School of Nursing at Mercy Hospital Denver Celebrates 110th Anniversary

by Sister Cyrilla Wolfe

The Mercy Nurses’ Alumnae in Denver, CO, celebrated on Aug. 14 the 110th Anniversary of the opening of the School of Nursing at Mercy Hospital in Denver (photo at left is of Mercy Denver circa taken around the same time as the School of Nursing began in 1904). Present were 122 alumni, relatives and friends. Each one attending the Mass and luncheon received a copy of the history of the School of Nursing.

Among those in attendance were three who were celebrating their 60th anniversary of graduation. They were: Sister Mary Sean Crimmins, Serena Best (Sister Regina Selenke’s sister), and Jean Hammer (former Sister Cecily Fleisner). Others in attendance included: Sister Maura Clark (director of the school when it closed), Sister Peg Maloney, Sister del Rey Ekler, Sister Sharon Ekler, and myself. Father Tom Coyte (who does sign language) celebrated the Mass at St. Bernadette’s Church. The luncheon was held at the Lakewood Country Club. Occasions like this are always a great time to see and visit with those we have not been with for a long time!

“Although the school officially closed in 1974, the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association continues to meet every year in August,” explains Sister Mary Sean of Arvada, CO. In all, Mercy Hospital’s Training School for Nurses/School of Nursing graduated 1,552 nurses. For Mercy Hospital Denver’s timeline, as compiled by Thomas J. Sherlock, click here. Watch for photos of the celebration as they become available.

Card of Thanks

Dear Sisters and Associates,

Thank you for you many cards and kind words sent to me at the time of my Jubilee. Your many messages, donations to our ministries in my honor and Masses/prayers are so much appreciated. "Tis a great thing to be a Sister of Mercy." God's blessings on all of you. Lovingly in Mercy,

Sister Elaine Delaney
An Invitation to Simply Spirit
You are invited
to
Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center
Sunday, Sept. 21
4:30-7 p.m.
for our annual
Simply Spirit Benefit
Dinner and Dessert

Enjoy a beautiful autumn evening with friends and supporters of KMSC, as we gather to celebrate with gratitude the blessings of the Center. Enjoy a Christian Artist Display in our Chapel and join us as we honor Judith Barnes with the Sophia Wisdom Award.

Tickets: $75 per person
2304 Campanile Road, Waterloo, NE 68069; 402-359-4288 or kmscenter@mercywmw.org

In Honor of Omaha’s Upcoming 150th Anniversary
The news clipping at left reads in part:
St. Mary’s Academy for Young Ladies will open Tuesday, Nov. 1, 1864 at the convent of Sisters of Mercy, Mount St. Mary’s, Omaha. Terms, Payable in Advance:
Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Algebra, Grammar, Geography, History, Science ... per term of three months $6.

It is interesting that, of all the instructions offered, music was most expensive, fetching $12 for three months instruction - totaling $36 for a full nine-month school year. Also included within tuition was “every variety of plain and fancy work taught without additional charge.”

Plans are quickly coming together for various celebrations to be held throughout the upcoming year commemorating the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy to Omaha. Watch for details!

Coming Up
Friday, Sept. 5 - Film: G-Dog, 7 p.m., Servite Center, 7400 Military Avenue, Omaha, 402-951-3026, scc@osms.org, www.osms.org

Saturday, Sept. 6 - 50th Jubilee Celebration for Sister Catherine Mary Kuper, 5 p.m. Liturgy at St.
John’s Church, Creighton University, reception will follow in lower St. John’s. Kindly RSVP to kuperc@cox.net or 402-884-4087. For official invitation, click here.

**Wednesday, Sept. 10** - *What is behind the crisis at the Border?*, presentation by Sister Kathleen Erickson, 6:30-8 p.m., free will offering, Servite Center, 7400 Military Avenue, Omaha, 402-951-3026, scc@osms.org, www.osms.org

**Tuesday, Sept. 16** - 7:30 a.m. and noon, in honor of Bergan Mercy’s 50th anniversary, Actress Pippa White will perform a 20-minute dramatic monologue in Bergan Mercy’s sixth floor conference rooms, a reception will follow each performance, click here for flyer

**Wednesday, Sept. 17** - 7 p.m., *Gender, Sexuality, and Ethics: New Perspectives*, presented by Margaret Farley, RSM, PhD, Gross Conference Center at College of Saint Mary

**Wednesday, Sept. 24** - Mercy Day Tea, Mercy Hospital Council Bluffs (watch for details)

**Wednesday, Sept. 24** – Mercy Day Prayer, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Mercy Chapel at College of Saint Mary, with reception following

**Thursday, Sept. 25** - Mercy Day Tea, Bergan Mercy Hospital (watch for details)

**Saturday, Oct. 25** - Omaha Consultation Network

**Sunday, Oct. 26** - 2 p.m., 150th Anniversary Liturgy and Reception, St. Cecilia Cathedral, Omaha

**Coming up at KMSC**
To learn what is happening at Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center, see their website at: http://www.kmscenter.org.

**Next West Midwest Messenger**
Do you have news or photos for the next West Midwest Messenger? If so, contact Patti Kantor by Friday at 402-881-4935 or pkantor@mercywmw.org.