



**AULTMAN**College

# Connection



*...linking successful alumni with tomorrow's leaders!*

Issue 3, Volume 1

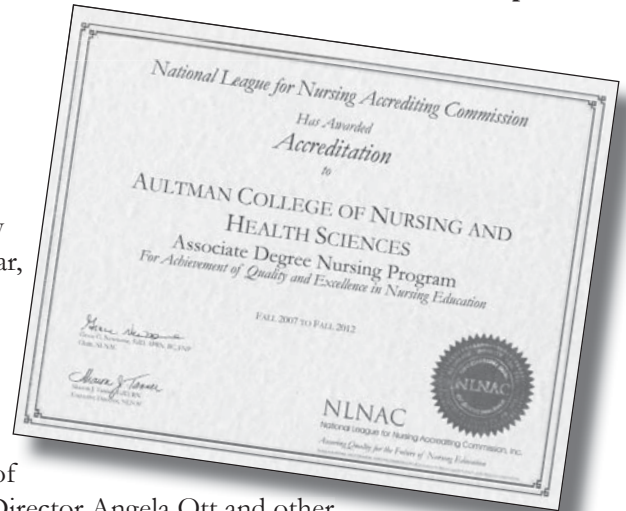
March/April 2008

## **Nursing Program Earns Initial Accreditation from National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)**

The Associate of Science in Nursing program at Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences has earned initial accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as an accrediting body for all types of nursing education programs. The accreditation status was earned as a result of an extensive voluntary evaluation process initiated by the college and reviewed by a team of highly qualified professionals who are not affiliated with the college or the nursing program.

“Program accreditation reaffirms Aultman College’s commitment and attention to NLNAC’s core values of providing quality nursing education: learning, community, responsibility, integrity, value, quality, and continuous improvement through reflection and analysis,” said Aultman College President Rebecca Crowl.

In January of this year, President Crowl joined Aultman College Division of Nursing Director Angela Ott and other administration and faculty representatives in Chicago, Illinois, where they met with the NLNAC Education Review Panel as the evaluators considered initial accreditation for Aultman College’s nursing program. “It was an incredibly proud moment,” explains Mrs. Ott, “to hear the group of experienced and knowledgeable professionals refer to our program and facilities as ‘exceptional.’”



For more than a century, Aultman’s nursing education programs have provided thousands of students with exceptional education and clinical opportunities in what began as a diploma program in 1892. “This achievement is the icing on the cake,” says President Crowl. “Years of hard work and commitment by our college administration, faculty, alumni, and professional staff have led us to this level of national recognition.”

Since the days in which they were students themselves Aultman Alumni have long understood the importance of a quality nursing education. When alumna Susan (Conrad) Ackerman ('61) forwarded her pledged donation to the college she commented, “I have valued the education I received [at Aultman] and have happily worked thirty-seven years in nursing.”

In 2004, after careful development of nursing program coursework, Aultman contracted with Walsh University to provide the general education curriculum needed for Ault-

## *Annual Spring Dinner*

Join us at Skyland Pines on Friday, April 25, 2008, for a spring dinner in celebration of friendship and service. In addition to a delicious meal, this year’s program includes: the presentation of Contributing Alumni Award and Outstanding Alumni Award; recognition of the Class of '83 (25 year alumni); and nominations and vote of 2008-2009 Alumni Association officers.

Please plan to attend and join in the fun. The cost of this year’s event is \$24. To reserve your attendance, please complete and return the reservation form included in this newsletter by April 21, 2008. Remember to bring and share your memorabilia! We need your help to keep Aultman memories alive.

For more information, please contact Joan Parcell at 330-363-4287.

*(continued on page 5)*

# SPOTLIGHT *Alumni/Faculty*



**Kathy Hendrickson** MSN, APRN, BC, CNS

Kathy has never wavered on her commitment to the patients, just as her dedication has never faltered while educating her students at Aultman College. "I believe I am a coach—providing support and encouragement [to my students]," she says. It is that enthusiastic mentality that makes her such an asset to Aultman College.

## **Her Story**

Originally from Wayne County, Ohio, Kathy moved to Stark County after completing her nursing education at Aultman Hospital School of Nursing. With diploma in hand, Kathy became a valued nurse among the halls of Aultman Hospital. But her education didn't stop there! The University of Akron and Malone College became her classrooms as she continued to grow and learn, earning her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Nursing. While employed with Aultman Hospital, Kathy quickly moved into roles suitable to her educating personality. She was Unit Director and PCS in CCU for 16 years, Division Director for 12 years, Unit Director of a 36-bed medical-surgical unit for 2 years, and Education and Development Instructor for one year. She also spent two years as a Teaching Assistant for Laboratory Learning with Aultman School of Nursing (prior to Aultman College).

