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Loma Linda University School of Nursing

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Loma Linda

NURSE

Fall 2007

Vol. XVI, No. 1



MY YEARS AT LOMA LINDA

Longtime faculty member Eva Miller shares her story

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- REMEMBERING HAZEL WOOD
- MARJORIE WHITNEY—THE LIFE OF A MISSIONARY

Table OF CONTENTS

Fall 2007

Vol. XVI, No. 1

Message from the dean	3
News from the school	4
MY YEARS AT LOMA LINDA: <i>Longtime faculty member Eva Miller shares her story</i>	6
Feature—Adeeba Evans	10
LLUSN survey	12
Letter from the alumni president	13
Alumni homecoming	14
Remembering Hazel Wood	19
Alumni feature—Marjorie Whitney	20

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Message FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends,

This year was another exciting time for the School of Nursing. We've celebrated many milestones over the past few years, and this year we hit another one. In June, we graduated our 100th nursing class. This was a special year for graduations, as it also marked our 50th anniversary of our first master's degree nursing graduates. Amazingly, during commencement ceremonies this year, our first two nursing doctoral students marched down the aisle.

In this issue of [LOMA LINDA NURSE](#), we celebrate long-term commitment to the School, and to the mission field. Eva Miller has been a faculty member at the School for more than 25 years. She writes for us in this issue, sharing her memories of her years here.

I'd also like to share a story about Adeeba Evans, who has been a fixture in this School for 25 years as an administrative assistant.

Finally, we have a story on Marjorie Whitney—a 1932 graduate who spent the majority of her years in mission service at many of our institutions. Her story is quite inspiring.

If you have a moment, I would ask that you help us out and complete the survey on page 12. With the rising costs of postage, preparing and sending out [LOMA LINDA NURSE](#) is becoming quite expensive. We would like to see how beneficial [NURSE](#) is to our alumni and if [NURSE](#) is meeting your needs. This magazine was developed for you, and communicating with you is very important to us.

Thank you for your continued support of this School and this institution. You have made a difference here.

Sincerely,



Marilyn M. Herrmann, PhD, RN
Dean, School of Nursing



School of Nursing graduates first BS students in Japan program

Nine nurses from Saniku Gakuin College (SGC), Chiba prefecture, Japan, visited Loma Linda University in February to complete their bachelor's degree program in nursing.

Five of the nurses completed all requirements for their BS in nursing and graduated in June. The last four nurses will be finishing up required general education courses and will be graduating in June 2008.

"When finished, three students will be working at Tokyo Adventist Hospital, two at Kobe Adventist Hospital, and two will be working as clinical instructors for Saniku Gakuin College," says Jan Nick, PhD, RNC, associate professor, LLUSN.

According to Dr. Nick, two of the nine students have already developed plans for a master's degree in nursing.

The students—Keigo Ito, Fumi Matsumoto, Risa Sato, Mika Yokoyama, Naomi Ito, Yoshiko Fujibayashi, Midori Hamamoto, Hiroko Sato, and Akiko Takahashi—were accompanied by the Japanese program coordinator, Reiko Konno, MS, RN. Dr. Nick serves as the program coordinator for LLU.

Saniku Gakuin College currently offers AS degrees in nursing, as well as a community health nursing certificate pro-

gram. It is the only Adventist college in Japan, and more than two-thirds of the student body are nursing students.

In addition to nursing, the college also offers degrees in theology, education, and English.

Due to changing health care needs, and support from the Japan Nurse's Association, SGC decided to upgrade its nursing program from associate's to bachelor's degree.

In 2003 and 2004, SGC president Yoshibumi Takahashi, vice president Isao Ueda, and Yoshiko Otake, chair of the department of nursing, began discussions in earnest with LLUSN administrators. With support from LLUSN faculty, the two schools signed a contract in October 2004.

In April 2006, faculty teaching senior level nursing courses began offering a two-to-three-week intensive course at SGC.

The SGC faculty worked closely with LLU faculty to interpret verbal instruction, grade written assignments, and translate teaching materials. For courses having a clinical component, students would then complete clinical assignments once the LLU faculty left. This rotation was repeated approximately every two months.



School of Nursing alumna creates merit award fellowship for doctoral students

An alumna has created a new merit award fellowship to assist doctoral nursing students.

Karen J. Radke, PhD, RN, a 1964 graduate of the nursing program at LLUSN, developed this fellowship as the only one of its kind in the School. It is also the first of its kind in the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

The fellowship provides \$10,000 a year to doctoral students to be used for cost of living and dissertation research expenses.

To be eligible for the award, the student must be full time and in good standing. Priority for the fellowship is given to members of the Adventist Church. The fellowship is given to one doctoral student per entering class for the first two years of full-time study. To receive a second year of the fellowship, the student must demonstrate satisfactory progress.

"It's really a merit award for being outstanding," says Dr. Radke. "There really are no strings attached. This fellowship is given to outstanding applicants who show the highest potential for academic and professional success."

According to Dr. Radke, there are many valid reasons for this new fellowship program.

"There are loans available, but often times the cost of living in Southern California causes hesi-

tation for prospective LLU students," she adds.

Also, international applicants with temporary or student visas are not eligible for individual predoctoral funding from the National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, so the fellowship can assist with dissertation research expenses.

With a critical shortage of doctorally prepared nurses, fellowship awards such as these become crucial, says Dr. Radke.

"I strongly believe that nurse leaders need to be doctorally prepared," she says. "Because this is a new program, I hope it will help recruit nurses for the PhD program.

