

# SMS Bulletin

## Fall 2003

### Our 25th anniversary bash was a huge success!



More than 200 people gathered to honor Jo Anne Myers-Ciecko (pictured at left with her parents) for her 20 years of service to the school. We also acknowledged Jo Anne's parents, Barbara and Joe Myers, whose endowment to SMS in 1999 enabled us to establish the new Jo Anne Myers-Ciecko Award for Outstanding Scholarship & Leadership.



Kathy Carson (pictured at right on the left) of King County Public Health and a former SMS board member received the Roz Woodhouse Award for "political leadership in creating an environment receptive to midwifery and doula care" presented by Penny Simkin (right).



Therese Charvet (left), former SMS Midwifery Program Director and founding president of the Midwives Alliance of North America, received the Fremont Birth Collective Award "for action and vision for creating change within the maternity care environment."

Party-goers (right) enjoyed the wide array of silent auction items. Thanks to these donations, we raised over \$6,500!



photographs by Adam Crowley

### from the SMS Board . . .

As Vice-Chair of the SMS Board, I am honored to stand in for Joanna Barger on while she spends time welcoming her newborn son. In her absence, I have the pleasure of introducing several new SMS Board members.

Ashley Andrew, Scott Fasser, Silje Sodal and I all joined the Board recently. Ashley is a home birth client, who welcomed two children into the world with Suzy Myers and Marge Mansfield. Scott and his wife are also home birth clients of Suzy and Marge. Scott has 11 years of experience launching products and services in diverse industries. He is the founder of Brand Digital, a digital marketing agency.

Silje Sodal is a doula and a graduate of the maternal and child health division of the University of Washington's School of Public Health. Previously she served as executive director of the Colorado Women's Health Campaign and as project manager of the Workforce Coordinating Advisory Council.

I have been a lawyer for the past 7 years and recently accepted a position with the Childbirth Education Association of Seattle as Executive Director. My husband and I welcomed our daughter via home birth in June 2002.

--Tera Schreiber



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- ◆ Midwifery/Extension Education Program News
- ◆ Global Midwifery News

## Update from the Interim Executive Director

I have been serving as Interim Executive Director of SMS for almost two months now and am pleased to say that I am learning a lot and enjoying becoming a part of the SMS community. During this time, the organization has been moving forward. The board made two important decisions at their meeting in July that I thought you would like to know about:

### **New England Classroom**

After careful consideration of a myriad of issues and a lengthy discussion of a thorough evaluation written by Jo Anne Myers-Ciecko, the board voted to close the New England classroom. Currently enrolled students will complete their classroom education by December and will not be directly affected by the closure. The deciding factor was the lack of financial viability of the program coupled with numerous questions about the feasibility of a regional classroom as it was initially envisioned.

### **Length of Midwifery Program**

After a detailed financial and programmatic analysis, the board voted to lengthen the time it takes to complete the Midwifery Education Program (the number of credits in the program will remain the same). Currently, full-time students complete their coursework in 28 months, going to classes straight through the summers. Starting in the fall of 2004, new students will take three quarters of coursework per year with summers off (except for clinical work) and will complete their coursework in 3 academic years. Longer breaks between quarters will allow for real breaks for students, faculty and staff.

Now that these decisions are behind us, I will be working with the board to focus on the future of SMS as we move forward with strategic planning.

--Barbara Green



## Alumnae News

### **Rhonda Busby (1981)**

I started working for Virginia Mason Nurse-Midwifery Service in 1991, and moved to Puget Sound Neighborhood Health Centers in 1998. I have been doing only night call for the last nine years, per diem the last three. I am starting astrology school this fall, at the only accredited school of astrology in the Western hemisphere. It feels a bit like starting at SMS in 1979—new, unknown, and not generally recognized by society even though both are training in the world's oldest professions. Well, the SMS experiment turned out okay, so I'm going for it!

### **Andrea Brett (1999)**

I am practicing full-time in a Vancouver clinic, and thrilled to be able to support my husband Spencer through his studies. He just graduated at the top of his class from an Industrial Design program.

