

volume 3 2003



## MAYO CLINIC CRNA ALUMNI

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Sandi Beier
Dr. Beth Elliott
Lori Brundige
Carol Demulling
Teri Egbers
Joan Hunziker-Dean
Steve Jorgensen
Craig Kluck
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Joel Price
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Carol Wallace
Mavis Ward
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# Mayo Clinic CRNA Alumni Update

**Alumni Mission Statement** The Mayo Nurse Anesthesia Alumni will promote professional and personal relationships among its member on local, national and international levels. The association will endeavor to support the educational needs of The Mayo School of Health-Related Sciences Nurse Anesthesia students.

#### Dear Mayo CRNA Alumni,

Greetings from Rochester! We hope you are happy, healthy and enjoying life! It has been wonderful to see many of you at our CRNA Fall Seminar or at the National Convention Hospitality room. Connecting with you and sharing information is one of our main goals. The biographical sketches included in this packet are a great way to let classmates know where you are and how you are doing. We include this information in our newsletter on your anniversary year. In the following pages you will see the "Honored Alumni" information for classes that graduated in the years ending with 3 and 8. We hope you enjoy the information and pictures.

Our anesthesia practice continues to grow and change with the times. There are 186 CRNAs employed by our department, which make up approximately 115 FTE's. It is a big department filled with many familiar faces. Remodeling has been done in OR suites at RMH and SMH. The historic orthopedic rooms and anesthesia workroom at RMH have been turned into the new Liver/Kidney transplant suite. Another row of ORs has been added in the neuro corridor at SMH. They removed the neuro windows, so you can't look outside anymore! We have also opened an Outpatient Procedure Center in our new Gonda building.

There are many changes here in Rochester, but the one thing that has not changed is our commitment to you as your alumni association. We continue to support the Mayo SRNA students through their Poster Awards and Scholarships. This year we are also providing some support for them to present their posters at the National Convention. The Mayo CRNA Alumni Association also helps the "Honored Alumni" celebrate with their classmates. These are just a few things that we are doing. It would be great to see or hear from you this year. Thanks for your support and interest in our Alumni Association!

Sincerely,
Marlea Judd, CRNA, MNA
Mayo Clinic CRNA Alumni Chairperson

#### MSHS Master of Nurse Anesthesia Program Update - Mary E. Shirk Marienau, CRNA, MS

The program is in the midst of making changes in our course sequencing. After spending a great deal of time reviewing possible options we are excited about the changes we have made to make the students educational experience better. In April 2004 an on-site accreditation visit has been tentatively planned.

This fall we will again welcome 30 new students into the program. When they join the program we will have 90 student anesthetists. We also have several CRNAs at various stages enrolled in the CRNA Degree Completion Program.

Eighteen seniors will be at the Annual Meeting to exhibit their research projects' posters. On October 23, all of the seniors will exhibit their posters at the 29th Annual Mayo Clinic Nurse Anesthesia Seminar. If you are in attendance at either meeting, the students would be pleased to have you stop by and view their work.

#### **Deaths**

Jan Stewart was a graduate of the class of 1982. Jan was a native of Washington State, born on September 18, 1952 in Longview, WA. She passed away on October 30, 2002 at age 50, at her home in Seattle, WA. A CRNA for 20 years, she received her nursing degree from Lower Columbia College in Longview, WA in 1974 and her certificate of Nurse Anesthesia from Mayo School of Nurse Anesthesia in Rochester, MN in 1982. She was active in WANA and AANA, serving in several leadership roles. From 1999-2000 Jan served as AANA president. Most recently she was employed in private practice working with several clinics associated with Swedish Hospital in Seattle. Jan enjoyed theater, traveling, outdoor activities, and photography. She lived under the philosophy; "Life is good." She was a "dedicated professional whose expertise knew no bounds, and was committed to the mission of providing high quality, comp-assionate care to all patients." Jan's tireless effort and dedication advanced and promoted the practice of nurse anesthesia. Her death was a great loss not only to those who loved her, but also to the profession of nurse anesthesia.

#### **HONORED YEARS**

#### Class of 1948

Candace Merrian Bacon Candace furthered her education after leaving Mayo and received a BA degree in 1978 from Metropolitan State University. She is now retired and living in Fridley, MN. Her e-mail address is gnbacon@minspring.com.

Helen M. Wallace Helen practiced in Connecticut until her retirement in the 1980's. She currently resides in Florida. Helen said she remembers the rapport between professionals and students when she thinks about her education at Mayo.