"I always felt that I had an excellent nursing education at LLU, but I never realized how solid my education was until I continued with my graduate studies," Dr. Radke notes.

After receiving her master's degree from Boston University, Dr. Radke worked at LLUMC. She served on the faculty at LLUSN for three years (1969 to 1972). During that period of time, Dr. Radke participated in the development and implementation of the first baccalaureate degree program in nursing in Jamaica in conjunction with West Indies College (now Northern Caribbean University) and under the auspices of LLU.

After Dr. Radke joined the University of Tennessee as faculty, she knew she wanted a career in academics.

She attended Indiana University Medical School and earned a PhD in physiology.

Dr. Radke worked as a faculty member in both the School of Nursing and the School of Medicine at University of Rochester, New York, for 13 years.

After serving as professor and associate dean, School of Nursing, and professor of physiology, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, State University of New York at Buffalo, Dr. Radke retired in 2002.

Since retiring, Dr. Radke continued helping nurses become doctorally prepared.

"When the doctoral program began, it became clear that this was the area I felt I could be of the most help," she says.

According to Dr. Radke, there are many opportunities for alumni to help struggling nursing students.

"I really want to encourage other alumni to give back to the next generation of nurses," she adds. "Alumni have a responsibility to give back to their alma mater.

"God has been wonderfully good to me and I pray that He blesses this small gift to help others achieve their academic and professional goals."

MY YEARS AT LOMA LINDA:

Longtime faculty member Eva Miller shares her story

Recently I heard a talk show host ask the question, “Has your life been what you dreamed it would be?”

I can definitely answer, “No.” In high school as I read about mission work, I dreamed of being a nurse in Africa. As a young adult in the nursing program at the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University School of Nursing), I was sidetracked in this goal by falling in love and marrying a pre-medical student, yet thinking that we might someday become a medical missionary team.

Upon completing the nursing program I went to work as an OB nurse at Loma Linda Sanitarium and Hospital and completed the coursework necessary for the public health nurse (PHN) certificate. (LLUSN was accredited for the PHN certification the year after I graduated.) A public health nurse is an actively licensed registered nurse with a bachelor of science

in nursing (BSN) or its equivalent, who holds a certificate issued by the California Board of Registered Nursing, works in an official public health agency, and provides nursing care in homes, assists with clinics, and provides nursing in times of disaster in communities. The goal of public health nursing is promoting health and preventing disease. PHNs have always valued mentoring, overseeing, and supporting families with their health care. Today, LLUSN undergraduate students are prepared for the certificate upon completion of the BS program.

After completing the required coursework, I began a public health nursing career. In time, I became a mother and thought I could be fulfilled as a doctor’s wife and mother with a beautiful home, entertaining professional friends and serving the church and community. Together my husband and I had taught nutrition classes and self-help courses to survive an

atomic bomb, as well as taking leadership in Sabbath School for toddlers and teens. That dream came to an abrupt end when my husband unexpectedly died.

After grieving for three years, a very dear friend encouraged me to advance my education and to become a nurse educator. I was now a widow with two small daughters to support and nurture. I thought this career would shorten my days and allow me to take summers off. I was able to work part-time until my girls completed high school. Teaching, I soon learned, does not shorten one’s day. However, it can make one’s day more flexible.

As I was completing my graduate program I met my current husband. We were married in the summer of my second year of teaching. We relocated to a home in Reche Canyon, where three additional children—ages 18, 17, and 12—and horses added spice and fulfillment on the home front.

Never had I ever dreamed of being a nurse educator, much less teaching at my alma mater. Thirty years later I can affirm that those years have been extraordinarily fulfilling. My teaching career was preceded by 13 years of experience as a public health nurse in three states. Each assignment provided opportunities with a variety of populations. My first experience was in an urban section of southwest Los Angeles, followed by a home health agency in Fontana, a rural community and migrant labor camp in Pennsylvania, and a suburban community and school nursing in Hawaii. These experiences prepared me well for my advanced studies as well as the community/public health nursing educator role.

In 1960, my clinical experience for the PHN certificate was with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Fifteen years later LLUSN was envied and blessed to have affiliations with both the Riverside and San Bernardino Counties Departments of Public Health. Many schools of nursing do not have the advantage of teaching community/public health nursing in an official agency. This good fortune is credited to the influence and good work of faculty members Dr. Ruth White, who is now deceased, and Dr. Marilyn Christian Smith Gearing, who preceded my tenure. The nursing directors of these agencies were most supportive of nursing educa-



In the photo above, Dr. Miller conducts vision screening for pre-school age children during an outreach program in coordination with the School of Medicine.

tion as they saw this opportunity to recruit staff for their programs.

The nursing profession has always responded to the health needs of society and changes in health care delivery. The following narrative is evidence of the challenges this commitment brings to the education of professional nurses. As a nurse educator I was always concerned that I was not current with practice. I was able to do faculty practice as a staff PHN in San Bernardino Department of Public Health.

At the outset of my career, each quarter LLUSN students were assigned 10 families from the local public health nurses' case loads. The staff public health nurses mentored the students as they worked with the families. During the 70s, it was not uncom-

mon for the public health nurse to have a caseload of 120 families or more. Each student was expected to make 20 visits during the quarter. They assessed the needs of families, did health teaching, and referred family members to health and welfare resources in their communities. In addition they observed other community nurses: school nurses in the public schools, a home health nurse, and an occupational health nurse. These learning experiences introduced students to the wide variety of resources in communities and the special health needs of various populations. Except for the number of families, these learning experiences continue today.

