

Homecoming Banquet Reservation Form

Date: Friday, October 12, 2007
 Time: 4:30 p.m. – Reception, Big Apple Café, 1005 Arcadia Circle, Murray (270-759-8866)
 6:30 p.m. – Alumni Banquet, Small Ballroom, Curris Center

Speaker: Dr. Donna Taliaferro BSN '73

Reservation must be accompanied with payment and received by Oct. 9, 2007; or fax reservation form and pay at the door.

_____ I will be attending the reception at Big Apple Café.
 _____ I will be attending the Nursing Alumni Banquet. Enclosed find payment for dinners in the amount of _____ (\$15 each).
 _____ I am enclosing membership dues of \$10.

Name _____ Year of Graduation _____

Name of Guests _____

Please complete and mail to: **Fax: 270-809-6662**
 Murray State University
 Nursing Alumni Association
 120 Mason Hall
 Murray, KY 42071-3302

Outstanding Alumnus Award Nomination Form

Please nominate a deserving MSU Nursing graduate (BSN or MSN) by completing this form and sending to: Murray State University Nursing Alumni Association, 120 Mason Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3302 or faxing to 270-809-6662 **by Oct. 1, 2007.**

- The selection criteria are:
1. member of MSU Nursing Alumni Association
 2. member of at least one other professional nursing organization
 3. contributes to the profession
 4. contributes to community health-related activities and/or programs

Please address how your nominee fulfills the above criteria.

I would like to nominate _____ (class of _____) for the Outstanding Alumnus Award because:



Murray State University
 Department of Nursing
 120 Mason Hall
 Murray, KY 42071-3302

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Call for Stories

Please send us your story with one or more of the following points:
 When you

- *made a difference for a patient, family or peer;*
- *influenced a physician, director of nursing or administrator;*
- *realized that you made the right decision to be a nurse.*

In addition to the points above, also include your response to this question asked by someone who is considering nursing as a career – *Why should I be a nurse?*

We will write and publish a book with all proceeds going to the Nursing Alumni Foundation.

Please send your stories by Dec. 1, 2007, to: Nursing Alumni Association, Murray State University, 120 Mason Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3302

~ Marcie

Former Chair takes new position at SEMO

We requested that Dr. Hobbs write a farewell letter to the MSU nursing alumni. It is reproduced here. – editor:



As many of you have heard, I'm leaving Murray State University to take a position at Southeast Missouri State University. As I think of this career move, many clichés come to mind – “Thanks for the memories,” “It’s been a great run,” “One never really says good-bye, just new hellos,” and “When opportunity knocks – open the door.” However, none of them can express my sincere appreciation for the wonderful years my family and I have had at Murray State University.

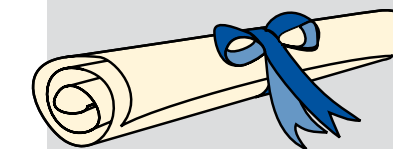
program added two new sites – Hopkinsville and Henderson with increasing numbers each year. Many of these RN graduates’ long-term goal is that of attending an MSN program.

Much has happened over the last 15 years. The MSN program has grown into three strong options. We added the family nurse practitioner and nurse anesthesia in the same year and our graduates continue to make a difference throughout Kentucky and Tennessee. The CNS option is now 100 percent online and these graduates are now influencing health care in specialty positions throughout the region. The RN-BSN

The BSN program has had a steady course of increased enrollment and success on the NCLEX-RN. The faculty is excited about new possibilities for a major curricular change in the next couple of years. The integrated practicum has grown into an independent experience with preceptors and we have a great deal of pride in our rotation for the pediatric course at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis.

This faculty at MSU is some of the best in the nation and work hard to provide an excellent education to all students. The BSN program was the fastest growing program on campus in 2006. Fifteen years ago, we had five doctorally-prepared faculty – today we have eight and four who are candidates for the Ph.D. The faculty now publishes on a regular basis and participates in national organizations through committees, boards and task forces.

Yet, there is always more to do and learn. I know that Mike will do a superb job as the interim chair and that the faculty, students and alumni will give him their full support just as I have been supported in the past. I look forward to continuing our professional relationships throughout your and my career – thanks so much!



Faculty completing their Ph.D.!