## **The impact**

Kathy spent numerous years helping others on so many different levels, whether it was with a physical need as a nurse, personal need as a mentor, or educational need as an instructor. She has a strong work ethic, which she attributes to her professional philosophy of "functioning as a coach providing encouragement and to serve as a role model of a professional nurse." She found a profound satisfaction in not only helping others, but coaching current and future nurses in the art of caring for people.

## **The Result**

Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences is proud to have Kathy Hendrickson as an integral part of the instruction team as Instructor II and course coordinator for Nursing Skills Lab I, a fundamentals skill laboratory course. The students at Aultman College are quick to offer their praise as exhibited in regular course evaluations. One student explains that Kathy was very "supportive and helpful" throughout the course. Another common response was that she "made nursing skills fun and easy to learn."

Kathy has also played a key role in the foundation and growth of Aultman College, as she has served as Secretary of Academic Affairs, Chair of Faculty Council, and is currently a member of the Program Assessment Committee. She was also a member of the team responsible for authoring the self-study document submitted for the successful initial accreditation of Aultman College's nursing program in fall

of 2007. Additionally, her dedication and commitment have helped Kathy to earn a promotion to Assistant Professor beginning fall 2008.

## **In her words**

Although she is looking forward to the day when her schedule slows enough for her to make a return trip to Switzerland with Erick (her husband of 35 years), Kathy relishes in the joys of educating future nurses. "I like the interaction with the students and observing their growth throughout the semester," she explains.

Kathy has a grown daughter, Amy (husband Remo), and a cherished two-year-old granddaughter named Charlotte.

## *Where are they now?* **UPDATES & ACHIEVEMENTS**

*We would love to print all messages and updates we receive from our readers; however, space within the publication will ultimately drive the amount of information we are able to print. Please continue to contribute your updates and information as they are always welcome and appreciated.*

### **Irene (Castelline) Conley '58**

Irene finds herself among new surroundings as she has moved to an assisted living community. Her daughter, Cathy, has shared with the Aultman College Alumni Association that Irene would find great joy in hearing from her classmates. Her new address is Park Village 12B, 1511 Crater Avenue, Dover, Ohio 44622.

### **Donna (Gurney) Downes '48**

Donna is currently celebrating 30 years of involvement in the Harvard Medical School Nurses' Health Study. Having been on the project nearly since its inception in 1976, Donna finds herself a participant of one of the largest prospective investigations into the risk factors for major chronic diseases in women.

### **Renee (Wilhelm) Shalosky '91**

As Director of Quality Improvement at the Southeastern Ohio Regional Medical Center in Cambridge, Ohio, Renee was recently awarded an international certification in healthcare quality. Her new credentials of Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) were earned from the Healthcare Quality Certification Board of the National Association for Healthcare Quality.

# Annual 1892 Scholarship Campaign Phone-a-thon scheduled for March, April, May

*In celebration of our history and support of our future.*

Aultman College is kicking off its *Annual 1892 Scholarship Campaign* this month with a volunteer staffed phone-a-thon. Aultman College students, faculty, staff, and alumni will volunteer their time to telephone alumni, inviting potential donors to be a part of this year's fundraising goal of \$50,000. Reaching this goal will enable the college to fund two additional \$1,000 endowed annual scholarships for Aultman College students.

Each student has given something up or put something "on hold" to pursue their dream of becoming a nurse. In many cases, the financial commitment required to follow that dream will put a strain on the process as a whole.

You will likely receive a telephone call from one of the volunteers during one of the days and times listed. Please consider

helping us support our students by making a donation to the campaign. One hundred percent of your donation will be used to fund annual scholarships for Aultman College students. Each year two students will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, helping them focus more on their studies and future graduation by easing their financial burden.

The phone-a-thon will be between the hours of 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. on March 25–27, April 1–3, and May 13–15. All efforts will be made to reach as many individuals as possible during the phone-a-thon; however, it is not necessary to wait for a call. Sue Shepherd, administrator of the *Annual 1892 Scholarship Campaign*, is happy to assist you with your donation at any time. Sue can be reached by calling 330-363-4349.



*Aultman Alumni Association Treasurer Rose Day models the T-shirt to be mailed to individuals donating \$30 or more during the 1892 Scholarship Campaign Phone-a-thon.*



## \$2,000 Margaret Lazar/Emma Lupher Scholarship awarded

The Aultman College Alumni Association Scholarship Committee selected first-year student, Melanie Wohlheter as the first recipient of the Margaret Lazar/Emma Lupher Scholarship.

Applications are now being accepted in consideration for next year's scholarship recipient. Eligible applicants must not currently be enrolled at Aultman College, yet are expecting to begin classes in the fall of 2008. Visit [www.aultmancollege.org](http://www.aultmancollege.org) to obtain an application or contact Jennie Carlson at 330-363-6479 for more information.