The 1980s presented many challenges to public health nursing education because of dwindling

funds due to cutbacks in local tax revenues and a shift in health care funding away from prevention to acute illness care. Of particular concern to educators was the development in California of a public health nursing certification exam in addition to the Board of Registered Nurses exam.

In 1983, my colleagues and I initiated bi-annual collaboration meetings of community health nurse educators of 11 National League of Nurses accredited schools of nursing in Southern California to discuss trends and concerns in community health nursing education, including clinical experiences. Public health agency representatives were included. We called our group Southern California Community Health Educators. This group created letterhead and was proactive in thwarting the establishment of the special exam. This group functioned for 10 years with

rotating leadership.

During this time period, it was believed that specialization for nursing practice should begin during basic education. Students were offered two elective nursing courses of their choice. Courses were developed for specialties such as home health nursing, oncology nursing, advanced obstetrical nursing, advanced pediatric nursing, advanced public health nursing, and school nursing (which I taught for five years). Many of these courses allowed for an agency preceptor with whom students were placed. I supervised their learning experiences in six school districts. My relationships continued with school nurse coordinators in these districts as I taught and supervised graduate students seeking the school nurse credential in the graduate program.

During the 1990s, the emphasis in public community health

nursing clinical education began to concentrate on special populations at risk for disease and disability. With the changes in the financing of health care, nursing in the community became more episodic, as the money was not there to support long-term services. Health departments began to assign students to families that the departments could no longer serve, but would benefit from further mentoring and teaching. Because the populations that health departments serve are more transient, students used their detective skills to locate them. Student caseloads dwindled to five families and other learning opportunities were sought.

For many years (1975 to 1993), students went into San Bernardino County Juvenile Hall and conducted formal health teaching to groups on the units there. On October 13, 1993, the Richard Dooley Memorial Award was presented to community health nursing students by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission of San Bernardino County.

As the 90s came to an end, the focus of public/community health nursing curriculum broadened to include assessment of a community for the health needs of a special population within that community. This also included managing three to five families, usually low-risk new moms and babies. Because these families were low-risk, students were given brand new referrals from the



Dr. Miller poses for a picture with her two daughters and one of her grandchildren.

county hospitals. To assess a community, students collected census data, disease and illness statistics; identified a special needs population within that community; explored community resources for the identified need; and intervened with a group. Special needs populations included preschool children, aging persons in a church parish who wished to remain independent in their homes, homeless individuals who utilized a feeding center, and pregnant and parenting teens. This curricular focus is continuing even now.

Highlights of my 30 years in education included planning, organizing, and implementing two job fairs and two health fair expos. As public relations committee chair in 1980 and 1982—in response to some 80 hospitals and health care agencies requesting a time to interview graduating students—I created the nursing job fairs to provide students an educational experience for job finding and to give employing institutions an opportunity to interview prospective employees. Health care agencies of the Seventh-day Adventist Church along with local agencies participated. Some wished to contact students in the allied health professions, and the School of Allied Health Professions continues the job fairs for all health professions.

The School of Nursing sponsored the first two health fair expos at Loma Linda in 1989

and 1990. The Red Cross had developed many of the protocols and forms. KNBC radio and TV provided publicity along with the major Riverside/San Bernardino newspapers. This outreach to the community provided learning opportunities for nursing, medical, dental, allied health, and nurse practitioner students and, because of the wide variety of screenings and health education, became a model for other health fair expos in Southern California. LLU Medical Center continues this community outreach.

In 1985, I became a member of a coalition of school nurse educators across the state that continued until my retirement. This group redesigned and updated guidelines for the curriculum for school nurse credential programs approved by California State Commission on Teacher Credentialing. I also was a member of site visit evaluation teams for California State Commission on Teacher Credentialing, Health Services (school nurse) Credential Programs on three occasions. The networking and camaraderie with these esteemed professional educators buoyed my outreach locally with school districts.

The rewards of teaching include designing learning opportunities that create student excitement with the material, seeing them implement their learning with their clients, later meeting former students who have achieved professional status going on to make greater contri-

butions to the profession, and being told by former students that I was fair in my interactions with them. I was always concerned that students have confidence in their knowledge and skills. My philosophy of teaching/learning includes the belief that the teacher is a learner with the student. My former students have taught me many precious lessons.

Some of my former students may see me as a role model. However, one astute student gave me a copy of *Women Who Do Too Much*. That was a wake-up call to take care of me. I didn't heed this call as I began doctoral study while working in 1993. My advice, don't wait as long as I did to do doctoral study. Our profession needs younger educated leaders.

Yes, my life has been much different than I dreamed but I can truthfully say that I have been blessed beyond measure by my relationships with students, colleagues, family, and my God!

I would acknowledge my alma mater. It was an honor and a privilege to have attended. Both my professional career and my personal life have depended heavily on the foundation of knowledge and my experiences at this Christian institution.

Dr. Miller has been newsletter editor of Near & Far (former title of Loma Linda Nurse) and held various leadership roles including leading out in a remodel of the House of Thrift in the late 80s for LLUSN Alumni Association. Receiving the doctorate of nursing science in May 2006, she retired June 30, 2006. She continues to serve as archivist for the Gamma Alpha Chapter of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, and is president-elect. Eva lives with her husband in Reche Canyon and shares five adult children and 10 grandchildren.