Dina Byers, Katy Garth, Dana Manley and Renee Ridley are all completing their Ph.D. degrees this year! This means that of the department’s faculty, 75 percent are doctorally prepared in nursing! And more importantly – Dina, Katy, Dana and Renee are all BSN grads from MSU!

Clinical Caritas Award established by alumni

The Nursing Alumni Association has created the Clinical Caritas Award. “Caritas” comes from the Latin word meaning to cherish, to appreciate, to give loving attention to; it connotes something that is precious. Dr. Jean Watson (nurse theorist, philosopher and scholar) has refined and expanded her work focusing on clinical caritas which is the emerging model of transpersonal caring. She states,

“... the future of nursing is ironically tied back to Nightingale’s sense of “calling,” guided by a deep sense of commitment and a covenantal ethic of human service; cherishing our phenomena, our subject matter, and those we serve. It is when we include caring and love in our work and our life that we discover and affirm that nursing, like teaching, is more than just a job, but a life-giving and life-receiving career for a lifetime of growth and learning. Such maturity and integration of past with present and future now require transforming self and those we serve, including our institutions and the profession itself. As we more publicly and professionally assert these positions for our theories, our ethics and our practices, even our science, we also locate ourselves and our profession and discipline within a new, emerging cosmology. Such thinking calls for a sense of reverence and sacredness with regard to life and all living things. It incorporates both art and science, as they are also being redefined, acknowledging a convergence between art, science and spirituality.”

(<http://www2.uchsc.edu/son/caring/content/evolution.asp>)

The Clinical Caritas Award will be presented to the BSN graduate who:

- Demonstrates a deep sense of commitment and a covenantal ethic of human service;
- Cherishes phenomena central to nursing and its subject matter;
- Cares for fellow nurses, the profession, and all those we serve (persons, families, communities and society);
- Commits to a life-giving and life-receiving career and a lifetime of growth and learning; and
- Practices with reverence and sacredness with regard to life and all living things.

The Department of Nursing faculty recommends to the Nursing Alumni Association who should receive this prestigious award. The award may be given at both December and May Recognition Ceremonies.



Michael Perlow, DNS, RN
 Professor

Check us out on the web: murraystate.edu/RacerN

Salutations from the Alumni President

I am just beginning to realize that I am a salesperson for the future. You are a salesperson for the future. We all, in our actions, our excitement, our presentations and our behaviors are salespersons for the future of the MSU nursing department.

While we might take it for granted or feel that a college education is somehow "owed" to us because we pay taxes, such is really not the case. Higher education is a privilege in our country and one that comes with various avenues of support. Taxes do provide one avenue, but so much more goes into building a program which produces a graduate with unlimited opportunities. Faculty, students, support persons and alumni are the major building blocks of a successful university.

Faculty provide the brainpower for the organization; but the alumni, through their contributions, donations and good will, are the solid

backbone of any successful university. A university will not and cannot succeed without the contributions of its alumni.

We formed the Murray State University Nursing Alumni Association many years ago to recognize the contributions of all our alumni. We are fortunate to enjoy a history that began with a diploma program that has now grown to several masters' programs. That success was no accident. It was due to the drive and pull of our alumni, our faculty and other loyal supporters.

Our Alumni Association has as its drivers to increase support for the nursing programs, to build loyalty among the graduates and to stimulate interest among all graduates to ensure the continued success and viability of the nursing department.

Some of our years have been more successful than others. This year is going to

be the year of our success and renewed commitment to Murray State University. Where would each of us be without the foundation laid for us by this university?

NO more excuses. It is time we sell our program to the world, renew our commitment to the university's success and recognize that each and every alumnus is a valuable member of the nursing department enterprise. Each individual's time, financial contributions, efforts and sales expertise are needed for this program at this time in its history.

I am asking you, alumni, to step up and partner with me and every other alumnus to demonstrate our gratitude for the start we got right here at MSU. I am asking you to be the ready, willing and able alumni that I know you to be so that we can collectively sell our school and support our graduates.

