All festivities for Project HOPE’s 50th anniversary are over and we are moving forward. The Alumni Association Board of Directors met in San Francisco in April to work on several pending issues. The results of the questionnaire, that was developed to evaluate the future of the alumni association, were presented by the committee chairperson. Over 100 alumni voted and they unanimously supported the following:

1. Biannual newsletters (Spring and Fall)
2. Annual regional activities
3. National event or reunion every 4-5 years
4. Utilization of the HOPE website

The alumni definitely want to stay connected and updated on HOPE programs so the association will work hard to help the organization grow, maintain unity, and support Project HOPE.

In the last issue of the BULLETIN, I asked for a volunteer from the Central/Midwest region to serve on the board as a Member at Large. Debra Reister from Chicago responded to the request, was voted in by the board in April, and even made it to the board meeting in San Francisco. Welcome aboard to an alumnus who has contributed many years of service to Project HOPE! Her bio appears later in this issue of the BULLETIN.

Step one: The Human Resource Department in Millwood sends us a monthly list of all terminated staff and volunteers.

Step two: Irene Machado sends out an email inviting each person to be part of the alumni association and within a month, the directory is updated.

Step three: Regional Directors (RD) are then notified of any changes and the RD becomes the contact person for all regional alumni activities.

At the last board meeting, a final report from the reunion revealed that the silent auction was a big success so we were able to donate $5,000 to Project HOPE as unrestricted funds.
Alumni Association Financial Report
By Eunice Childs, Treasurer

The Project HOPE Alumni Association has a bank account. Funds raised through our 2008 Reunion increased the balance. At the meeting in April 2009, the Alumni Association Board voted to donate $5,000.00 to the general fund of Project HOPE.

The Alumni Association Board manages two endowment funds. These funds are the William B. Walsh, M.D. Endowment and the Lee Olive-Harrison Endowment. Only the interest from these endowments is to be used.

Interest from the William B. Walsh, M.D. Endowment Fund is to support “The William B. Walsh Fellow.” The appointee, chosen from applicants, works closely with Project HOPE staff on specific projects which requiring technical assistance. The Alumni Association Board of Directors approves the theme, and participates in the interviewing process. The appointment is not to exceed two years. The board is currently in discussion with Project HOPE Global Health to fund a new position.

Interest from the Lee Olive-Harrison Endowment Fund is to provide fellowships for foreign nurses involved in direct patient care, to come to the United States for study. Seven nurses from China came to study in 2006.

**The fellowship evaluation follows this report. Future fellowship funding will be on hold until the amount of interest in the account increases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alumni Account Balance</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2008</td>
<td>$5,887.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Alumni Reunion net</td>
<td>$5,704.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project HOPE Reunion Gift</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2009</td>
<td>$6,591.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>William B. Walsh Endowment Fund</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2008</td>
<td>$648,313.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2009 additions</td>
<td>$2,004.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2009</td>
<td>$650,317.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2008</td>
<td>$196,300.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2009 Interest</td>
<td>$11,642.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2009 uses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2009</td>
<td>$207,942.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lee Olive-Harrison Endowment Fund</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2008</td>
<td>$50,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2009 additions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2009</td>
<td>$50,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2008</td>
<td>$6,607.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2009 interest</td>
<td>$903.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2009 uses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance June 30, 2009</td>
<td>$7,510.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Member at Large

Ms Debra Reister was an advisor to the Project HOPE Russia/Eurasia Region until January 2009. Previously she was Regional Director for the region and led Project HOPE’s USAID funded DOTS tuberculosis program and Maternal Child Health Programs in Central Asia, coordinating with the range of involved external agencies. Debra was a member of the WHO TB Education and Training Collaborative for Europe from 2000 to 2007. Previously she worked in a variety of administrative roles at HOPE Headquarters and in the field for a total of 25 years.

Debra has extensive experience in program development and staff management with past positions in the Central Asian Republics, Central and Eastern Europe, Indonesia, China, Grenada, Panama, Egypt and Portugal. She holds a degree in health information management and is a member of the American Health Information Management Association.