ADEEBA EVANS

Retiring assistant proves that hard work brings prosperity

Adeeba Evans lives by the famous proverb, “hard work brings prosperity.” She recently retired after working 25 years at Loma Linda University School of Nursing. However, her hard work started many years before and many miles away from LLUSN.

Mrs. Evans was born in Iraq and is one of six children. Her father was employed by the Iraqi government to work as a construction supervisor. He worked hard with his team to put in sidewalks on local streets. However, her father’s job soon interfered with his religious beliefs when her family was first introduced to the Adventist faith by her mother’s cousin. The Adventist religion soon spread in Adeeba’s family. First her mother was converted, and then her father, and the children followed.

“My father was devoted to keeping the Sabbath,” she says.

As a Muslim country, Iraq’s working week started on Saturday with a weekend break on Friday.

“Before my father became an Adventist he usually worked on



Adeeba and her husband, Younathan

Saturdays,” says Mrs. Evans.

But after he became an Adventist he informed the engineer that he could no longer work on Saturdays, and he was laid off. Although her father knew it would be difficult to provide for his children without a job, he trusted God to provide.

“My father’s former director soon realized how valuable he was because of his good work,” says Mrs. Evans.

So without hesitation or question, her father’s previous employer offered him a raise, his job, and allowed him to take Saturdays off.

“My father was very keen about his children’s education,” says Mrs. Evans. “With all the hardships he faced he still motivated us to continue our education. As a result my brother is a pastor, my sister an educator, my other brother a doctor, my sister was in management, and my other sister is a lab technician.”

Mrs. Evans also experienced similar problems with her work and employers. She studied shorthand and typing at Middle East College in Beirut, Lebanon, but could not find work. Yet, she was determined to find a job and decided to move to Baghdad. She began to work for a British company. When she found an opening as a secretary to the cultural officer at the U.S. information services in the U.S. Embassy she applied for it and got the job.

She was also content because she could keep Sabbath and attend church. Mrs. Evans enjoyed attending church services and events. She also helped with the children’s Sabbath school. She met her husband, Younathan Evans, at a church



Adeeba poses for a picture with her family at her retirement party. From left is Nora, Younathan, Adeeba, Brenda, and Tanya.

Christmas party. Mr. Evans had the same determination and motivation as Mrs. Evans. He worked hard managing his own business, importing auto parts. They eventually married a year later in Baghdad.

The Evans family kept growing, with their firstborn child, Brenda, and then they had two more daughters, Nora and Tanya. The determination to work hard did not diminish in Mrs. Evans, even after she had children. As soon as her children were old enough to attend school, she went to work.

Mr. and Mrs. Evans passed on their motivation and diligence to their three daughters. Brenda Evans eventually left Iraq and moved to the United States to attend La Sierra University, Riverside, California. In 1979, Mr. Evans decided it was time for the rest of his family to join Brenda in the United States.

Although Iraq is her home country, Mrs. Evans knew the United States would provide an abundance of opportunity for her family. She is grateful to be in the United States and feels blessed that her children were able to

receive an Adventist education.

After La Sierra University, Brenda went on to graduate from University of the Pacific and is currently working as a dentist. Nora and Tanya both graduated from Loma Linda University School of Medicine and work as a surgeon and a dermatologist, respectively.

Mrs. Evans was also eager to find work as her children attended school. In 1980, a year after the Evans family arrived in the United States, she began working at Loma Linda University School of Nursing. She started as a general secretary and eventually became a computer operator. Mrs. Evans remained at LLUSN for 25 years, and is retiring as an administrative assistant. She feels blessed to have worked at LLUSN for many years.

“The School has grown so much from when I started. It’s so wonderful, and I feel fortunate to have worked with the students and faculty at LLUSN,” she says. “I enjoy communicating and helping people. That is something I will miss. I’ll also miss everyone at the School. They are my family.”

Dean offers e-newsletter

Beginning soon, Marilyn Herrmann, PhD, RN, dean, Loma Linda University School of Nursing, will offer an e-newsletter to alumni and friends of the School. This e-newsletter will hit your inbox, often enough to be informative, without being annoying.

There's only one problem: we don't have your e-mail address! Please fill out the information sheet on page 23 and be sure to include your e-mail address.

Magazine survey

With the increasing costs of postage, the expense of mailing **NURSE** out twice a year is becoming quite high. We are looking at other options of getting **NURSE** to you, but first we want to make sure that **NURSE** is meeting your needs. Please fill out this survey, and mail it in with the information sheet on page 23. Thank you!

What best describes your reading behavior of the newsletter?

- a) Read it cover to cover.
- b) Will read a few full articles. Skim remainder of newsletter.
- c) Skim entire newsletter. Occasionally will read a full article.
- d) Read headlines and photo captions.
- e) Skip directly to alumni notes and in memory sections.
- f) Don't read it at all.

Rate the newsletter in the following categories. Use excellent, good, fair, or poor.

Focus of newsletter	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Content	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Readability	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Interesting articles	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Writing	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Photos/graphics	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Design	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Overall rating of newsletter	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor

What do you like best about *Loma Linda NURSE*?

What do you like least about *Loma Linda NURSE*?

How would you like to receive *Loma Linda NURSE*?

- Paper magazine
- Electronic version
- I would like to receive a paper version of **NURSE** and an electronic version.