### **Ann Liebau (1999)**

I continue my part-time practice in Vancouver at the same clinic as Andrea. I am eagerly awaiting my second baby due at Christmas. I was just appointed Deputy Head for the Department of Midwifery for the two Vancouver hospitals.

### **Selina Boily (1999)**

I am shouldering a full-time solo midwifery practice in the lovely town of Duncan on Vancouver Island. I am also President of the Midwives Association of BC. Thankfully, a new practice partner who has just moved to the area will soon join me. I am also taking my turn at supporting my husband Josh through an Accounting Degree.

### **Sabrina Golf (1999)**

I am taking a well-deserved year off midwifery while I focus on my family and renovating our house. I live in Duncan BC and may rejoin Selina's practice in the new year.

### **Heather Lee Hall (1999)**

I practice full-time and solo (whew!) in Langley BC, and am actively seeking a practice partner.

### **Petra Pruiksma (1999)**

I am busy with my 2 girls, a one-year-old and a teenager, as well as a part-time practice on the Sunshine Coast. I have been an active member of the Board of the Midwives Association

of BC for the past several years and am Chair of the Education Committee.

### **Sandrine Ducos (1999)**

We are excited to be back in Seattle. I am attending the Medex program at the UW to become a physician assistant, and my husband Carl is now faculty for the Family Residency Program at the UW as well. My girls, Elise 3 1/2 and Margot 2, are doing great. My parents are moving from France to live with us to help us out during these next 2 years. I hope to bring the midwifery model of care into clinical and hospital settings through the PA profession. We are still interested in doing international medicine.

### **Janelle Durham, MSW (Doula Training '99, Childbirth Educator Training '00)**

I am serving as the liaison between Birth Education Northwest (BEN) and SMS for the Childbirth Educator Training program. I have also opened a new office in Bellevue, under the business name Transition to Parenthood. I offer counseling, private childbirth education, prenatal support groups, and classes based on Birthing from Within. For more information, see [www.TransitionToParenthood.com](http://www.TransitionToParenthood.com).

### **Audrey Levine (2001)**

For the past year and a half, I have been practicing midwifery out of my home in Olympia. My practice keeps me busy, but still enables me to spend time with my family and friends. I almost hesitate to say it aloud, but I am discovering that achieving balance in one's life as a midwife may not be such an elusive goal. I have had the great pleasure of working collaboratively with many other midwives in my community - these deep connections sustain me through this rather bleak time in midwifery's history.

### **Audra Karp (2003)**

I moved to the Boston area after graduation and started my midwifery practice here. My first client had her baby in July! I have also been busy assisting local midwives in the area. I got my CPM in February, although it's still not recognized in Massachusetts. The Senate Health Care Committee heard our midwifery bill for the second time in May, so we are keeping our fingers crossed!



## Doula Education News

### **Congratulations to PALS (Pacific Association for Labor Support)!**

At their recent conference, DONA (Doula of North America) awarded PALS the first annual Annie Kennedy Award, recognizing excellence in a doula group. The award is named after Annie Kennedy, the first president of DONA and director of SMS's Doula and Extension Education Program (pictured at left). The award was accepted by Christine Morton (right), president of PALS and SMS board member.



photograph courtesy of DONA

### **Upcoming Doula and Extension Education Classes at SMS**

Labor Support Course –

Dec 2, 3, 5 and 6

Postpartum Doula Training –

Nov 7, 8, 21 and 22

Childbirth Educator Training –

Feb 27-29 and Mar 26-28

For more information and to register, contact us at [info@seattlemidwifery.org](mailto:info@seattlemidwifery.org) or 800.747.9433.

### **Congratulations to Early Grads!**

Five seniors with advanced standing graduated in early August. Hats off to Ann Olsen of Washington and Christina Blackmore, Leah Barlow, Jennifer Hewko, and Esther Palmer, all of British Columbia! We wish them all the best as they complete the licensure or registration process and become practicing midwives.

### **New Clinical Site**

Good luck to Northwest senior Pamela Golliet, who recently moved to Denver, Colorado. Pamela is the first student to be placed in this new clinical site, where she is training with two midwives, Dana Beardshear, RM, and Jan Lapetino, RM. Thank you Dana and Jan, and welcome to the SMS community!