When Debra retired from international work in July 2007, she became the Director of Health Information Management at the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, a non-profit Maternal Child Health clinic located in Chicago, Illinois. The CEO of IWS is Dr. John Wilhelm an active alumnus of Project HOPE.
Lee Olive-Harrison Endowment Fund Report

The Lee Olive-Harrison Endowment Nursing Fellowship Training Program was initiated in 2006, and successfully achieved the program objectives at the end of July, 2007. Under the support of the Lee Olive Harrison Fund, Project HOPE and Shanghai Children's Medical Center (SCMC) were able to send seven fellows to USA, Israel and Hong Kong for advanced nursing training. Accepting training in different tertiary hospitals, including Children's Hospital Boston, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, and Grantham Hospital of Hong Kong, the fellows spent one to more than three months in advanced hospitals and acquired many different skills and knowledge in advanced pediatric care. The opportunity to also allowed them to immerse themselves and interact with a diverse culture. With close observation and hands-on practices these fellows have accumulated many experiences.

Having completed the exchange the seven fellows, all key members of the nursing unit at SCMC, summarized the experience and new knowledge with a written report and by sharing their learning experiences with their colleagues in SCMC. Through their improved daily working habits and efforts to make changes to the status of current clinical nursing in their area of specialty it is obvious to see the fellowship has greatly benefited the fellows. Most of their effort to make changes have reached favorable results and were accepted by their colleagues and leaders who then further encouraged them and push them to go forward.

Program Achievement Evaluation and Impacts

All fellows were trained in various critical care settings in the overseas health institutions. Examples of the training the SCMC nurses received included:

- Chest physical therapy for post-cardiovascular surgery children
- Modern sophisticated operative care with special focus in OR clinical nursing competency
- Critical care and operative care training in cardiovascular surgery care

The training courses were very useful for them to integrate their past nursing experiences with advanced professional standard of practice. The fellowship opportunities not only provided a good opportunity to compare and to contrast the similarities and differences in health care system but also enhanced fellows' professional responsibility and allowed them to set a goal for advancing their nursing clinical practice.

After the fellowship training, they were able to share the standard of care that was learned in the USA and other countries with their colleagues. They were also able to establish new nursing policies for better nursing care in SCMC. The fellows have become role models for the unit and were honored for their clinical expertise when they returned from their training abroad. Following the fellowship training program clinical nursing programs in OR, PICU and CICU competency were initiated. There was also the development of a parent education booklet was made for parents of children who are admitted to critical care settings in SCMC.

The seven fellows above all expressed their gratitude to the fellowship arrangement and funding support from the Lee Olive-Harrison Foundation. The fellowship opportunities were very meaningful for them and certainly are eye-opening experiences. All of the fellows above have fulfilled the objectives and have acquired the skills for mastering the new technology and knowledge from advanced training overseas. They intend to make changes in their current practice settings. Their significant contribution and passion will assist the SCMC to further develop its capacity and to influence other nurses in the unit. They are now trainers who are able to train other staff at the SCMC and beyond, offering training so deeply needed in China. The training the fellows received will be applied to their daily nursing practices and improve the quality of care for patients while influencing their colleagues.
The Bulletin of the Project HOPE Alumni Association

Project HOPE Navy Missions Update
By Marisol Euceda

2009 has been a busy year for HOPE and its volunteers. From February to October Project HOPE volunteers have been lending their talents and time to missions in Ghana, seven countries in Latin America, five countries in Oceania, Liberia and Vietnam.

The volunteer season began in February with a three week mission to Ghana where volunteers from across the U.S. with varied specialties—including an x-ray tech, a pharmacist, three midwives, two RNs, three physicians, and a physical therapist—worked out of two hospitals in Sekondi-Takoradi. The 12 volunteers, part of the Africa Partnership Station, lived on the USS Nashville and worked ashore providing care for the local patients while training their Ghanaian counterparts. The group saw more than 1,400 patients, helped with 21 deliveries, provided 79 x-rays and helped fill over 2,500 prescriptions.

