.

Three CCHS faculty and two students attended a local conference focusing on the perplexing issue of serving the healthcare needs of a culturally diverse community with a not-so-diverse workforce.

Ellen Sheppard (President, CCHS) serves on a statewide taskforce to recommend solutions to the critical shortage of nurses. While Charlotte is in reasonably good shape (thanks largely to the nurses that CCHS graduates), much of the state has vacancy levels which are leading to the closure of hospital units and operating rooms. Concerns are particularly acute in long term care, where an aging population fills nursing homes, yet the shortage of RNs and LPNs leaves the units understaffed. Ellen attended a meeting in Washington DC at which representatives from Health and Human Services discussed the Nursing and Allied Health Reinvestment Acts and then met with congressional representatives to heighten their awareness. Locally, she has met with the Mecklenburg representatives to the NC Senate Education Committee (R. Roucho and C. Dannelly) to argue for reinstating the State Legislative Grant funds for Nursing Education, which were cut from the 2002 and 2003 state budget.

Hundreds of nurses and student nurses from across the state, including a CCHS contingent, descended on Raleigh on April 3 to make their presence felt among state legislators. The "March to the Capital" highlighted the importance of nurses in North Carolina and issues facing the nursing profession.

These are just a few of the ways in which CCHS's political activities are working for you and for the healthcare professions you represent. Let us know what you are doing so that we can feature your efforts in a future issue!

Innovative Staffing Collaboration Assists with RN Shortage

Nursing schools across the nation, struggling to educate enough RNs to meet staffing demands, face limited budgets and an under-supply of qualified nurse educators. Yet, amidst a looming crisis, creative solutions often emerge. One such solution is the staffing partnership recently forged by Carolinas College of Health Sciences and Carolinas Medical Center. The innovative partnership allows nurses in the clinical areas to work as adjunct faculty for the School of Nursing; the two entities to share the personnel cost.

Looking for opportunities to recognize RNs with outstanding clinical expertise, the CMC Staff Nurse Retention Committee recommended the program. Martha Whitecotton, VP of Nursing Services for CMC, immediately saw the value of expanded collaboration between the College and nursing service and forwarded the proposal to CCHS. In December, Dr. Deborah Blackwell, Dean of the CCHS School of Nursing, formally proposed the creation of shared adjunct faculty positions. Whitecotton actively encouraged staff nurses to apply. With the support of Jana Ramey, nurse manager on 10AB, Dawn McGee was selected by CCHS. Ms. McGee, an RN for fifteen years, had spent five years teaching high school health occupations students before returning to acute care in 1998. Under this arrangement, CCHS funds the 20 teaching hours per week that Dawn spends on CMC's 6 Tower. During the rest of her week, Dawn works for CMC, which also funds her benefits.

Nursing Fundamentals Coordinator Peggy Goodwin mentors Dawn in her role as a faculty member. In return, Dawn shares clinical expertise with SON faculty. According to Dr. Blackwell, this ten-week opportunity has fostered excellent collaboration between service and education. Whitecotton agrees: "This is truly a win-win situation. A nurse gets to try out a new career challenge, to see if she likes being an educator. And CCHS students get to learn from someone who is at the bedside every day, who lives with and loves the challenges faced by full time RNs." According to Sara Masters, CCHS Associate Dean of Nursing, "This program has been immensely successful. We definitely plan to provide this opportunity for other nurses in the future."

CCHS Alumni Assist with Recruitment

CCHS has hired a second admissions representative, Vikki Striffler, whose primary role will be to represent the College in the community. We've partnered with area high schools, such as Berry Academy and West Mecklenburg, to reach health occupations students. But our alumni are our best "word of mouth" advertising.

On March 20, CCHS alums **Wanda Whipple** (SON '00) and **Kit Sluder** (SON '93) spoke to a group of high school

students about their work as RN's. Wanda was also able to speak of the transition from LPN to ADN. They were joined by current CCHS students Kristi Treadaway (SON '03) and Scott Sheppard (NA '02), who emphasized the healthcare career ladder available for nurse aids, medical office assistants, and other healthcare provider levels.