I welcome you to Murray



State University on behalf of all nursing alumni. I encourage you to fill that Curris Center banquet room like it has never been filled. I invite you to participate in all the alumni activities that we have planned this year—and there will be more than in the past. I encourage you to ask questions, to challenge the faculty and to demand excellence in the continued operation of your nursing department. I ask that you join me on Oct. 12, 2007, to honor our 1987 graduates, to renew old friendships and to make new commitments.

Marti Erwin '69
MSU Nursing Alumni President

Hartman retires to family and community service

Dr. Karen Hartman, coordinator of the RN-BSN Program, retired after a 50-year career in health care. She began in medical records in 1957. After accepting a job as a surgical tech in 1958, Hartman was hooked on nursing and health care. She went on to study nursing at St. Anthony's School of Nursing. Armed with her diploma she worked as a surgeon's first assistant before there was such a title. With three children at home and a husband living 200 miles away, Hartman felt the need to provide her children with a more routine schedule and began teaching OR nursing for St Anthony's where she fell in love with teaching. Hartman returned to school at Indiana

University and earned her BSN in 1969. She continued her education and earned her MSN in psychiatric mental health nursing in 1973. She worked in the local mental health clinic and did private practice before returning to teaching at Indiana State University where she taught psychiatric nursing.

Hartman returned to school at The University of Texas at Austin where she earned her Ph.D. in Nursing Education Administration. At ISU she was the coordinator of the graduate program before moving to The University of Texas at Tyler where she became the coordinator of the undergraduate program. Murray State University was fortunate to recruit Hartman in



2001 to become the coordinator of the RN-BSN program. During her tenure here she actively sought out those who began the program and disappeared before completion. Hartman has successfully increased the retention in the program and redesigned much of the curriculum.

In retirement, she plans to spend more time with her grandchildren and great

grandchildren. She has trained and is donating her time as a court appointed special advocate (CASA) volunteer as well as serving as secretary to the Board of the Calloway County Humane Society.

MSU has found Hartman's shoes are hard to fill so she will continue the advising of RN-BSN students and teach the transition course while MSU seeks out a replacement.

Outstanding Nursing Alumni CALL FOR NOMINATIONS DEADLINE October 1, 2007

Help us celebrate **Sharon Myatt's birthday** – which just happens to be the same date as the alumni banquet this year! Who knows – we might have a 'roast'!

BSN and MSN Grads on the Cutting Edge

We know that all our grads are on the cutting edge, but this is all we know for now. So, please send us your news to RacerN@murraystate.edu and put "alumni news" in the subject line (especially you BSN grads)!

BSN Grads:

- **Robin Middleton** BSN '96 is a captain in the U.S. Army. She's practicing in emergency transport in Nashville, Tenn.
- **Lisa Winters Ray** BSN

- '81 is the vice president of nursing at Murray Calloway County Hospital, Murray, Ky.
- **Lori Callihan** BSN '98 is the president of Delta Epsilon, Sigma Theta Tau and is practicing at Murray Calloway County Hospital, Murray, Ky.
- **Cyndi Johnson Spruill** BSN '87 is the special projects coordinator responsible for overseeing preparation for magnet certification for Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah, Ky.
- **Cindy Mills Spiro** BSN '77 owns her own business in St. Louis, Mo., called *Natural Beauty of Ladue*. Cindy is a licensed anesthetic skin care specialist.

- **Dr. Nancey Warren** BSN '82 is the chair of nursing at University of Tennessee, Martin, Tenn.
- Sarah Thompson BSN '06 is a commissioned officer in the United States Navy.

Family Nurse Practitioner Grads

It's not unusual to see our MSN advanced practice nurses in practice within institutions and in collaboration with physicians. There are many MSU-FNP's in private practice and several who own their own business. Congratulations to the nine FNP private practices, six of which have opened within the last two years!

- In Tennessee –**
- **Shari Tidwell**, ARNP, FNP-C in Dyersburg
 - **Anine McCallum**, ARNP, FNP-C in Camden and owns *For Your Health Clinic*
 - **Steve Canardy**, ARNP, FNP-C also owns a practice in the Camden area
 - **Chad Odle**, ARNP, FNP-C began his own clinic in the Union City area about two years ago
 - **Christa Blane**, ARNP, FNP-C is in Dover opening her practice this spring.