In early April another group of volunteers boarded the USNS Comfort as part of the Continuing Promise 2009 mission. The USNS Comfort, three football fields long and one wide with 250 beds and 12 operating rooms, visited ports in Antigua, Colombia, The Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua and Panama. Almost 100 Project HOPE volunteers, drawn from some of the leading U.S. medical and educational institutions, served alongside their Navy counterparts, on 17- to 28-day rotations, offering care to individuals and health education and training to local health care providers in each country. Volunteers provided over 100,000 patients with over 432,700 medical services and 1,414 surgeries. Project HOPE also donated over $1.2 million in medicines and medical supplies.

During the summer Project HOPE partnered with Shenandoah University in Winchester to send three pharmacy students and one faculty member from Shenandoah University’s Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy to join the United States Navy and other non-governmental organizations in providing health care and health education to communities in the remote Oceania nations of Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Western Samoa as part of Pacific Partnership 2009. Alla Marks, Associate Professor of Pharmacy at the Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy, two fourth-year professional pharmacy students, and a Virginia pharmacist participated in the mission.

As the other longer missions began to end two shorter missions got started. In early September a group of four volunteers— one public affairs officer, two midwives, and a labor and delivery nurse—began volunteering in the labor and delivery ward at the JFK Memorial Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia. As part of Africa Partnership Station the volunteer’s main focus while at JFK was providing health education to their Liberian counterparts. They provided morning and afternoon education courses that were attended by more than 20 students each time. All together the volunteers had more than 400 teaching opportunities.

In late September five volunteers began their work with US Air Force as part of Pacific Partnership 2009 in Vietnam. The volunteers which include midwives, an RN, and ER physicians with over 90 years of collective clinical operations experience have been focused on teaching, coaching and mentoring the local health care workers. They have set up a women’s clinic operation and coach local midwives as they examine patients.
Continuing Promise in Latin America
By Susan Mortensen, MN, NP-C

Each time I have received the computer notice for volunteers from Project Hope I experience a multitude of emotions. Most strongly I know that I want to go and be a part of the team. I am a product of the 60’s, which to me meant that we all have a social responsibility to do our part to make the world a better place. My parents also reinforced that with teaching my siblings and me that because I was so fortunate that I should give back to society. This fundamental sense of responsibility combined with a love of nursing and travel makes for a perfect partnership with Project Hope.

The recent mission “Continuing Promise” in Central America was my third experience with Project Hope. I was fortunate enough to go to Banda Aceh, Indonesia right after the devastating tsunami and then again the following year back to Indonesia and East Timor. Each mission is different but in some ways they are the same. The locations are different but the desperation of the people, the poverty, the lack of basic medical care, and in some cases clean water are the same. The volunteers and the Navy staff are always different yet the same. Different people, different home towns, different skills yet the desire and dedication to help and the willingness to give up their own vacations and leave their families is the same.

This past mission I spent six and a half weeks on board the USNS Comfort and for my leg of the mission we sailed to Haiti, Dominican Republic, and Antigua. The agendas for each country were already set and my assigned job was to work as an educator and nurse practitioner. A typical day would start before the reveille call at 5:00 am, getting dressed in the darkness of an eight berth officers quarters. I would climb up 82 stairs to the mess deck to grab breakfast or at least coffee before going to muster for the small boat that would take our team ashore for a day of teaching BCLS, ACLS or whatever the host country had requested. The evening schedule was the same in reverse. Often times I was too exhausted to do my laundry, work out, or even read. I would try to stick my head outside to watch the sunset; usually a brilliant orange sky, not to be missed.

The heat and humidity was so oppressive in these countries that often times I just wanted to take a break and stick my head in a bucket of ice water. I would look out at the students or patients and their eagerness to learn or be treated and it would make me feel like if they can do this I certainly can handle it for a few days.

The days that I was not teaching (my very few days off) I volunteered to work in the large temporary clinics that were set up for our mission. I saw many sad cases, advanced breast cancer, micro-cephalic children, stroke victims sitting in their own urine, disfiguring tumors, blindness, cerebral palsy, were but a few of the patients I treated. Sometimes all I could offer the patient was Tylenol, or multi vitamins. Many of the patients, especially in Haiti, came with no money, miss-matched clothes, missing teeth, broken or no shoes, no job, living in a slum or ghetto but they brought with them an abundance of hope. Sometimes the family or patient already knew the diagnosis but they came with the hope the American doctors would have some new cure or treatment. Many of the patients just want you to witness their story, they hugged me and held my hand repeating their thanks over and over, which I believe was their hope that I would tell others of their plight, that we would come back, and not forget them.