Letter FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

Greetings Alumnus,

It is a pleasure to greet you as a new school year moves into full swing for Loma Linda University School of Nursing. The Nursing Alumni Board is busily planning for the alumni weekend this spring. This year the dates will be April 4 to 6. Please mark your calendars now, and plan to attend. If you have kept in touch with other members of yours or other classes, give them a quick call, or e-mail and encourage them to attend also. The weekend is a great opportunity to reflect on years gone by, reconnect with friends, and catch up with all the latest Loma Linda University School of Nursing news.

The School of Nursing is thriving with enrollment (its highest ever) and continued growth of both the master's and doctoral programs. God is blessing and this growth is providing a steady flow of graduates—our next generation of alumni.

A nursing degree is terrific preparation for numerous career opportunities as well as just great preparation for life. Graduating more than 32 years ago, I did not anticipate the directions that my life and career journey would take. I have looked back many times and been so grateful for the excellent professional and technical training as well as the emphasis on leadership skills that were a part of my nursing education.

For a number of years, with the busyness of career and family, I didn't think much about Loma Linda University School of Nursing or the Alumni Association. As my children started going to college and making career choices, I was reminded of my college days as a nursing student at Loma Linda. Some of you may be in the same situation. If so, I can tell you that it has been a blessing to become involved with the Alumni Association. Please pray for Loma Linda and your School of Nursing; reconnect with your graduating class—rejoice with, support, and encourage one another—and financially support the School of Nursing's projects, if you see fit.

I pray that the joy of the Lord has been yours this past year, despite the ups and downs that this earthly journey affords, and that we will "rejoice in the Lord always!"

God Bless,



Erlys Zoicher Daily, '75
President
Alumni Association



School of Nursing celebrates alumni and friends with special weekend

In celebration of its alumni, the School of Nursing hosted its alumni weekend March 30 to March 31.

The weekend celebration, titled “Nursing: The Art and Science of Caring in a High-Tech World,” began with a scholarly lecture on Friday morning.

Dale Halsey Lea, MPH, RN, health educator, National Institutes of Health, National Human Genome Research Institute Education and Community Involvement Branch, presented “Incorporating Genetics and Genomics into Nursing Education and Practice.”

On Saturday, the golden anniversary classes of 1957A and 1957B hosted first service at

University Church, with the class of 1982 hosting Sabbath School, and the class of 1997 hosting second service. This was followed by an alumni luncheon at the campus cafeteria.

Sabbath afternoon featured “Nursing Through the Ages.”

Zelne Zamora, MSN, RN, assistant professor of nursing, presented a slideshow featuring the highlights of each of the honored years.

Saturday evening was the Alumni Banquet held at Wong Kerlee International Conference Center.

Several awards were also presented, including three Alumnae of the Year Awards (See page 16).

Receiving Merit Scholarships for 2007 were Alisha Houser, Cecille Lamorena, and Janice Nyirady, RN.

A missions report was also presented during the banquet, highlighting the mission work that was supported by the alumni during 2006 and 2007.

The Alumni Association had available funds of \$7,000, which made it possible to provide support for alumni working in missions outside the United States, to sponsor international projects, and for students needing financial assistance for international mission service. Examples of projects included funds for audiovisual materials for nursing schools, supplies for income-generating projects for adults with HIV, a teacher’s salary for a village elementary school, and nursing journal subscriptions for international posting.

Following the missions report was the House of Thrift report. During the past fiscal year, the association received \$8,900 from House of Thrift profits. These funds will be used for Alumni Association projects. In addition, clothes, bedding, food, and other items exceeding \$500,000 were donated to several organizations including: ADRA; Banning and LaSierra Community Services; House of Mercy, Mexico; Loma Linda Romanian Church; and the Banning School District.



Zelne Zamora, MSN, RN, assistant professor of nursing, welcomes School of Nursing alumni to the Sabbath afternoon vespers in the campus chapel.

Honored classes celebrate during alumni homecoming



Class of 1957A alumnae pose for a picture. They are: (back row, from left) Marilyn Lance, Flo Boehme Winslow, Gladys L. Vera Cruz Smith, Pearl Unterseher Casey, Enid Lockaby, Melba Anderson-Smith, Esther Ulloa Thompson, (front row, from left) Esther Boehne Seller, Violet Okamoto Takaki, Anita Gilbert, Lorna Mae James, and Mildred Sadoyama Higa.



Class of 1947 (White Memorial) members pose for a picture prior to the alumni banquet. They are (from left) Florence Engen Gullet, Ruth Hippach Knight, Jean Parrett Knight, Lucy Pratt Heald, and Lillian Miller Guild.



Class of 1947 (Loma Linda) members pose for a picture prior to the alumni banquet. They are (back row, from left) Anna Mell Reiber, Rae Anna Brown, Jean Hildebrand, Pearl Bailey Martin, Leona Dunn Rios, Eleene Mattison Jacobsen, (front row, from left) Mildred Clark, Martha Richter Hoffmeister, Jeanne Bickett Barron, and Alice Duffle Fahrbach.



Members of the class of 1967 who attended homecoming pose for a class picture. They are (back row, from left) Gail Taylor Rice, Jean Burgdorff, Melissa Tibbits Rouhe, Shirley Neumen McIntyre-Gregg, Carolyn Klamen, Diana Miklos Soleil, Pat Malouf Abdelnour, (second row, from left) Bonnie Zinke Smith, Carol Schmidt Rogers, Donna Archer, Karen Dybdahl Smith, Marcia Hamel Politi, Constance Anderson Welebir, Roy Nickels, Dolores Wright, Madelyn Klingbeil Callender, Bernice Smith Bornstein, Marilyn Froom Johnson, Leigh Tapper Anderson, Rebecca Salazar Williams, (front row, from left) Cheryl Reinhard Smalley, Cheryl Cessford Couperus, Judy Crawford Sheldon, Vana Thatcher, Konimi Lum Pimental, Flo Teo Lowe, Karen Wittem Torrey, Patricia Collins Billings, Faye Heath Pitman, Sandra Ryerson Silberstein, Dona Hanna Stewart, and Jeannette Young Oxentenko.