## Call for Volunteers

**We need you May 13-15!!**

Support from Aultman Alumni can come in all forms! Here is your opportunity to show Aultman pride by volunteering your time to help with the *Annual 1892 Scholarship Campaign Phone-a-thon*. May 13–15, the phone-a-thon calling panel is slated to be staffed **entirely by Aultman Alumni!** Please contact Sue Shepherd at 330-363-4349 to answer our call for support and volunteer to help on this critical day of fund raising.

Please reserve a place for me at the

# Annual Spring Dinner

**Skyland Pines**

3550 Columbus Road NE, Canton, Ohio

5:30 p.m. Registration & Cocktails

6:00 p.m. Dinner is served

7:00 p.m. Program

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be dining with us?  Yes  No (Please note there is a meal charge of \$24.)

Select the main course you desire for your meal:  Chicken  Scrod  Strip Steak  Vegetarian

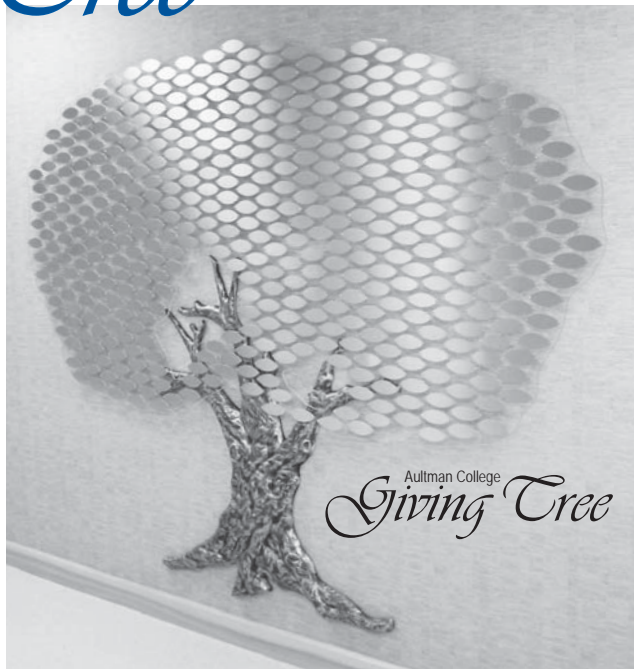
Please return this completed form, along with your payment (if applicable), to:  
Aultman College Alumni Association, P.O. Box 80836 – Station C, Canton, Ohio 44708-0836.

*Don't forget to complete and share some information using the other side of this form!*

# Giving Tree

*Installed for donors of Aultman College*

Aultman College Alumni Association has established a method of recognition for donors of the college by sponsoring a Giving Tree display, mounted on the wall outside the administrative offices of the college. The brass sculpture tree is embellished with many individual brass leaves. Donors who contribute a cumulative amount of \$500 and above will have their gift acknowledged on a leaf of the Giving Tree. Small and large stepping stones will adorn the ground around the tree



as the corresponding financial gifts are received and acknowledged (small stone: \$5,000–\$9,999;

large stone: \$10,000 and above). Donation amounts that are recorded and accumulated will be recognized appropriately within the display. For example, if a donor gives \$1,000 each year for five years, when donations reach a total of \$5,000, that individual will be recognized on a small stone within the display. Individuals wishing to donate funds to Aultman College should contact Sue Shepherd at 330-363-4349.

## Donations

### *In Memory of:*

Ruth Kines, Class of 1941

*—from Marge Garaux, class of 1941; and Mildred E. (Hawk) Mellon, class of 1941*

Evelyn (Shreve) Dannis, Class of 1944—*from Grace Zahler*

Alice Ott, Class of 1951—*from Grace Zahler*

Betty J. Ryan, Class of 1944—*from Harriet Shreve*

## Condolences

### *We offer condolences to the families of:*

Evelyn (Shreve) Dannis, Class of 1944

Peggy Huthmacher—*daughter of Paula Wise, class of 1945*

Jean A. Lavery, Class of 1934

Bettie (Sponseller) Metcalf, Class of 1942

Alice Ott, Class of 1951

Betty J. Ryan, Class of 1944

Marie P. Warehime, Class of 1945

# Annual Spring Dinner

*Please take a moment to share a memory!*  
The Aultman College Alumni Association is constantly working to build on its collection of memorabilia. Your stories and personal artifacts are critical to an accurate collection of history!

*Thank you!*

# SPOTLIGHT *Student*



## Carrie Sawtell Second Year Aultman College Student

In February of this year, Aultman Hospital Human Resources received a telephone call from an extremely grateful patient. As this patient shared appreciation of the care and attention received while under Aultman's care, time was given to praise not only the treating doctors and nurses, but also Aultman College student nurse Carrie Sawtell. As a

second-year student, expecting to graduate at the end of this semester, Carrie Sawtell is already touching the lives of patients—just as she hoped.