- In Kentucky –**
- **Jennifer Cagle**, ARNP, FNP-C, and **Karen Bailey**, ARNP, FNP-C, in practice together in Murray

- **Jason Feissing**, ARNP, FNP-C, in Benton (also opened last spring)
- **Shane Rust**, ARNP, FNP-C, in Paducah also last spring.

Nurse Anesthetist Grads

- **Antony Belmont**, CRNA, MSN, is assistant director at Arkansas State University College of Nursing and Health Professions.
- **Cindy Gress**, CRNA, MSN, is president of Gress Anesthesia Services, P.C. and founded Tri-State Anesthesia Billing Services in 2001 (provides billing services to various anesthesia groups). She recently formed Tri-State

- Health Services Billing which provides billing services for all types of health services.
- **Marquessa Moore**, CRNA, MSN is politically active and serves as director of Region 1 for the Kentucky Association of Nurse Anesthetists and is currently running for Region 2 Nominating Committee for the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.
 - **Jana Baily**, CRNA, MSN, is running for election to the resolutions committee for the AANA.
 - **LaDonna Cates**, CRNA, MSN, is the current program director of the Trover Foundation/Murray State University Program of Anesthesia.

- **Robinel Bradshaw**, CRNA, MSN, has served as one of the assistant program directors for the Trover Foundation/Murray State University Program of Anesthesia and will become the interim program director Aug. 1.

Clinical Nurse Specialist Grads

- **Betty Kuiper**, ARNP, CNS-C, is the critical care CNS for Western Baptist Hospital, Paducah, and is the president of the local AACN chapter.
- **Rhonda Boone**, ARNP, CNS-C, is in private practice at Murray Laser Center as well as working in the critical

- units at Western Baptist Hospital.
- **Susan Wurth**, ARNP, CNS-C, remains in practice with Drs. Anita Fleenor and Carl Lebuhn as an infectious disease CNS and is director of 2C at Western Baptist Hospital.

Send us your news!

Update us on job/career changes, new matters in your personal life, honors you have received and/or changes in personal contact information.

Stay connected to us!

Make plans now to return to MSU for this time honored tradition. For an up-to-date schedule of Homecoming events, visit www.murraystate.edu/ialu/homecoming.htm.

Nursing Department's Festivities at-a-glance! Friday, October 12, 2007

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 3 p.m. | Reception: Student Assembly and Alumni Gathering Welcome from Dr. Marti Erwin, Nursing Alumni Association president Welcome and update from Dr. Michael Perlow, interim chair Welcome from NSNA (aka KANS) president |
| 3:30 p.m. | Tour of the building |
| 4 p.m. | Tour of the campus |
| 4:30 p.m. | Happy Hour at Big Apple Café |
| 6:30 p.m. | Banquet, Curris Center |

Got pictures?
Bring your pictures to share at the banquet!

Murray State University Nursing Alumni Association

2006 TREASURER'S REPORT

| | Debits | Credits |
|-------------|---|-------------------|
| 01 Jan 2005 | Balance brought forward | \$2,346.44 |
| 07 Nov 2005 | Deposit – dues, dinner, banquet | 810.00 |
| 09 Nov 2005 | MSU Food Services – banquet | 472.50 |
| 05 Dec 2005 | MSU Curris Center – room charge | 50.00 |
| 27 Mar 2005 | MSU Bookstore – banquet gifts | 26.77 |
| 16 May 2006 | Deposit – membership dues | 20.00 |
| 27 Feb 2006 | Deposit – membership dues | 20.00 |
| 12 Oct 2006 | MSU Bookstore – banquet gifts | 249.39 |
| 19 Oct 2006 | Barbara Jackson – flowers for banquet | 53.00 |
| 26 Oct 2006 | Deposit – dues, dinner, banquet, scholarship fund | 1,195.00 |
| 26 Oct 2006 | MSU Nursing Alumni Scholarship Fund | 405.00 |
| 26 Oct 2006 | Deposit – dues | 20.00 |
| 02 Nov 2006 | MSU Food Services – banquet | 540.00 |
| 02 Nov 2006 | Deposit – dues, scholarship | 15.00 |
| 21 Feb 2007 | MSU Curris Center – room charge | 50.00 |
| 04 May 2007 | Balance Forward | \$2,579.78 |