Members of the class of 1957B pose for a picture. They are: (back row, from left) Francis Nelson Foster, June Jepson Hibbard, Gloria Kerley Jacobson, (middle row, from left) Pattye Suelzle, Marjorie Leiske Haluschak, Joyce Helmer, Carolyn Serrato, Gwen Wells Hawkins, Patricia Engevik, Hedwig Kneller Toombs, (front row, from left) Lavaun Ward Sutton, Ethelma Nickel Tresenriter, Virginia Nickel, C. Lynnette Peters Youngberg, Avalon Mays Rozema, and Eleanor Keller.

School of Nursing names recipients of the Alumna of the Year Award

During the School of Nursing alumni homecoming banquet, several awards were presented, including three Alumna of the Year Awards.

Mildred Spadoyama Higa, MPH, RN, class of 1957A; Frances Nelson Foster, RN, class of 1957B; and Keri Kuniyoshi Medina, DNSc, RN, class of 1982, were all recipients of the award.

Mildred Spadoyama was born in Oahu, Hawaii. When Mildred's brother, Jimmy Spadoyama, was taking medicine at LLU, her parents decided that nursing might be a good option for Mildred. So Mildred, following her brother's example, went to Walla Walla College, College Place, Washington, for her pre-nursing classes and then on to Loma Linda for nursing. In 1957, Mildred and her brother graduated from LLU at the same time.

Following graduation, Mildred did not stay away from Hawaii long. After marrying Harry Higa, the couple moved back to Oahu. Mildred spent her entire nursing career on the island and states that she always enjoyed the diversity within nursing. Her varied experiences include surgical nursing, psychiatric nursing, and oncology nursing. The last 27 years of her career before retiring, Mildred worked among the elderly at a state skilled nursing facility.



Kathie Ingram, MSN, RN (left), associate professor, School of Nursing, presents the Alumna of the Year Award to Mildred Spadoyama Higa, MPH, RN, member of the class of 1957A.

Seeing the burden of disease on the country and the crucial need for prevention and health promotion, Mildred desired to further her education in this area. Before her retirement, she attended the University of Hawaii and in 1992 received a master's degree in health education. Due to her husband's illness, Mildred was unable to actually work in this area but continues to value the importance of health promotion and prevention in the areas of childhood obesity, diabetes, etc.

Mildred currently lives in Oahu, Hawaii, and attends the Aiea Adventist Church, where she continues to be involved as head greeter, deaconess, and in parish nursing. For all her years of lead-

ership and service in nursing, LLUSN Alumni Association is proud to recognize Mildred Spadoyama Higa as Alumna of the Year 2007.

Keri Kuniyoshi Medina graduated from LLUSN in 1982. She was the recipient of the President's Award for Academic Excellence in that year.

Keri began her career in nursing as a float nurse full-time at LLUMC. This provided her with experience in many areas including neurology, oncology, general medicine, endocrinology, rheumatology, gastroenterology, and psychiatry. By 1983, she had begun to specialize in neurology and neuro-rehabilitation.

In 1987, she earned the master

of science degree in nursing with a specialty in nursing education. She began teaching at LLUSN and later spent time in staff development for LLUMC. From 1992 to the present, Keri has been a faculty member at LLUSN.

By 1996, she had also earned her doctor of nursing science degree from the University of San Diego. Her dissertation research was titled “The Journey from Nonexerciser to Exerciser: A Grounded Theory Study.”

Since 1997, Keri has taken the responsibility for teaching the course in pathophysiology for nurses. Hundreds of students have benefited from her ability to make scientific principles of anatomy, physiology, and pathology clear to them as they prepare for their roles as professional nurses.

Keri is recognized as a true professional teacher and colleague.

Loma Linda University School of Nursing Alumni Association is proud to recognize Keri Kuniyoshi Medina as Alumna of the Year 2007.

Frances Nelson Foster was born in Los Angeles, California. She attended the College of Medical Evangelists and graduated in 1957—Class B.

During her nursing education, along with a great deal of nursing content, Frances and her classmates learned about health education and non-drug therapeutics including hydrotherapy—fomentations, compresses, hot and cold treatments, etc. Missions were also an emphasis. In taking a close look at Frances’ life and career, we can see that in many ways, Frances has lived out the mission

of LLU—“to make man whole.”

Following graduation, Frances went immediately to Capetown, South Africa, where her husband-to-be, Ray Foster, was studying medicine. In Capetown, she completed a midwifery course. The new couple then went to Maluti Mission in South Africa. For a year and a half, Frances was teaching nursing by day and delivering babies by night.

Frances and Ray then went to White Memorial Medical Center in order for her physician husband to complete an orthopaedic residency. During this time, Frances taught obstetrical nursing for the College of Medical Evangelists School of Nursing at the White Memorial campus. In 1966, in preparation for mission service to Africa, the couple went to India for her husband to complete a year of leprosy training.