And how could I? For these patients have given me far more than I could ever have given them. Every time I volunteer I re-learn that humans are more the same than different, regardless of skin color, education, and language or economic status. Our flags and our governments may be different but our hearts and souls are the same. We all speak the universal language of hope for a better life for our children and grandchildren.
Project HOPE Volunteers Meet and Greet Officials Around the Globe
by Marisol Euceda

People don’t very often get to meet high profile officials while traveling abroad or even in the U.S. but a few volunteers from this year’s missions had the opportunity to mingle with some big wigs while volunteering.

While I am sure a visit from the Easter Bunny would have been met with excitement over Easter treats, in April Continuing Promise 2009 mission volunteers were very excited to receive a visit from Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. She stopped by Cite Soleil, a work site in Haiti where Project HOPE volunteers had been working, to meet with representatives of all the organizations participating in the mission.

In August two volunteers—Tracey Kunke from Pittsburg, PA and Marley Gevantho from Novato, CA—were lucky enough to be in the crowd as First Lady Michelle Obama greeted naval, civilian, and volunteer crews from the USNS Comfort on its arrival in Norfolk, VA. “We are standing here among heroes—military, civilian, American and foreign,” said the First Lady.

Lastly, a couple of weeks ago volunteers in Liberia were thrilled to meet Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

In Memoriam

Philip Weaver
1971 SS HOPE mission to Jamaica

Ruth Ann Brooks-Kroth
1978 mission to Assuit, Egypt

Lester Alfred Luz
1963 mission to Trujillo, Peru
I have been a nurse in Salt Lake City since 1983, and have a variety of experience in pediatrics, rehab nursing, and adult surgical care. In my community, I frequently participate in health fairs which involve teaching about diabetes, nutrition, immunizations and performing free health screenings.

In August, 2005 I attended a luncheon in Salt Lake City where Dr. Scott Leckman did a presentation on his experience as a volunteer surgeon with Project HOPE on the USNS MERCY after the tsunami in Indonesia. His presentation was so touching; I immediately applied to Project Hope to assist in any way I could. Since then, I have volunteered for three missions on the USNS Comfort to New Orleans, Central America in 2006 and 2009 and one mission on the USNS Mercy called Pacific Partnership 2008. These missions have ranged from 3 - 8 weeks and as a registered nurse, I have been able to attend as a triage nurse assisting in med caps, a post op nurse working on the surgery ward and a nurse educator teaching the classes requested by each country.

As I reflect back on my four missions with Project HOPE as a triage nurse, surgical staff nurse and nurse educator, I feel fortunate to have been able to experience each position as they all were rewarding jobs that contributed to the mission. As a triage nurse in Guatemala, Belize and Panama on the Comfort in 2006, we went ashore each day to screen for surgery, assist physicians with multiple procedures, and provided patient education, as people waited in long lines to be screened.

At times we had several thousand people (some had walked miles and waited for days to get a chance to receive the medical care) so it was sad knowing we were not able to see everyone. After four missions, I was able to see a big improvement in planning and organization which resulted in an increase in the number of patients that were treated.

During the Pacific Partnership 2008, I had the opportunity to be part of an amazing mission to Vietnam and East Timor. Project Hope doctors and nurses worked with a crew of multinational, non-governmental personnel to provide humanitarian assistance in the form of medical, dental and engineering projects. There were medical personnel on board from 17 different countries including Vietnam, Canada, Australia, Japan and India. The non-governmental organization (NGO) groups which joined us were Operation Smile, Aloha Medical and several other international relief teams.