#### Class of 1953

E. Berniece Culbertson Berniece has fond memories of the Mayo Clinic. She feels it is important nurse anesthetists continue their education after becoming a CRNA.

Gillian (Jill) Montfort Richards Jill remembers working with Dr. Charles Mayo (for about 6 months). She is retired but her 77 year old husband, is still a practicing urologist in solo private practice! Jill remains active as well. Her hobbies include horseback riding and open water kayaking. They reside in Petuluma, CA.

#### Class of 1958

Edward Morgan Ed is currently Department Head at Skiff Medical Center, Newton, IA. He went on to receive his B.A. degree at Stevens College in Columbia, MO. His wife worked with Dr.John Lundy (Anesthesiologist) at the old Methodist Hospital. Ed's advice to future graduates is "learn good interpersonal relationship skills." E-mail address: zonlyl@pcpartner.net.

John (Jack) P. Grucza Prior to Jack's retirement, he practiced at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, IA. He and his wife, Sylvia, currently live in Sun City West, AZ. Jack's advice to graduates is to "enjoy your profession." Even in his retirement he reports that he enjoys returning to Rochester for the annual fall seminar.

#### Class of 1963

Sandra (Atkinson) Luedke Sandra retired in 1996 after 33 years of working as a CRNA. She currently resides in Norfolk, NE. What she remembers about her days at Mayo Clinic is: "The six-day work weeks-long hours-good training. The Old Methodist Hospital; starting the student society and S.A.S. newsletters; good friends from various parts of the country; opportunity to work with so many CRNAs and MDAs." She tells future graduates, "You'll appreciate where you've been and what you've accomplished when you pass your boards!"

Mr. Pat Keeney Pat is currently retired and living in Oregon with is wife, Sharon. Throughout his practice as a CRNA, Pat served in several leadership roles. He served on the board of directors of the Oregon Association of Nurse Anesthetists from 1986-88. In contemplating his time at Mayo, he remembers the "huge" number of cases that were done everyday. Pat's advice to students; "absorb all the techniques possible while working with as many different surgical departments as you can." E-mail address: p5163@aol.com.

Barbara Bawek Barb retired in 1999 after dedicated service to the Mayo Clinic. During her Mayo career she spent many years providing anesthesia in the Saint Marys Hospital's OB and neurosurgery divisions. She loves to travel but her home remains in Rochester.

#### Class of 1968

Micky Mull Cook currently resides in Orlando, FL. She retired from a CRNA practice in OB and general surgery in 1990. She advises future graduates to: "Learn everything you can each day as you will not get a better chance than at Mayo to see many different diseases." CRWN46-A-@prodigy.com.

Nancy Dick Johnson is retired after 34 years of working as a CRNA. Twenty years were spent with the VA. She practiced in Memphis (TN), Grand Junction (CO), and Boise (ID) and currently resides in Boise. What she remembers most about the Mayo Clinic is: "The friendly people - the vast, unique experiences - the diversity of patients and staff - the pearls from the staff who knew and worked with the Drs Mayo and the early surgeons - the history of the institution."

Betty Nordine is a retired CRNA. She states that what she remembers most about Mayo Clinic is that "learning by doing is rewarding." Her advice to the future graduates: "There will never be a "cushy" job in anesthesia."

Bud Polk is a CRNA at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville. He states that he has had a long and good career at Mayo, and had the opportunity to be associated with many bright and excellent people over the years. "Florida is one of the best moves of my life." He tells the future graduates that "the grass is not greener elsewhere. Just be as happy as you can doing your job - [but] do lots of other things." Bpolk95340@aol.com.

Cheryl Veck a staff anesthetist for the Henry Ford Health System in W. Bloomfield, MI. The things she remembers most about Mayo Clinic: 1) Being on 2nd Methodist call and getting called to St. Marys because everyone else was working - my luck never changed either 2) the eight hour "commute" to Gary, IN (to see Ed), and 3) the largest pheochromocytoma ever reported was my patient (size of a soccer ball - used 17 units of blood).