If you would like to volunteer to assist with CCHS recruitment activities, please let us know. (If you've given us your name before, please call again to remind us that you're still interested!) Email or call Hampton Hopkins (Hampton.Hopkins@CarolinasCollege.edu; 704.355.5585) or Kim Wagner (Kim.Wagner@CarolinasCollege.edu; 704.355.5583).

CCHS Encourages Students to Continue Education

Carolinas College of Health Sciences welcomed ten colleges and universities to the Rankin Education Center on March 10. This effort to encourage CCHS graduates to continue their healthcare education beyond the entry level has become a much anticipated event by students, alumni, and visiting Colleges. Current healthcare students from CCHS, Mercy School of Nursing, and Central Piedmont Community College attended, as did CCHS alumni. Visiting colleges and universities included East Carolina, Winston-Salem State, Gardner Webb, UNCC, University of Phoenix, Western Carolina, Palmer College of Chiropractic, Queens, and Pfeiffer. Said organizer Rhoda Gallo, CCHS Registrar, "Many students learned today that they can work full time at a CHS facility and still pursue a bachelor's or master's degree in the evenings and on weekends.



Many schools, like East Carolina University, now offer distance education programs that make advanced degrees possible, even for full time professionals." Bettie Little, RN-BSN Coordinator for Winston Salem State University, expressed her enthusiasm: "Of all the events we go to, the one at CCHS is my favorite! The students are so pleased to learn that, by driving to Salisbury once or twice a week, they can begin to develop their associate degree into a baccalaureate!"

CCHS Graduates are Setting Records for Going Back to School

Careful readers may remember the article a year ago in which **Curtis Petree** and **Michael Mahler** (both SON '98) were featured as completing their BSNs and critical care prerequisites, and now studying to be nurse anesthetists at the CMC/UNCC program, housed in the Rankin Education Center. Well, they've been joined by a third CCHS Alum! **Sandra Jessup** (SON '96) entered the CMC CRNA program in January, 2003. So far as we know, this is an all time high!

Demonstrating the effect of teamwork on motivation, **Marla Gonzales** (SON '01) and **Billy Buckingham** (SON '99) are spurring each other on in their educational journeys. Both completed their BSN at UNCC and had contemplated continuing into a master's degree program. Contemplation

semester of MSN distance education coursework with Graceland University. Marla reports, "I fully intend to go right on into a PhD program when I finish my master's. I think that if you stop, you get comfortable. Right now I'm accustomed to working full time and going to school. If I get used to anything else, I might not ever recapture this enthusiasm!"

Wilma Crawford Nursing Resource Collection Established

When Wilma Wright Crawford (SON, 1951) passed away in December 2002, the College, her class, and much of the Charlotte community grieved with her family. (See memorial tribute on page 5). Though we all knew that Wilma left us with memories that would be treasured forever, her family assured that by encouraging friends and classmates, in lieu of flowers, to make a memorial contribution to the CCHS School of Nursing. They challenged the nursing faculty to determine a creative and fitting use for those contributions. Their response: a nursing textbook and resource collection.

What a fitting tribute to Wilma, who so loved nursing and was such a loyal supporter of the College. She was proud of the fine work the College is doing to educate tomorrow's nurses, but equally, she treasured its association with her fond memories as a student nurse at Charlotte Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, Class of 1951.

The rationale for a textbook lending library arose from student need. Though the College contracts with the local AHEC medical library to serve as a research facility for students, textbooks in that collection may not be checked out. Nursing students are required to purchase a mountain of textbooks during their first semester. With the average nursing textbook costing nearly \$100, book expenses can easily exceed six or seven hundred dollars the first semester. Too often, economic necessity forces students to seek ways to save on text expenses. They try sharing texts, buying the "required" but not the "recommended" books, or doing all of their studying in the library, using the few copies on reserve. These students suffer an academic disadvantage. Additionally, the typical student cannot afford to purchase the myriad valuable, non-required resources, such as drug flash cards and supplemental software. The need for a textbook lending collection was obvious.

