



# Beyond the Cap

## M G H N U R S E S ' A L U M N I A S S O C I A T I O N , I N C

A publication of the MGH Nurses' Alumni Association, Inc.  
P. O. Box 6234 Boston MA 02114  
email: [mghnursealumni@partners.org](mailto:mghnursealumni@partners.org)  
Website: <http://www.mghnaa.org>

New Series Volume 5 No.2

Editor: Susan Fisher

Fall/Winter 2021

### Officers

#### President

Roberta Nemeskal

#### President Elect

Ann Quealy

#### Vice President

Barbara Dunderdale

#### Treasurer

Susan Zahka

#### Secretary

Sheila Burke

### Board of Directors

May Chin

Gino Chisari

Ann Collins

Elizabeth Compagnone

Barbara Dunderdale

Susan Fisher

Mary Larkin

Lucy Nisotel

Jo-Ann Quigley

Christine Rich

Mary Beth Schmidt

### Message from the NAA President

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am hoping you are all well. I've just reviewed my Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 BTC messages to you. In both, I spoke about the Covid 19 pandemic, and I find I need to continue to speak about it. Covid 19 is still here and it's just not going the way I had hoped. I guess that we will just continue to adjust. The MGH has been following very strict safety guidelines since March 2020 but in conversation with some key MGH folk, I suspect that the hospital just might be opening more to the public. I do hope that by the Fall of 2022 Homecoming will be a live and in-person event.

The NAA board continues to meet every 2 months via ZOOM and NAA committees are meeting monthly or bi-monthly via Zoom. Plans for the celebration of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary are really firming up and you will hear more from Barbara Dunderdale, the chair, in this newsletter. The NAA Annual Meeting was held on Saturday September 25, 2021 with about 65 members attending via Zoom. Following the meeting we had a very engaging and informative lecture on the Emotional Intelligence of Nurses by Estelle Codier a 1976 MGH graduate.

The hospital has seen some significant changes. It is now the Mass General Brigham with focus on serious department merging with the Brigham. In September Peter Slavin MD stepped down as Hospital President after 18+ years of leadership. He was succeeded by David Brown MD a MGH physician who most recently led the Emergency Department.

The IHP appointed Dr. Kenneth White as the new Dean of their School of Nursing this past July. The NAA board has met with him and find him to be an engaging and enthusiastic leader. We look forward to working with him.

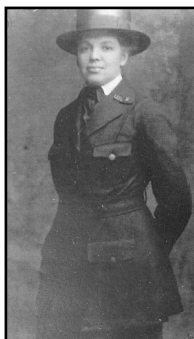
In closing I wish you a safe, happy and healthy holiday season. My Best,

Roberta Nemeskal

President, NAA

### Remembering Our Veterans

Agnes Trull (1879-1963), class of 1913. Served at Evacuation Hospital #17, Vladivostok, Siberia 1918-20 then in the Phillipine Islands. Later executive assistant, Phillips House, for 18 years. The memorabilia, donated by family, also includes items from her niece, Velma, a 1932 MGH SON graduate.



### NAA News

Editor's note: We have been notified by our printer that supply chain problems are causing delivery delays of paper used in printing our newsletter. This in turn may delay your receipt of this issue.

Our annual meeting was held in September, again virtually. Minutes will be published in *The Record* as usual. Of special interest was the thought-provoking presentation by **Estelle Codier '76** about her long time work as both researcher and educator in her specialty field of emotional intelligence.

Last summer, Boston's local TV show, *Chronicle* aired a segment on our nursing sundial sculpture. The interviewees were **Diane Smith '66** and Marianne Ditomassi, RN DNP, of the MGH Nursing Department. Here is the link - note that the sundial story follows a piece on the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company:

<https://www.wcvb.com/article/city-savvy-visiting-the-ancient-and-honorable-artillery-company-museum-and-honoring-nurses-through-art-where-are-we/36907916>



### MGH News

The newly appointed President of the MGH is **Dr. David F. Brown**. His career at MGH has spanned 30 years, beginning with his residency at the hospital. He has been for some years Chair of the MGH Emergency Department and Professor of Emergency Medicine at Harvard Medical School. He will also hold the title of Executive Vice-President of Brigham & Women's Hospital, reflecting the current commitment to merge the two institutions.

As part of the hospital's celebration of the 200th anniversary of the first patient admission (9/1/1821), the MGH is producing a series of "first patient" videos, highlighting significant advances at the hospital. Four are available so far - all very moving and well worth viewing. You can copy these addresses or the link should be active in the online version of this newsletter.

#1: Maureen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcNZOoxulWQ&t=4s>

#2: Edward: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMXkO6DftjA>

#3: Dave: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1DH1W56bwc>

#4: Courtney: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpznN6P6kGU>

### IHP News

The NAA Board of Directors met new Dean Dr. Kenneth White over Zoom recently. We spent an enjoyable hour hearing about each other's backgrounds, his reasons for coming to Boston and the IHP, and some of his thoughts and hopes about the future.

Several of the schools within the Institute held modified graduations in the late spring. Three of our scholarships were presented to individuals by board members.

The board was also invited to attend by Zoom the DNP (Doctor of Nursing Practice) convocation. Of note here was the awarding of the Herzlinger Prize for exceptional DNP project, which was given to candidate Tanya Martel. Her project focused on the increased incidence of endotracheal tube related pressure injuries in the ICU of a Boston hospital. With increased census in April-May 2020 during the Covid pandemic surge, there was a 275% increase in hospital-acquired, device-related pressure injuries over the prior two month period. Martel designed and implemented a care model that improved assessment & management of these patients such that one month after implementation there were no documented device-related injuries in the ICU. Impressive.