Do you have any pictures you would like to donate? We would welcome donations of new or old pictures from your time spent here at Mayo. We share these pictures with alumni who come to our fall seminar and everyone enjoys them. Please keep us in mind when you look through your



#### Class of 1978

Sandra (Sandi) Beier retired from Mayo Clinic in December 2001, but continues to work as a supplemental CRNA at Methodist Hospital in Rochester, MN. She says she has "no regrets" about her work experience at the Mayo Clinic because of the "many varied cases and experiences" and the "many friends and associates over the years." Her advice to future graduates: "You may feel discouraged and/or frustrated at time. This [Mayo Clinic] is a great place to work. Your work place is what you make it. I have fun and learn something new everyday." Beier.sandra@mayo.edu.

Terry Egbers has been employed at Mayo Clinic since her graduation, and is currently a CRNA supervisor at Saint Marys Hospital in Rochester, MN, and coordinates clinical continuing education. She states that "being a CRNA has granted a most rewarding life. Though the first years were tough, it was well worth it!" egbers.terry@mayo.edu.

Dee Lichty is currently a CRNA at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville. After a 20 year "career" at Mayo Rochester, he felt like he needed a change. In 1998, he moved to Jacksonville, FL. His advice to the future graduates: "Your education never ends. Be humble and ready for change." Dlichty@alltel.net.

Patricia Peyla resides in Wabasha, MN and works as a free lance CRNA. She completed her M.S. degree at Winona State in 1987. Peyla@wabasha.net.

#### Class of 1978

Sue Ellen (Meiners) Valk Sue received a BA in Anthropology in 1990. She works for the Peace Corps, volunteering in their Health Program. Her continental address is Virginia but current address is Lome, Togo-Africa! Sue said that being a Nurse Anesthetist has taught her to be a competent and compassionate patient advocate.

Sandy Simonson Sandy is employed as a CRNA by the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida, as is her husband, Denny. Together they have 2 sons; one in college and one in high school. Sandy's advice to graduates is, "treat all patients the way you would want to be treated."

#### Class of 1983

Karen Hamlett-Kleinhenz Karen lives in Libertyville, IL where she is chief anesthetist at Evanston Northwestern Hospital. Her e-mail address is kjhk221@aol.com.

Gary Haven Rapid City, SD is home for Gary. He is self-employed through Western Plains Anesthesia PC working for Black Hills Regional Eye Institute.

Marlys Smelter Marlys is a staff CRNA at Saint Marys Hospital in Rochester, MN. Her husband Don, is a CRNA Clinical Specialist in the SMH Multispecialty corridor. Together they have 5 children, the youngest being 14. From her days as an anesthesia student, Marlys remembers doing a four hour mask case on an edentulous man having bilateral knee surgery. She also has fond memories of Dr.

Hartridge being a great patient/anesthesia team advocate. Smelter.marlys@mayo.edu.

Jane Cummings lives in Rochester, MN and works as a staff CRNA in the cardiovascular division at Saint Marys Hospital. E-mail: cummings.jane@mayo.edu.

Marc Engelbrektson resides in Fargo, ND and works as a staff CRNA for Merit Care Medical Center in Fargo. E-mail marc3@prodigy.net.

Paul Hudson lives in Palm Harbor, FL and works for Bayfront Anesthesia Services, Inc., St. Petersburg, FL, as a CRNA, MPH (Organizational Management). Completed MPH degree in 1998 at the University of South Florida. E-mail phudson@tampabay.rr.com.

Marilyn (Miller) Page works as a staff Anesthetist at United Childrens Hospital in St. Paul for St. Paul Nurse Anesthesia P.A. and resides in Eden Prairie, MN. Marilyn has also practiced anesthesia in third world countries throughout her career. E-mail: tmpagecp@aol.com.

Kent Taylor lives in Columbia, MO, and works at the Truman Veterans Hospital. E-mail: kentptaylor@mchsi.com.

**Jeri Turner** Gantley lives in Cupertino, CA and works as a staff CRNA for Kaiser Permanente, Santa Clara, CA. E-mail: jeri.turner-gantley@ncal.kaperm.org.

Rae Ann Vigen lives in Rochester, MN and works at Saint Marys Hospital as an Anesthesia Clinical Specialist for the Cardiac Cath Lab. E-mail: Vigen.raeann@mayo.edu.

#### Class of 1988

Darryl Jones lives in Oklahoma City and works for Midwest Regional Medical Center, Oklahoma City, OK.

Vincent Milazzo lives in Chicago, IL. He works for Berwyn Anesthesia Associates as the Chief Anesthetist. Berwyn Anesthesia Associates provide anesthesia services at MacNeal Hospital in Berwyn, IL. E-mail: v.milazzo@worldnet.att.net.