The Wilma Crawford Memorial Textbook Collection will be housed at the College instead of the Medical Education Library. Books and study materials in the collection will be available for checkout. There will be two copies of nursing and anatomy textbooks. As new editions are published, or as textbook adoptions change, the collection will be updated. This will continue for as long as funds remain in the Wilma Crawford Memorial Fund. A small shelf plaque will identify the collection, and a special bookplate will be printed and placed in the front of each text purchased with the Fund. The bookplate will acquaint the student with Wilma Crawford, and will celebrate both the life and the gifts which make this resource collection possible.

The College is grateful to the Crawford family for allowing classmates and colleagues to pay tribute to Wilma in this far-reaching way, and to the many contributors to this fund.

2003 Alumni Phone-a-thon Coming Soon, with a \$10,000 Goal!



Comments students made after our first two annual phonathons included: "Our graduates are so nice....I loved talking them!" and "Wow - that alum from the Class of '94 had the same clinical instructor I have now!"

The 2002 Alumni Phone-a-thon was a huge success. We raised over \$3000 (more than \$6,000 when matched by the Carolinas HealthCare Foundation!) and reconnected with some very warm and wonderful graduates. The proceeds went into the College's Development Fund and have assisted with completion of our energized lab, purchase of twelve new microscopes, minor remodeling of the College kitchen, and development of a tutoring program.

We enjoyed the 2002 phon-a-thon and its outcomes so much that we're ready to do it again! The 2003 event will span 3 weeknights during the final week of May. Current students, staff, and faculty will staff our phone bank; we'll be calling to update our alumni phone and email listings, and, of course, to solicit your support for our 2003 fundraising goals. Our goal is to raise pledges and gifts of \$5,000 (\$10,000 when matched by the generous Carolinas HealthCare Foundation). This is a very aggressive fundraising initiative, but you've never let us down before. Choose one of the following alternatives:

1. Have a credit card ready when we call. Your gift will be immediate, easy, and will save us postage and you paperwork. You will receive a receipt to use for tax purposes, and a special "thank you" gift for choosing the most efficient way of giving.
2. Pledge your gift over the phone. We'll send paperwork allowing you to specify the giving intervals that work best for you.
3. Avoid the call altogether - use the enclosed envelope to give now, and we'll take you off our phone-a-thon call list. (Though we'll miss talking to you!)



If you'd like to help with the phone-a-thon, please contact Patty McCrary, this year's Phone-a-thon Chair, at 704.355.7689 (patty.mccrary@carolinashealthcare.org) or Hampton Hopkins at 704.355.5585 (Hampton.hopkins@carolinashealthcare.org).



Donors Hall of Fame

Thank you for these generous pledges and gifts given since November 2002:

President's Circle (\$500 - \$999)

CCHS Student Government Association

Sponsor (\$100 - \$249)

William J. Billiard, to honor Wilma Crawford
Blessed Assurance Adult Day Care (Nathaniel Huggins, SON 1996)

Julie Brenizer, SON 1965

Virginia S. Cloer, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Emily Cracknell, SON 1951

Keith M. Crawford, to honor Wilma Crawford

Cerese Feagans, SON 2001

Hampton Hopkins

Sara Masters

Bruce McCarty, to honor Wilma Crawford

Edith B. Parks (Odell International), to honor Wilma Crawford

Other Donors

Joe and Connie Anderson, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

George and Wilma Austin, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Daniel and Barbara Aycock, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Phyllis G. Barnes, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Robert and Catherine Bennington, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Perry L. Cabe, to honor Wilma Crawford

James and Janet Clapp, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Max Collom, to honor Wilma Crawford