## Midwifery Education Program News



### **Welcome Freshwomen!**

On September 15th, SMS staff and faculty members had the pleasure of welcoming this wonderful new group of aspiring midwives.

Standing, from left: Akilah Johnson who lives in the middle of the forest; Cheryl Guyer, for whom midwifery is “a recent revelation;” Melanie Spencer, who recently left the redwood forests of California to move to Port Townsend and study here; Wendy Hughes, a former chemical engineer; Ruth Ruckman, who’s been “trying to get here for twenty years;” Carolee Hall, a doula and childbirth educator who recently moved back to Washington from Australia; Dzhan Joy McCaslin, a photographer and writer who joins us now to “pursue her dream of becoming a midwife;” Robyn Duthie of Kenmore, who was born at home; and Rachel Hall, who thanks her sister for suggesting she look into midwifery when she was planning to enter nursing school. Kneeling, from left: Ruby Beck, a mom of two who recently moved here from California; Annique Sampson, commuting all the way from Vermont!; Sara Mitchell from Mukilteo; Geraldine Lee, who drove 3,287 miles from NY with her cat, Pekoe,

### **SMS Reaches Midwives in Guatemala and St. Lucia**

SMS staffer, Terri Turner-Carney traveled to Guatemala with a group of midwives and other interested parties to volunteer their services to the local midwives. SMS is proud to support this venture by using Global Midwifery Fund money to purchase basins for the Guatemalan midwives.

We have also raised nearly enough money to bring one of the St. Lucian midwives to Seattle for training in lactation support. You can support this effort by: contributing money; donating frequent-flyer miles, a commercial breastpump for Victoria Hospital, or advanced lactation training; providing local transportation or accommodations; or allowing the midwife to shadow you in your midwifery practice. Please contact Mary Yglesia at [maryy@seattlemidwifery.org](mailto:maryy@seattlemidwifery.org) with your help and ideas.

to be here; and Adrienne Black, a doula from Oregon who loved being in the company of so many women last week. In front from left: Anna Esvelt works as a medical assistant and is passionate about women’s health; Liz Hood came to SMS through a “variety of twists and turns;” and Kimberly Schmidt comes from Alberta with 13 years of related experience as an RN, doula and educator.

### **Seniors Heading Overseas**

New England seniors Jennifer Hanson, Joni Rogers Stone and Aly Folin each plan to complete a rotation in St. Lucia. Northwest senior Kathy Montgomery will be heading to Vanuatu.

### **Read Any Good Books Lately?**

SMS would like to publish your book or video reviews. Please email your review to Sharon Fuller at [sharonf@seattlemidwifery.org](mailto:sharonf@seattlemidwifery.org) and keep watching to see your review in print!

## Good news!

In addition to being a great party, the SMS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was a great fundraising success. And it's not too late to contribute! Just send in the enclosed donation envelope, or donate online by clicking on the Network for Good icon at the bottom of our home page ([www.seattlemidwifery.org](http://www.seattlemidwifery.org)). Donating through Network for Good is secure and convenient, and all proceeds go directly to SMS.

## Donate while you shop!

When you buy books from Amazon.com, shop for them through our web site. When you click through to Amazon from our site, Amazon will give a portion of the purchase price back to SMS. So buy all your books through our web site and help raise money for the school.

## Donate while you recycle!

SMS collects used printer toner cartridges and cell phones. We return these for recycling, and get paid for them. If you would like to put out a collection box at your workplace, we can provide you with promotional signs for the boxes.

## Payroll deduction makes it easy to donate to SMS!

If your employer allows donations via payroll deduction, please consider designating SMS when your organization has its fall fund drive.

- You can select SMS through United Way.
- Washington State employees can donate to SMS through the Combined Fund Drive (we are charity 820 000).
- Microsoft employees can donate to SMS through the Microsoft Giving Campaign.

## Volunteer Opportunity - Fundraising Committee

This new group will develop and implement an innovative fundraising plan to help us fulfill our mission. We hope to schedule the first meeting in October, but new members are always welcome. Contact Barbara Green at [barbarag@seattlemidwifery.org](mailto:barbarag@seattlemidwifery.org) for more information.

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OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 2

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25  
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