Marlea Judd Marlea lives in Rochester and now keeps busy as an Anesthesia Supervisor for the South Division at Rochester Methodist Hospital. Marlea completed her MNA degree through Mayo School of Health Sciences in 2001. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Joe, and two boys, Max and Kevin. E-mail: judd.marlea@mayo.edu.

Mark Solomonson Mark works as a staff CRNA at Rochester Methodist Hospital in Rochester, MN. He lives in Byron with his family. His wife Becky, is also a CRNA. Together they have 3 children. Mark completed his MNA degree in 1993 through the Mayo School of Health Sciences. E-mail: solomonson.mark@mayo.edu.

Mavis Ward works as a staff CRNA at Saint Marys Hospital (Multispecialty division), Rochester, MN. Mavis completed her MNA degree through Mayo School of Health Sciences in 2002. E-mail: ward.mavis@mayo.edu.

## Employment Opportunities:

Our anesthesia practice continues to grow. We currently employ 186 CRNAs, and are looking for a few more good men and women to come work with us. If you are interested in any employment opportunities, please contact Mike Quinn, CRNA, MNA at 507-266-8250 or Ann Schletty at 507-284-8525.

Claude Kluck works at Mayo Clinic-Jacksonville as a staff CRNA, and also resides in Jacksonville, FL. E-mail: kluck.claude@mayo.edu.

Alice Schrad lives in Albert Lea, MN and works as Lead CRNA for the Albert Lea Medical Center (Mayo Clinic Affiliate), Albert Lea, MN. Alice is also the coordinator for the Mayo senior students who rotate to Albert Lea for their 8 week Off-Campus Rotation, which has an emphasis on regional anesthesia techniques. E-mail: schrad.alice@mayo.edu.

#### Class of 1993

Alan Baudler works for Western Anesthesia Association, Inc. in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. What he remembers most at Mayo is working hard during the day, sleepless nights, and the chalky aftertaste of Tums. His advice to students is "Go for it!

Patricia (Wagner) Conway is an anesthetist at Olmsted Community Hospital, Rochester, Minnesota. (Patricia's husband, Bob Conway, is also one of our previous graduates and is a CRNA Clinical Specialist at RMH) E-mail: pmw02@aol.com.

David B. Farnworth is married (13 years) to the same wonderful girl and has four great kids. He is working at a small 20-bed, 3 OR community hospital in Orem, Utah doing a lot of OB coverage. His memories of Mayo Clinic is the "wonderful surplus of helpful people...occasionally missed out here at 'St. Elsewhere." E-mail: dfarn@sisna.com.

Louis Letts started his anesthesia career at Saint Marys and then transferred to Methodist Hospital in Rochester. E-mail: lnl4748@aol.com.

Joanne Pernal is working for Anesthesia Assoc. of SW FL in Ft. Myers, Florida. Joanne is happy she was able to achieve a career as a nurse anesthetist. It has enabled her to care for the needs of her patients and have the luxury of time spent with her family. Her advice to students is, "be prepared to study and work hard - the rewards will be worth it."

Thomas Silbernagel started his anesthesia career at Provera Covenant Medical Center, Urbana, Illinois. Thomas, his wife, Tina, and son, Teddy, will soon be moving to Menominee, Wisconsin. What Tom remembers most at Mayo are "the great CRNAs who taught him." His advice for students is to learn as much regional as you can. E-mail: subs@gateway.net.

Judy (Roebbeke) Stensrud is on staff at Saint Marys Hospital, Rochester, Minnesota. She is married to Paul (Mayo Anesthesiologist) and they have a son and a daughter. E-mail: stensrud.judy@mayo.edu.

Maria Van Haren is working at Marshfield Clinic in Marshfield, Wisconsin. She is married with two children.

Kari (Boucher) Vitt works in Kansas City, MO. She, her husband, and two children enjoy living in the country and being outdoors.

#### Class of 1998 - First MNA Class

Barry Schab and his wife, Kelly, live in Meridian, Idaho where Barry is employed by Boise Anesthesia PA. Kelly is a home engineer executive. Barry's e-mail address is bkschab@aol.com.

Ben Giesen is employed by the New Ulm Medical Center in New Ulm, Minnesota. Ben and his wife, Kim, have three children. Ben's e-mail address is bkgiesen@mnic.net.