Robert M. Czapp, to honor Wilma Crawford

Terry B. Falk, to honor Wilma Crawford

Gerrard Tire Company, to honor Wilma Crawford

Eunice Hoffman, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

John Hoke, to honor Wilma Crawford

William R. Ivey, to honor Wilma Crawford

Barbara C. Johnston, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Carl Marinoff, to honor Wilma Crawford

G. P. Marinoff, to honor Wilma Crawford

Lois L. Marinoff, to honor Wilma Crawford

David W. McAllister, to honor Wilma Crawford

Joyce H. Merritt, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Frank C. Moffett, to honor Wilma Crawford

Laura Pring, SORT 2002

Nell H. Putnam, to honor Wilma Crawford

William G. Reynolds, to honor Wilma Crawford

Curtis and Rayma Robbins, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Elizabeth Schaal, to honor Wilma Crawford

Mary Ann Stewart, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Evelyn Thomas, to honor Wilma Crawford

Katherine S. Townsend, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Lily Hue-en Tsao Vance, SOMT 1998 & SON 2000

Margaret C. Viso, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Janice Watson, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Janice Wright, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Nancy M. Young, SON 1951, to honor Wilma Crawford

Where your pleasure is, there is your treasure; where your treasure, there your heart; where your heart, there your happiness. -Augustine

Alumni Pathways



SOMT	School of Medical Technology
SON	School of Nursing
SORT	School of Radiologic Technology
SOST	School of Surgical Technology

Alumni Association Co-Presidents

Tina Arthur, 704-599-3950, tinaa_rn@yahoo.com
Christy Leyland, 704-888-1662, leylandchristy@aol.com

Class of 1948, SON

Audrey Martin Brown Ewing, '48-II, retired in 1992 after 46 years in nursing. Her various assignments, from newborn to geriatrics, OR, ER, orthopedics, med surg and doctor's office nurse, included nine different hospitals and twelve years as a unit nurse in a correctional facility. She has fond memories of nursing and of her years as a student at Charlotte Memorial Hospital. Audrey now lives on 3.14 acres with a small lake and enjoys gardening and church work. She has three children, three grandchildren, and three-going-on-four great-grandchildren.

Class of 1951, SON

Ginny Cloer 704-523-5949

Janice Wright, RoadWright@aol.com

The annual class reunion is set for September 6-7, 2003, with the same Woodlawn Road Holiday Inn accommodations. Individual registration information will be forthcoming. A keenly felt vacancy will be the loss of **Wilma Wright Crawford**, due to a brain hemorrhage, on December 29, 2002. Vance and her family deeply appreciate the massive support they have received. (Their eldest daughter, Cathy, and husband, Wade Putman, continued with and completed their own medical mission trip to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. **Wade is also a Carolinas SON graduate!**) **Anne Britt Meiers** has a March 23 return trip to Nashville to check on the two-year-old reconstruction surgery on her foot and her temporal arthritis, all in preparation for a May return to Johns Hopkins. **Babs Campbell Johnston** now has that first grandchild! Campbell Allen Johnston, 8 lb 7 oz, was born March 14, 2003. The proud parents are son, "Mitch," and wife, Meredith, now in Richmond, VA.. Babs remains quite concerned about her only brother, who had the last of multiple surgeries the day Campbell was born. **Billie White Mitchell's** husband, Jim, goes for his third chemo treatment on April 2 for the fast growing cancer found in mid-February. He is at home now on I.V. fluids. Although he has tolerated the chemo, his general condition is poor. (His first stroke was October, 1996, so it has been a lengthy period of illness made sustainable by Billie's own outstanding support. They have no living relatives other than their own two sons' families.)

Barbara Baumgardner Aycock and husband, Dan, have just returned from a March trip to Charleston and the Citadel to see grandson, Oliver Aycock, in the dress parade (on a rainy, muddy day, in dress whites!) Several of Oliver's classmates have already been called up for the war in Iraq. He remains on stand-by at present.

