

Alumni Banquet May 10, 2017 at 6p
"Celebrating 122 Years of the Watts School of Nursing"

- Welcome.....Susan Avent, President-Elect, Class of 76, started at 605p
- Introduction of Alumni Officers presented by Susan Avent, President-Elect
- Invocation.....Melissa Murray, Class of 2000, At-Large Board Member
- Dinner Buffet began at 610p (salads were on the tables by 545p)
- WSON Update.....Dr Peggy Walters (7p)
 - Peggy was pleased to report that the new grads have a 100% passing rate for four classes in a row. 82 were admitted last year. Deb Johnson, was awarded the NCNA Student Nurse of the Year and Nancy Eisenson, faculty, was awarded the NCNA Nurse of the Year.
 - The students raised 3K for the Angels Among Us that goes to the Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center.
 - Judy Brodgen, Registrar, retired this Spring after 42 years of service with the health system and 22 of those years specifically with WSON.
 - There will be 2 new scholarships awarded to students at graduation this year.
 - BSN program update, this process started in 2014. A site visit occurred in Jan 2017 to obtain the license from the NC General Assembly. Once the license is received the next step will be to the NCBON, goal is Sept 2017. The school has been accredited by ACEN since 1956. The new accreditation will be the ACBEN and their initial site visit was also in Jan 2017 with another visit in the Fall of 2017. So the journey continues and we'll keep the alumni informed in the near future.
- WSON History Project..... Donna Rogers and Betty Faulkner (715p)
 - The school along with Donna and Betty continue to collect items. What we need are materials starting with the Class of 2000. Items collected continue to be cataloged as they come in.
 - Research continues to be done on the hospital administrator, Bessie Burgess. They obtained a letter that was written from the first Durham County school nurse to Bessie, so this letter is 102 years old.
 - A ledger was found that is approx. 100 years old that included student names and the hospital superintendent notes about the students.
 - They have collected photos of the hospital superintendents from 1895 to present except the first nurse, Florence McNulty (a graduate of NY Hospital School of Nursing). They have a photo of her graduating class but the students names are not listed so they have been reaching out to find someone who could identify her in the picture. Donna and Betty indicated that it has been a lot of fun talking to the relatives of these hospital superintendent.
 - Marie Robeson, in attendance, was recognized. She is a former instructor, hospital Director of Nursing and honorary alumnus.
 - Tonight's display honors the Class of 1967, the newest Golden Agers.
- Business Meeting (725p)
 - Treasurer's report given by Reba Beavers. We have approx. \$175,000 in the ECP scholarship account and a little over \$3000 in the Credit Union account,
 - We gave out 8 scholarships this past year
 - Those who are Golden Agers that continue to pay dues we greatly appreciate this funding and always treat as donations to support operational expenses and scholarships. We also appreciate those alumni who sponsored a student's meal tonight, this helps greatly with the banquet expenses.

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- We continue to sponsor the Freshman Meet & Greet each semester, provide snacks for the students during exam weeks and we started a fund in collaboration with the school where the alumni gives a monetary gift to the students each semester which they may use for student needs while they are at the school.
- New Officers and Board Members were presented to the alumni by Susan Avent for a 2 year term which starts in September 2017.
 - Susan Avent, President; Melissa Murray, President Elect; Gina Edwards, Secretary; Reba Beavers, Treasurer and Database Manager, Rosalin Robinson, Past President; Becky Dodson, Liz Cantor, Sherry Warren and Chester Farley, At Large Members
 - Jane Watkins made the motion to accept the new list of officers and board members, Vickie Davis seconded the motion, none opposed.
- Alumni Deaths since the newsletter went out includes: Pauline Stuckey Weaver Class of 1940, Lucille Brooks Becton Class of 1940, Camilla Burcham Foushee, Class of 1946, Frances Rhodes Taylor, Class of 1949, Linda Walker Wooten, Class of 1958
- We encouraged alumni present to keep in touch with the school and alumni association.
 - Class of 1953 announced that they meet monthly
 - The largest class present tonight is the Class of 1963
 - One Alumnus encourages nurses to support the upcoming HB 88 which will allow CRNAs, NP, CNS, CNM to practice to their fullest without a supervising physician. There are other states that already allow this practice.
 - Mark your calendars – Winter Gathering is Dec 6, at the Bennett Point Grill.
 - Mini- Watts Caps are for sale tonight and proceeds will be donated to the alumni association. They are \$15. These were made by members of the Class of 1979.
- Introduction of new Grads, Class of Dec 2016 and May 2017 (735p). Many of the latest graduates were hired by the Duke Health System. Several have been hired in Clinic 2H which is a procedural area. Historically they have never hired new grads. So, this speaks volumes about Watts Grads. One has a job at Wake Forest Baptist Hospital.
- Roll Call.....Susan Avent, President- Elect
 - Beginning with the class of 1947 through May 2017
 - New Golden Agers, Class of 1967
 - 51 total alumni present
 - 22 new grads
 - 9 Guests (this includes non-alumni school faculty)
 - Honorary alumni – 3 present
 - 0 no shows
 - We paid for a total of 82 attendees
- Door Prizes.....Louise Beasley '53 (745p). Banquet ended at 810p

Submitted by G. Edwards, Secretary (Emailed meeting minutes to Officers and Board Members, 9/10/2017)
Revised 9/19/2017 based on feedback at Sept 12, 2017 board meeting