### History/Archives News

The Association continues to meet & work on its various projects electronically - I don't believe we've had an in-person meeting since early 2020.

The SON archives have been unavailable to us since March of 2020, which is beginning to limit our ability to move to the next stage of our video and digitization projects. But at our most recent History Committee meeting 11/9 we were informed that the Russell Museum would reopen in January, 2022 and that the MGH warehouse, location of our archives in Somerville, will also become available for us to visit, though we will need to become recertified as volunteers.

We also learned at our recent history meeting that the museum is the recipient of a complete cadet nurse uniform worn by one of our graduates and donated by her daughter. This joins the other non-MGH SON uniform in the collection, the Army nurse Corps Uniform of Katherine Barrett, class of 1938, who served in Africa and Italy during WWII.

### Tech Notes

We continue to work on making our website more relevant to users. If there are things you would like to see there please let us know.

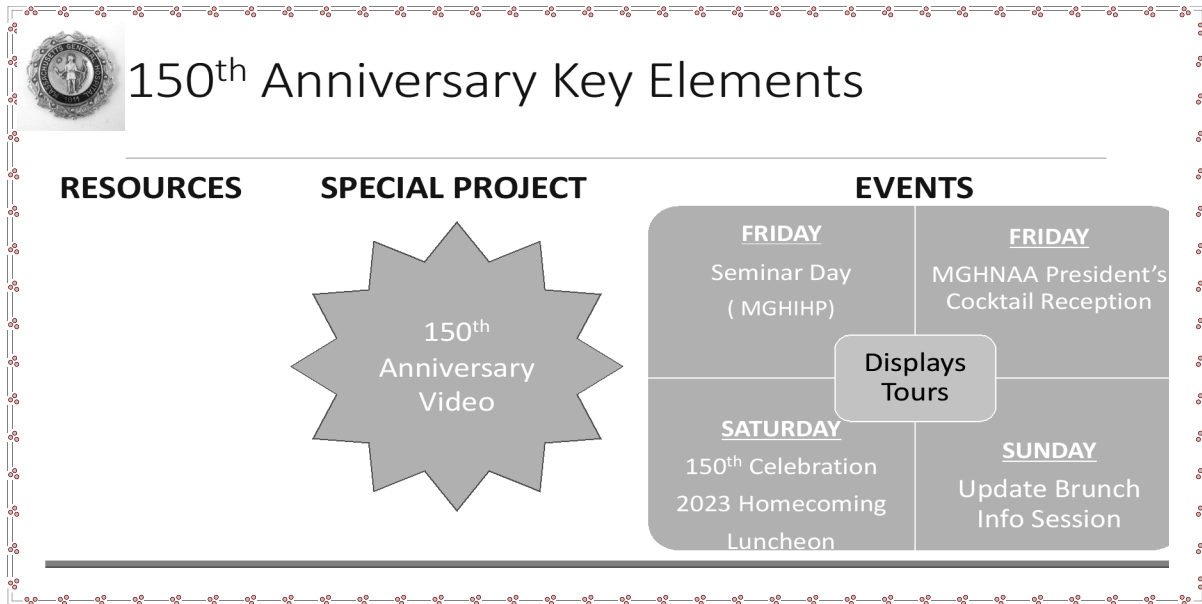
# Massachusetts General Hospital Nurses' Alumni Association

Dear Graduates of the MGHSON,

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the MGH School of Nursing 2023 Celebration Committee would like to invite you to share your thoughts and requests with us for the upcoming festivities in 2023. We are in the midst of planning, and would welcome new and exciting ideas, eager to learn any concerns you might have. Please feel free to be in touch with us by phone at the Alumni office at **617-726-3144**, or by email at: **mghnursealumni@partners.org**, or through the web site at **http://www.mghnaa.org** . Feel free to be in touch with me directly at: **bdunderdale@msn.com**

Barbara Dunderdale  
MGHNAA Vice-Pres 2021 – 2023  
Chair, 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
MGHNAA  
P.O. Box 6234  
Boston, MA 02114  
Phone: 617-726-3144  
mghnursealumni@partners.org  
http://www.mghnaa.org

*"Always more to see, more to learn, more to do...to improve both care and a cure." Ruth Sleeper 1966*



The graphic is titled "150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Key Elements" and features a decorative border. On the left is a circular seal. The content is organized into three main sections: "RESOURCES", "SPECIAL PROJECT", and "EVENTS".

- RESOURCES**: No specific items are listed.
- SPECIAL PROJECT**: A starburst shape contains the text "150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video".
- EVENTS**: A grid of four boxes with a central overlapping box:
  - FRIDAY** Seminar Day ( MGHIHP)
  - FRIDAY** MGHNAA President's Cocktail Reception
  - SATURDAY** 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration 2023 Homecoming Luncheon
  - SUNDAY** Update Brunch Info Session
  - Displays Tours** (Central overlapping box)

## Dues Reminder

New this year, you may now pay online at our website:

**<http://www.mghnaa.org>**

Alternatively, you may clip and enclose this coupon with your membership check and mail to:

PO Box 6234 Boston, MA 02114

Annual dues of \$30.00 makes you an active member of the association. Membership benefits include *The Record*, which is our annual magazine, two issues of this newsletter, *Beyond the Cap*, and current information from the Board. Active members are eligible to vote and run for board positions.

Dues are used to support philanthropic projects such as scholarships, research grants; and member activities such as homecoming and our nursing history and preservation efforts.

\_\_\_\_\_ Dues for 2021 enclosed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduating Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Massachusetts General Hospital  
Nurses' Alumni Association, Inc.  
P O Box 6234  
Boston MA 02114

Return Service Requested



Happy Holidays!  
Christmas Concert, Old North Church, about 1960  
(From the SON archives)