Working as a surgical nurse in poverty stricken countries has many challenges but also has many rewards. Just recently, I had the opportunity to work with two very special cases. The first case I saw was on shore. It was an 18 yr old woman with two children. She had been electrocuted and I could see by the discoloration and lack of blood supply that she would lose an arm if she did not receive urgent medical care. We were able to get her on the Mercy and she had surgery that night. I followed her for 5 days post op and needless to say, she was extremely grateful that her arm was saved! The second case was a 15 yr old boy from Timor Leste who was in great need of a cleft lip repair. He said he had never gone to school because he could not close his mouth from the deformity. After his extensive lip repair, I had the pleasure of holding his hand as he looked into a mirror after surgery. The smile in his eyes will be a memory I will cherish forever.

In May of 2009, I had the opportunity to go to Colombia and Panama as a nurse educator. Each morning the nurse educators went ashore to teach BLS, ACLS and PALS to local doctors, nurses and other unlicensed medical personnel. It was so rewarding to see students excited about learning things never taught before!

Working alongside the US Navy is a wonderful opportunity to participate in building good international relationships throughout the world, especially third world nations, by performing such caring acts like vaccinating animals, building schools and clinics, repairing medical equipment, distributing thousands of eye glasses, providing education, medical and dental care, and teaching medical personnel to care for their people.

I truly appreciate the opportunity I have had to work as a volunteer with Project HOPE and to participate in humanitarian missions. My thanks go out to all of the donors and people who support Project HOPE’s mission of providing health care around the world.
Contact the Alumni Board of Directors with Your Suggestions

Valerie Cook, PhD, CPNP
President
480-895-7322
vck626@wbhsi.net

Grace Tucker
Northeast Regional Director
781-630-2270
Gtucker10@comcast.net

Wallace B. Chipman, MPH
Past President
415-579-5473
chipmmngt@yahoo.com

Esther Kooiman
VP/President Elect
415-663-1192
kooiman@svn.net

Martin Lees, MD
Member-at-Large
503-635-3944
martinibus@aol.com

Eldon Ellis, MD
Past President
650-654-6405
eledonellis@hotmail.com

Wallace B. Chipman, MPH
Past President
415-579-5473
chipmmngt@yahoo.com

Grace Tucker
Northeast Regional Director
781-630-2270
Gtucker10@comcast.net

Eunice Childs
Sec/Treas
Rocky Mount/West Regional Director
415-448-5382
alfredchilds@yahoo.com

Robert Morrow, MD, MPH
Member-at-large
513-313-3350
morrow_md_mph@hotmail.com

Carol Fredriksen
Immediate Past President
207-781-4852
fredriks@maine.rr.com

Eunice Childs
Sec/Treas
Rocky Mount/West Regional Director
415-448-5382
alfredchilds@yahoo.com

Dianes Speranza
Member at Large
352-241-7466
RNbug@msn.com

Joanne Jene, MD
Past President
503-222-6005
jenejo@aol.com

Michele Okamoto
Sec/Treasure Elect
808-927-0481
micheleokamoto@hotmail.com

Debra Reister
Member at Large
773-772-4879
reisterd@infantwelfare.org

Jean Kohn, MD
Past President
415-342-2873
jkohn@email.man.com

Irene Machado
Central/Southeast Regional Director
616-669-0596
machado.irene@gmail.com

Judy Berner, RN
Past President
505-898-5441
samjberner@aol.com

Harold Royaltey, MD
Past President
360-683-1525
royalty@olypen.com

Edie McKenna
Mid Altantic Regional Director
301-907-9854
emckenna@nerb.org

Paul Cherney, M.D.
Past President
610-279-2996
pcherney@hotmail.com

Nancy Savage, Ph.D., RN
Past President
513-621-3504
nancy.savage@uc.edu

Ceile Fontaine
Northeast Regional Director
401-293-0750
cfontaine@jointcommission.org

ADDRESS CHANGES
The alumni directory is updated monthly by one of our Regional Directors. If you change your address or email, please contact Irene Machado at machado.irene@gmail.com so you will receive the newsletter and all communication from the Alumni Association.

The information in our alumni directory is kept confidential and is NOT shared with any other organization. If you want to change the amount of donor mail that you receive from Project HOPE, contact dcombs@projecthope.org.