The couple served in Africa from 1967 to 1978. During this time, Frances focused on the education of her children while taking the occasional “before and after surgery” pictures for her

orthopaedic surgeon husband.

Upon returning to the United States, the couple spent a year at Wildwood Lifestyle Center. During this time, Frances used her nursing skills in caring for clients. This was the beginning of her career focusing on health promotion and lifestyle education. After 15 years in the Loma Linda area, the Fosters moved to Seattle where they established the Seattle NEWSTART Health Care Center. They worked there for nine years—teaching health promotion and health education, using the NEWSTART model of the “Eight laws of health.”

In 2004, the couple moved to South Dakota to the Black Hills Health and Education Lifestyle Center. At present, Frances is still involved in health promotion and continues to assist in the lifestyle program there with health education and non-drug therapeutic interventions for individual clients.

For her dedication to providing nursing and spiritual care to those both nationally and internationally, LLUSN recognizes Frances Nelson Foster as Alumna of the Year 2007.



Ms. Ingram presents the Alumna of the Year Award to Frances Nelson Foster, RN, a member of the class of 1957B.

School of Nursing friends honored at KJN Society brunch

During the Kathryn Jensen Nelson (KJN) Society brunch held Sunday, April 1, in Wong Kerlee International Conference Center, special recognition was given to supporters of the School of Nursing during the past year.

Each year the KJN brunch is held during homecoming weekend to honor those who give \$250 or more to the School of Nursing during the previous year.

The KJN brunch caps an entire weekend of special events that were held for alumni and friends of the School.

The morning brunch began with a welcome from Sherri J. Vásquez, MBA, director of development for the School of Nursing.

Marilyn M. Herrmann, PhD, RN, dean of the School of Nursing, offered the blessing and KJN members were invited to eat.

Following brunch, Dr. Herrmann gave an update of the School of Nursing with a brief slideshow highlighting several of the accomplishments of the School over the past year.

Anagh Chohan, a junior nursing student, provided the special music for the guests in attendance.

Dynnette E. Hart, DrPH, RN,



Marilyn Herrmann, PhD, RN (second from left), dean of the School of Nursing, and Dynnette E. Hart, DrPH, RN (second from right), associate dean of the undergraduate program, pose for a picture with VeraDae Burce and Janel Aguirre (right).

associate dean of the undergraduate program, brought Lorna Kendrick, PhD, RN, associate professor of nursing, and Anne Berit Petersen, MSN, MPH, RN, assistant professor of nursing, on stage to share their stories with the audience. Both faculty members have recently joined the School of Nursing and prior to that were graduates from LLUSN.

Patricia S. Jones, PhD, RN, FAAN, director of the office of international nursing, presented

a report on the School of Nursing's recent activities overseas. One major part of this activity has been through the Global Partnerships in Nursing program.

Another important area is the off-campus master's program, available in Argentina and Thailand.

For information on how to become a member of the Kathryn Jensen Nelson Society, please contact the office of advancement at (909) 558-4513.

Hazel Wood, secretary of LLUSN Alumni Association, passes away at age 67

Hazel Marie Wood, secretary for the School of Nursing alumni association, passed away January 14, 2007. She was 67 years old.

Hazel was born on August 2, 1939, in Lincoln, Nebraska, the oldest of four girls born to Lois and William Nicholson.

According to Hazel's sister, Rosie, the girls enjoyed Saturday nights out at the skating rink. On one such outing, the girls encountered a very dashing Frances "George" Wood.

Depending on who tells the story, either Hazel tripped George or George, trying to attract Hazel's eye, fell in front of her during a free skate.

Hazel at first wanted nothing to do with that older man. But George was persistent and received an introduction to Hazel from the youngest Nickolson sister for the price of a burger, fries, and a milkshake.

George and Hazel began courting soon after and in the spring of 1956, George gathered the courage to ask Hazel to marry him. Hazel said no.

According to family members, George said, "Fine, I'll let you think about it." This banter went on for a few weeks, until Hazel finally said yes.

In 1957 Hazel graduated from high school, turned 18, and in December married George.



Hazel and her husband, George, pose for a picture prior to cutting their cake on their wedding day, December 22, 1957.

George was a member of the U.S. Air Force, and the couple spent the first few years moving around the country. The couple added three children to their growing family prior to arriving in Texas.

It was there that George studied and was baptized into the Adventist Church.

In 1971, the Wood family moved to Japan, where another son joined the family.

While in Japan, the family attended church on one of the mission compounds. Hazel and George took active rolls in their chosen ministries. During these long Sabbath adventures, Hazel helped coordinate potlucks.

In 1974, the Wood family landed in the High Desert at George Air Force Base. Hazel and George and the family started attending the Victorville Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Hazel began working part-time in the Loma Linda University School of Nursing Alumni Association office, and she continued there until her passing.

Hazel is survived by her husband, George Wood; daughters Lois Wheeler and Cecilia Cooley; sons Shawn and Chris Wood; and six grandchildren.

Memorial services were held in the Victorville Adventist Church on Saturday, February 3.

THE LIFE OF A MISSIONARY:

Alumna celebrates her 75th anniversary

When Marjorie Whitney was a little girl in grade school, she read a poem about the many challenges that disadvantaged Chinese families face. She decided then and there that she wanted to be a missionary and serve in China.

“As far back as I can remember, my ambition was always to go to China,” says Ms. Whitney.

Nursing was the area she wanted to work in, so she set her sights on coming to Loma Linda.