Janna (Johnson) Smith works for Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She works primarily at Rochester Methodist Hospital in Multispecialty. Janna's husband, Pete, is a Respiratory Therapist working for the Mayo Clinic. Janna and Pete have a one year old son, Ethan, and a yellow Labrador named Scout.

Sara Theoharis and her husband, Peter, live in Hastings, NE. Sara is employed by Hastings Anesthesiology Associates and works at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital. Peter is a sports writer for the Hastings Tribune. Sara recalls the unusual cases she encountered while at Mayo and the "expert treatment given for the rarest diseases."

Charlene Benz and her husband, Steven, live in Memphis, TN. Charlene is employed by Pediatric Anesthesiologists, PA, while her husband works for Northwest Airlines. Charlene remembers the excellent clinical experiences she had while at Mayo and offers advice to our current students on the subject. "Learn all that you can while at Mayo because with Mayo training you will be able to adapt to different situations quickly and with ease and confidence."

Nancy A. Dalton is currently working at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville. She is writing an article on anesthesia for endovascular repair of AAA for the AANA journal. E-mail: ndaltonz@bellsouth.net.

Katie West works for Critical Health Systems and is currently employed at Apex, N.C. In 2001 the Raleigh School of Nurse Anesthesia graduating class choose Katie for "Outstanding CRNA". E-mail: skpmestie@aol.com.

Angie Stillmunkes is working with an anesthesia group in Des Moines, IA and enjoys life in Iowa with her husband and two children.

Sheri Ann Baker lives in Iowa with her husband and two children. Sheri works at Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines. Her advice: "Take a small piece from each day to build on the rest." E-mail: cjbaker@crosspaths.net.



#### **Graduation 2003**

On March 14, members of the Class of 2003 received their Master of Nurse Anesthesia. Over 400 people attended the ceremony. Thirty SRNAs and three CRNAs received their degrees. Congratulations to all for a job well done in both the classroom and in the clinical rotations. As this is written the last of the class members are taking their certifying exam.

Educator Awards were presented by the class to: Dennis Forcelle, CRNA, MNA - SMH CRNA Educator Lori Brundige, CRNA, MNA - RMH CRNA Educator Dr Jeff Welna - Physician Educator



#### **Student Awards:**

The Robert Devloo, MD Award was presented to *Robyn Finney, SRNA*The Virginia Hartridge, MD Award was presented to *Stephen Jewell, SRNA*The Rebecca Finley, CRNA Award was presented to *Pam Lovett, SRNA*The Gilles, Nelson and Torrance, CRNAs - Alumni Award was presented to *Rawan Amra , SRNA* 

Robert R. Johnson, CRNA Award (newly instituted award) to *Robyn Finney, SRNA*This award is given to the student who receives the highest score on the Senior Comprehensive Exam (SEE). The person who receives this award represents the excellence of the entire class.

#### **Seminar Shots**



Barb Bawek, Peggy Burtel, Andrea Beck, Marilyn Miller Page, Gloria Davis, Ione Styve



Glenda Yates, Joanne Haebig, Steve Schmidt, Marti Callies



Barb McDermott, John Ahle, Fran Petrie



Craig Woxland, Kelly Jarvis-Zebl, Jerry Kvasricka



Sharon Brandt, Dr. David Danielson, Tammy Neis



Front row: Terry Egber, Jill Knutson, Jane Deering, Marlea Judd, Ted Morris. Secondrow: Joe Town, Ben Giesen

#### Honored Alumni at the CRNA Seminar 2002



Ken Robinson, Steve Schmidt



Marti Callies, John Carter, Glenda Yates, Vandela Hicks-Scherer



Kelly Jarviszebj, Gene Bommerbasch



Jayne Arvold, Chris Dietz, Mike Berg



Jennifer Byrant, Laura Richardson, Angie Ferguson, Linda Anderson, Kristin Meincke

#### Alumni Breakfast, 2003



Pat Wick, Jeannie Mattson, Cindy Lubahn, Jim Palmer, Doreen Gudlin, James Rosane, Shannon Monosmith



Craig Kluck, Don Smelter, Joel Price



Minerva Johnson, Joe Ricci, Dick Loken, Clay Blair, Jerry Kvasnicka



Dave Myhre, Joe Stumvoll, Don Smelter, Robyn Finney, Cori Krambeer, Mary Marienau



Brian Peterson, Mavis Ward, Marcia Belaeu, Deb Denny, Jane Arvold, Lori Allen, Jason Thibert



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