Cathy Cook Bennington's sister, Ruby, died January 8 (her last sibling of eleven). **Margaret Cooper Viso** lost her 95-year-old mother on February 10. Our deepest sympathy to both of them.

been with husband, Joe Del Vento, for further cancer treatment. Sissy is to return to Burnsville, NC on March 26. **Barbara Gardner Gray's** family is looking forward to a July family gathering at Kitty Hawk, NC. **Lorraine ("Smitty") Pelletier** and husband, Jere Rufus, have had a late winter family reprieve in a ski vacation at Horseshoe. (Even the youngest baby grandson, Justin, 15 months, was present.) **"Sooky" Spires Hoffman** has returned from her latest hospital mission trip to the Dominican Republic, north side of the island, at Puerto Plata. She was scrubbing for surgery, and reports that scrubbing was one of the greatest experiences she had at CMH!

Evelyn Howie Reiners's husband, Peter, had several mid-March biopsies with no lymphoma cells found. The chemo that started October, 2002 has done its magic; he has tolerated it beautifully. The oncologist estimates two more years of treatment.

Louise "Mossy" Ansley ("Survivor," like **Rayma Lou Kirby Robbins**), and husband, Bob, are planning to take son David's two children to Idaho to spend two weeks with daughter Shannon's family. The trip is planned for June. **Hazel Tuttle Borders** and Dr. Bob Roach will be off again to the Masters in Augusta. She is very pleased that her sister, Mabel, has moved beside her. **Katherine Stewart Townsend** and husband, Bill, hope to come from Hawaii to the Carolinas in late July for a family gathering honoring her 80-year-old sister, Eloise. They are hoping to be able to stay over for the annual class reunion. Their son, Howard, has had studies revealing reduction in the size of the brain and chest tumors. He sees the oncologist for his three-month check-up in mid-April, as does Katherine herself.

Janice Gibson Wright became Mrs. Vic Luckey on March 29 at the Raintree Country Club in Charlotte. (Her address and e-mail remain the same, with plans for a winter home in Florida.) It was a happy mini-reunion for **B. J.** and **Paul McCartin**, **Barbara** and **Dan Aycock**, **Ginger Cloer**, **Margaret Viso** and daughter, **Teresa**, **Nancy Young**, and **Vance Crawford**.

Lazelle Lombard Vielle is hoping that this September gathering will enable her to see classmates she missed when 9/11 cancelled that flight.

Class of 1952, SON

Carolyn Morgan Talley 704-365-6053

Please send information updates by **June 10** to **Carolyn Morgan Talley** at 6139 Creola Rd., Charlotte, NC, 28270. If she receives enough information, she will generate a class newsletter. Carolyn looks forward to hearing from all of you.

On May 2, 2002, several members of the Class of 1952 celebrated at the home of **Ann Maynard Ackerman** on Emerald Isle following their 50th Anniversary celebration and tribute at the CCHS Commencement. Memorabilia added to the many memories of their three years at Charlotte Memorial. The weekend was filled with talking, laughter, and many funny stories. **Bertie Oliver Wadsworth**, **Lolita Ellison Griffin**, **Hattie Sue Stone Funderburke**, **Helen McMichael Hester**, and **Ann Maynard Ackerman** will always treasure their time together.

Alumni Pathways



SOMT	School of Medical Technology
SON	School of Nursing
SORT	School of Radiologic Technology
SOST	School of Surgical Technology

Class of 1953

Kathleen Yount 704-334-6256

Peggy Woods Kearney, SON, continues to recover from a stroke, with some visual impairment.

Class of 1958

Janice B. Smith 704-536-9172

Nellie Loretta Welton, SON, retired from the Army Nurse Corps in 1984. She moved from Corpus Christi, TX, to Burnsville, NC, in 2000, and is working part-time in a local nursing/retirement center.

Class of 1965

Julie Nattress Brenizer 704-376-4942

Martha Plyler, SOMT, is working in the laboratory at CMC Mercy.