### Her Story

After graduating from Miami University, (Oxford, Ohio), with a B.S. in dietetics and completing her internship at Mount Carmel College of Nursing in Columbus, Ohio, Carrie became a Registered Dietitian and worked in Florida's Boca Raton Community Hospital for three years.

Carrie married Herb in 2000 and moved back to Ohio when they learned their family would soon grow by one. At 33 weeks pregnant and while vacationing with family in South Carolina, Carrie went into premature labor. Despite the medical staff's best efforts, little Jake was born prematurely at MUSC (a tertiary medical center in Charleston). Carrie and Herb "lived" in a hotel room nearby until Jake was released from the neonatal intensive care unit after three weeks of care.

Two years later and pregnant with their second son, Carrie and Herb found themselves in a frighteningly familiar situation, when she fell into premature labor at 32 weeks. Again, although valiant efforts were made, Brady arrived early and spent two subsequent weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit.

### The impact

"Words cannot describe the fear, stress, and utter helplessness of not being able to help our sons," explains Carrie. "Caught up in our own nightmare, I never truly thanked all the NICU nurses and doctors for their outstanding care, although no words can begin to express our gratitude."

### The result

"It's my turn to make a difference," says Carrie.

Reflecting on her notable roller coaster of emotions and "through much prayer," Carrie made a life-changing decision to become a nurse. Having experienced, first-hand, the care her children received from the nurses upon their birth and the support she and Herb received from the same nurses, has inspired Carrie to "give back" as a nurse herself. Carrie will graduate from Aultman College in May of this year. With excellent examples and life experience to draw from, she plans to become a NICU nurse and "model the nurses who took care of Jake and Brady with such expert and caring hands."

### In her words

"The instructors at Aultman College have been a continued inspiration to me. Their support and teaching are giving me the tools and confidence [I need] to become the nurse I desire to be. They have my utmost respect for the work they do and I will be forever grateful to them for their instruction and guidance.

"Lastly, I want to send a most sentimental thank you to all nurses for their service and support they so freely give to their patients. Many times you do not receive the gratitude you deserve... but from a patient and family member standpoint, words cannot describe how GRATEFUL we truly are! Thank you!"

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## NLNAC Initial Accreditation *(Continued from cover)*

man to establish an Associate of Science Degree in Nursing program. "We are extremely grateful for the support and professionalism shown by Walsh University, as our NLNAC initial accreditation would not have been possible without our partners in education," says President Crowl. "This includes Aultman College's Board of Directors, devoted and talented faculty and staff, as well as the supportive alumni, students, and their families."

The NLNAC is responsible for the specialized accreditation of nursing education programs, both post-secondary and higher degree (Practical Nursing program, Diploma, Associate Degree, Baccalaureate Degree, and Master's Degree). The Commission has authority and accountability for carrying out the responsibilities inherent in the application of standards and criteria, accreditation processes, and the affairs, management, policy-making, and general administration of the NLNAC. Accrediting over 1600 programs, nationally and internationally, and reviewing more than 200 programs annually, the NLNAC is the largest and most experienced accreditor, with over 50 years of NLN experience. The NLNAC is fully recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and is located at 61 Broadway—33rd Floor, New York, NY 10006 (phone 800.669.1656 ext. 153).



### Aultman College Alumni Association

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**Treasurer**, Rose Day

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## Call for History

The Aultman Alumni Association is always working to build on its collection of historic artifacts and memorabilia associated with nursing and the College. If you have any photographs, artifacts, or other items you believe would add value to this collection, please forward a copy to us or consider a loan for educational and informational purposes. Please contact Alumni Association Historian JoAnn Weinland at 330-363-3933 for more information.

## Aultman College Logo Store *Now Open!*

The Aultman College logo store is now open Monday thru Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The store is located on the second floor of the college next to the administrative offices. Patrons will find a variety of clinical supplies, snacks, drinks, and Aultman College logo wear in the store. The store is currently staffed on a casual basis and additional support is always needed, so this is a fabulous opportunity for Aultman Alumni to get involved and volunteer!

Special thanks to our recent volunteers: Jenny Self, Carole Easterday, Janet Ianni, and Lori Schaffner. Please contact Monica Mendenhall at 330-363-6347 for volunteer information.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 25-27	Annual 1892 Scholarship Campaign Phone-a-thon
April 1-3	Annual 1892 Scholarship Campaign Phone-a-thon
April 25	Alumni Spring Dinner
May 9	Aultman College Pinning Ceremony
May 10	Aultman College Graduation
May 13-15	Annual 1892 Scholarship Campaign Phone-a-thon
August 13	50-year Club Dinner for Alumni
October 4	Family Octoberfest

For more information, please contact Joan Parcell at 330-363-4287.