After graduating from the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University) with her diploma in nursing in 1932, Ms. Whitney stayed in Loma Linda and worked at the hospital there.

Marjorie Whitney got her first mission call in 1946. The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was sending her to the newly constructed hospital in Montemorelos, Mexico.

She went, serving as the first and only nurse at the hospital for more than a year.

Thus began a long and storied career in mission hospital nursing. For the next 30 years, Ms. Whitney would devote her life to helping others less fortunate.

Every mission call that she took was either at a newly constructed facility that needed a seasoned nurse to get things started, or a hospital that had no medical doctor and was desperately in need of leadership.

“It was pioneering work to a great extent,” says Ms. Whitney of her career.

After her time in Mexico, she received another mission call, this time for Kingston, Jamaica.

At Andrews Memorial Hospital, Ms. Whitney led the nursing department for eight years.

After hearing that CME was developing a master’s degree in

nursing, Ms. Whitney returned to Loma Linda and began the program. She graduated in the first class to get their master’s in nursing degree from Loma Linda. The year was 1957.

Ms. Whitney didn’t have to wait long to receive her next call. That very same year, she was called to Nicaragua.

It was there that she supervised the move of Clinica y Hospital Adventista from Puerto Cabezas on the east coast to La Trinidad on the west coast. Ms. Whitney had to have enough supplies to last for six months before new supplies would arrive.

Just after relocating, the doctor asked Ms. Whitney to set up for surgery. Unfortunately, the surgery suite hadn’t been built yet. Ms. Whitney and the doctor looked around for a suitable area for surgery. The only thing available was the doctor’s own office desk. The two prepared

the desk and performed the surgery right there in the office with the use of a flashlight.

“I just had to depend on the Lord in these times, knowing that He would guide and direct,” Ms. Whitney says.

She also remembers a time when the doctor was out of town for the day. One of the patients went into labor, which was no real cause for alarm. However, as Ms. Whitney was delivering the child, the umbili-

cal cord ruptured.

Though the child was delivered successfully, the placenta was still inside the patient, which can be life-threatening. With no equipment or assistance, she had to remove the placenta by hand. The patient went home the next day.

“You may be sure that the Lord guided my hand,” she says. “You have no one to depend upon; you have only to rely on your knowledge and the Lord.”

Ms. Whitney served in Nicaragua for three years.

She was then sent to the small island of Trinidad to help forge the beginnings of Community Hospital in the capital of Port-of-Spain. For three years, she provided supervision for the nursing staff and organized nursing supplies.

“Practically every place I went was just starting—you had to improvise for everything,” she says.

Marjorie Whitney soon received another mission call, this time to Shashamane, Ethiopia, in 1967, teaching pre-nursing for one year.

In 1970, at the age of 61, Ms. Whitney decided it was time to retire, never having fulfilled her dream of mission work in China. She moved to Whitmore, California, to care for her mother.

While in retirement, she took more than 20 trips with Pacific Union College, Angwin, California, every summer for eight weeks. This also was only through Europe and Australia, but never China.

Five years later, at the age of 66, Ms. Whitney finally received the call to serve as a missionary in China.

“I had been retired for five years, when I finally got a call to China,” she remembers. “I was so excited!”

For the next four years, she lived out her dream, supervising the nursing department at Tsuen



Ms. Whitney, finally fulfilling her dream of working in China, poses for a picture next to Tsuen Wan Adventist Hospital in Hong Kong.

Wan Adventist Hospital as a volunteer.

In 1981, she was asked to travel to Haiti for a little more than a year. She worked there as a nurse at the newly built Hospital Adventiste d'Haiti, organizing and supervising in surgery and obstetrics/gynecology, an area that Ms. Whitney had never worked in before.

“When you’re in the mission field, you have to specialize in everything,” she says.

From Haiti, it was off to



Ms. Whitney poses for a picture at the 2007 LLUSN alumni weekend.

Puerto Rico for six months helping to organize the nursing school at Universidad Adventista de las Antillas.

At the age of 73, with more than 50 years of nursing and more than 30 years of mission work under her belt, Ms. Whitney finally retired—this time for good.

In 2000, she moved to Calhoun, Georgia. She lives alone and drives by herself.

Though not able to go out on

mission trips any longer, she still spends her time crocheting and knitting. She gives what she makes away to friends and church people, and when there was a fire a few years ago, she made several blankets for burn victims.

In 2009, Ms. Whitney will turn 100.

“I have no regrets whatsoever,” she says. “Well, let me take that back; the only one I have is that I’m not able to still go out into the mission field.”



Marjorie Whitney at the Clinica y Hospital Adventista that she helped move from Puerto Cabezas to La Trinidad, Nicaragua.

All ABOUT YOU

Loma Linda NURSE is interested in hearing about your life since you graduated from the School of Nursing. Here are some of the things we would like to use in our alumni news section. We would like to know about your professional achievements, research, awards, graduations, interesting stories, what is happening in your career or family life, travel, moves, marriages, and births or deaths.

Just send or e-mail information to us, and we will write it up for you. If you have been featured in local newspapers, send us a copy of the clipping. Your story may even become the basis for a feature article.

If you have a current picture of yourself, we'd appreciate receiving that too. We look forward to hearing from you!

First name:

Last name (including maiden name if applicable):

Year(s) of LLU graduation; degree(s) received:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Country:

Home phone:

E-mail:

Spouse's name (including maiden name if applicable):

Children's names, birthdates, and connection to LLU (if any):

Here's the latest (attach a separate sheet, if necessary):

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