Class of 1967

Linda Perkins 704-355-9711; 704-521-9242

Linda.Perkins@carolinashealthcare.org; lperkinsrn@aol.com

Linda Perkins, SON, is recovering from minor hand surgery.

Class of 1973

Christin Wall Comstock, SORT, was remarried on January 28, 2003.

Class of 1992

Valerie Brown 704-227-1500

vbrownrn@juno.com

Marla Ward Seifert, SOMT, had a baby boy on March 18, 2003. Zachary weighed in at 6 lb 9 oz and was 19 inches long.

Class of 1995

Mike King 704-559-4229

Eric.Hiatt.336-286-0439@erushhiatt@aol.com

Anita Bishop, SON, has had minor surgery and will be recuperating for a few weeks.

Sue Smith, SON, accepted a position in the OR at Presbyterian Matthews in August, 2002.

Class of 1996

Erica Cirillo rica2673@hotmail.com

Scott Winslow 704-821-5239 smwins@msn.com

Danny Dye, SORT, has been working at CMC since graduation. He passed his vascular technology boards in October, 2002, and is now registered in x-ray, abdominal ultrasound and vascular ultrasound.

Melissa Williams, SON, works for CMC in Medical Intensive Care in a weekender position. In December, 2002, she graduated from the RN to BSN program at Winston Salem State University. She has been studying for the GRE exam in March and eventually plans to pursue a Master's in Anesthesia or Nurse Practitioner. She and her husband, who also plans to study nursing, have six children, the oldest of which will graduate from high school in 2004.

Class of 1997

Jeff Reece 704-875-6277 jreece@hq.chs.net

Krista Reel Phillips, SON, and husband, Chris, have a new baby boy, born November 11, 2002. Named Miles Christian, he weighed 8 lbs 7 oz and was 21.5 inches long.

Class of 1998

Jamillah Hasan-Jones 704-394-6379/704-905-1259

Donna Plyler Caskey, SOMT, is finishing her second year as a biology and earth science teacher at Buford High School. On the weekends, she works PRN in the laboratory at Springs Memorial Hospital in Lancaster, SC.

Class of 1999

Billy Buckingham 704-395-0150

Billy.Buckingham@carolinashealthcare.org

Rodney Currin 704-567-2372 rpcurrin@aol.com

Sarah Hensel Martino, SON, and husband, Chris, had a 9 lb baby boy, Brandon Thomas, on April 30, 2002. Older sister Savannah Noel turned two on December 15.

Julie Milstead, SON, is a Public Health Nurse and Educator in Women's Health at the Gaston County Health Department.

Class of 2000

Nanda Rhodes 704-455-9396 rhodesrn@earthlink.net

Tera Mullis 704-624-5118

Sherry Jones Clark, SORT, successfully completed the Rad Therapy program in Spartanburg in September and is currently enjoying her work as a therapist at Union's new cancer center.

Class of 2001

Tina Arthur 704-599-3950 TinaA_rn@yahoo.com

Marla Gonzalez 704-504-9658 Dbrtflr@aol.com

Christy Leyland 704-668-9531 tinkerpooh_66@hotmail.com

Rebecca Dellinger-Pryor, SON, and husband, Mark, are expecting their first baby, a boy, in April.

Tammy Sanders, SORT, and Rodney Monteith are expecting a baby girl on March 23, 2003.

Class of 2002

Julie Klaffer 803-366-9517 klaffer@cetlink.net

Spread your love everywhere you go. -Mother Teresa



ALUMNI NEWS!

*MOVING?
Don't forget to let us know
your new address!*



Please help us in our efforts to keep in touch with you and your classmates by sharing your news. You can contact us by mail, fax, or e-mail:

Name: _____

Program: _____

Year: _____

Address/Address Change: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

News for the next issue of The Alumni Newsletter: _____

E-mail: Ellen.Sheppard@carolinashealthcare.org



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