

Archbishop calls former St. Jude leader 'home'

Sister Jane Frances answers to a higher source

By Barbara Glasone
DSP Managing Editor

FULLERTON — Moving to West Los Angeles is getting to be a habit for Sister Jane Frances Power.

But this time the 74-year-old nun packs in years of leadership and loyalty for her newly assigned post: Los Angeles Archdiocese coordinator of health affairs under the jurisdiction of Archbishop Roger Mahoney.

The assignment returns Sister Jane to her childhood environs between Los Angeles County Club and the UCLA campus.

For the past 30 years, however, she has administered the operation and building program for St. Jude Hospital. Since the rain-swollen dedication on May 11, 1957, she watched the hospital budget swell from \$3 million

to \$64 million, and saw the constraints placed by government and insurance companies soar as she fought to keep "care" in health care.

Bureaucracy in the hospital community didn't exist in 1924 when Eleanor Power, dealing with the pangs of divorce, put five of her six children on the Santa Fe and headed West from Michigan.

A woman of independent means, Sister Jane's mother was determined to raise her brood in West Los Angeles where educational and business opportunities excelled.

"Mother's father owned a greater portion of downtown Detroit," recalls the soft-spoken Sister, seated in the small office adjacent to a hospital corridor. "I remember spending a lot of time praying for dividends so we could pay the bills."

Eleanor's budget planning profited. She was able to plan lavish family vacations, including an Alaskan cruise in 1931. Her children were entitled to a European journey when they graduated from high school.

"We all attended boarding schools," recalls Sister Jane. "Mother was our role model, a firm disciplinarian to say the least."

But young Jane experienced a deeper self-discovery at the Catholic school. She realized she had her mother's independence, was outspoken and easily defended her rights. "I knew I wasn't cut out to be married, I simply wasn't the clinging-vine type. I was demanding and afraid I'd do the wrong thing if I were a parent."

Against her mother's will, Jane gave up her promised trip to Europe, planned a life "in God's service" and joined the novitiate. Earlier, she was accepted at nearby UCLA as a pre-med major, but soon realized she wanted to join the convent. "In 1933, I learned about the Sisters of St. Joseph in Orange and knew they could meet my needs."

Originated in England, the small Catholic group was one of

was "excommunicated" by her mother. "On the day of my final vows, she sat in the parking lot until after the ceremony. We had a few words and she drove off."

Toward the end of her life, Eleanor Power finally acknowledged her daughter had chosen the better life. "In fact, I took care of her during her last year when she suffered from arteriosclerosis of the brain."

Sister Jane's contributions to the health-care world began in 1941 when she was appointed X-ray technician at Fullerton General Hospital. After a representative of the American College of Surgeons paid a surprise visit and found the hospital books in disarray, she was promoted to office administrator by the St. Joseph Sisters who owned the facility.

When the small hospital closed in 1953, the North Orange County community agreed a new hospital was a necessity. Land donations and fund-raisers provided \$750,000 to start building the Spadra Road (now Harbor Boulevard) structure, designed to house 125 beds.

Sister Jane recalls Dr. Romero Fernandez de La Habra, a major benefactor of the hospital, asked to have the hospital named for his son Romero Jude, a spastic child. The name also refers to St. Jude, apostle of the hopeless.

"Sometimes we're confused with actor Danny Thomas' St. Jude Hospital for Children in Tennessee. When I met him once, I told him to forward all checks to our address," Sister Jane adds with a chuckle.

In 1967, the administrator suffered what she terms "the biggest trauma of my life." Nuns were given an opportunity to slip out of the habit and into modern fashions.

"For 34 years, I'd worn the habit," she says. "I didn't know the size of anything, even my underwear."

Following orders, she traveled to downtown Fullerton where a dressmaker in Villa del Sol was hired to make Sister Jane's first adult dress. Given a wide range of fabrics and colors, the hesitant customer settled on a modest black dress with a white, V-shaped collar. "I didn't want to stray too far," she says.

Through the years, the hospi-



(Star-Progress photo by Barbara Glasone)

REFLECTING ON A CARING PAST — Sister Jane Frances, left, and Sister Paul, who worked together at Fullerton General Hospital and more recently at St. Jude Hospital, share quiet memories near a statue that was brought from the old hospital facility.

tal administrator continued building programs. Her name was associated with foundation for ministries, home of abused children, a ballet company for minorities, marriage counseling and the widely touted rehabilita-

tion center.

Wages were based on job performance with checks deposited in Sister Jane's name with the St. Joseph Order. A small stipend and room at the adjoining convent on the St. Jude property was provided.

Sister Jane climbed the financial hills, often battling directors for better working conditions, a new controller or changes in building wings.

Along with the frustrations came the oft-heard cry of "intimidation."

"But that's the position I was in," she responds. "People don't always want to hear the facts, yet they expect people in authority to make the right decisions. Some challenge everything, every statement. I heard everyone's opinion and then made a final point."

With the latest uproar in the health-care field, Sister Jane

says, "I have no remorse about getting out. I worry about major surgeries and the government's push to get people out of hospitals as quickly as possible. It's totally out of control, and so hard to maintain high quality control."

In her new archdiocese position, Sister Jane's emphasis shifts to service as a liaison between the archbishop and 16 Catholic hospitals, a Catholic nursing home and a ministry to AIDS.

"When Monsignor Dwyer died of a heart attack four years ago, the office was closed. There are great needs to be met as we reopen the office and reestablish the purpose."

As a gentle soldier, slowed by the pains of rheumatoid arthritis, Sister Jane shuns any suggestions of retirement. "Whatever God wants me to do now, I will do. He is my force."

Women on the move

to \$64 million, and saw the constraints placed by government and insurance companies soar as she fought to keep "care" in health care.

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the first English-speaking orders. Canonical studies included 2.5 years of intense training within the five-year study period before making the final vows.

When given the chance to choose a canonical name, Jane selected Sister Jane Frances de Chantal, a saint in the 1600s in France. "She was a widow with three or four children who was inspired to start a visitation nun program," the namesake explains.

"Since our training days, things have changed. Today there is a 20 percent drop-out rate as opposed to 10 percent when I joined. The church knows it made errors. They took girls out of high school, kept them in the novitiate for eight years until they were in their 20s, and when some of the religious freedoms were offered, the girls weren't able to deal with it."

Political changes hit the Orange County order. "Conservative teaching groups thought hospital sisters were too worldly. Then when papal changes were handed down, the teachers were found to be liberals and we were the conservatives."

For five years, while training for her final vows, Sister Jane

Sonata chapter installs new officers



New device helps stop infant deaths

By Judy Tatham

Decatur Herald & Review

Like other new mothers, Geni McCoy worries about being confronted by a medical emergency for her infant son.

But thanks to a new piece of equipment — with the not-so-colorful name of "resuscibaby" — she knows how to react if her month-old boy stops breathing.

While Michael Allen McCoy slept serenely, his mom and his dad, Allen, recently got cardiopulmonary resuscitation training in their Decatur apartment.

Theresa Hise of the Visiting Nurses Association's prenatal

babies who seemed healthy when they were put to bed.

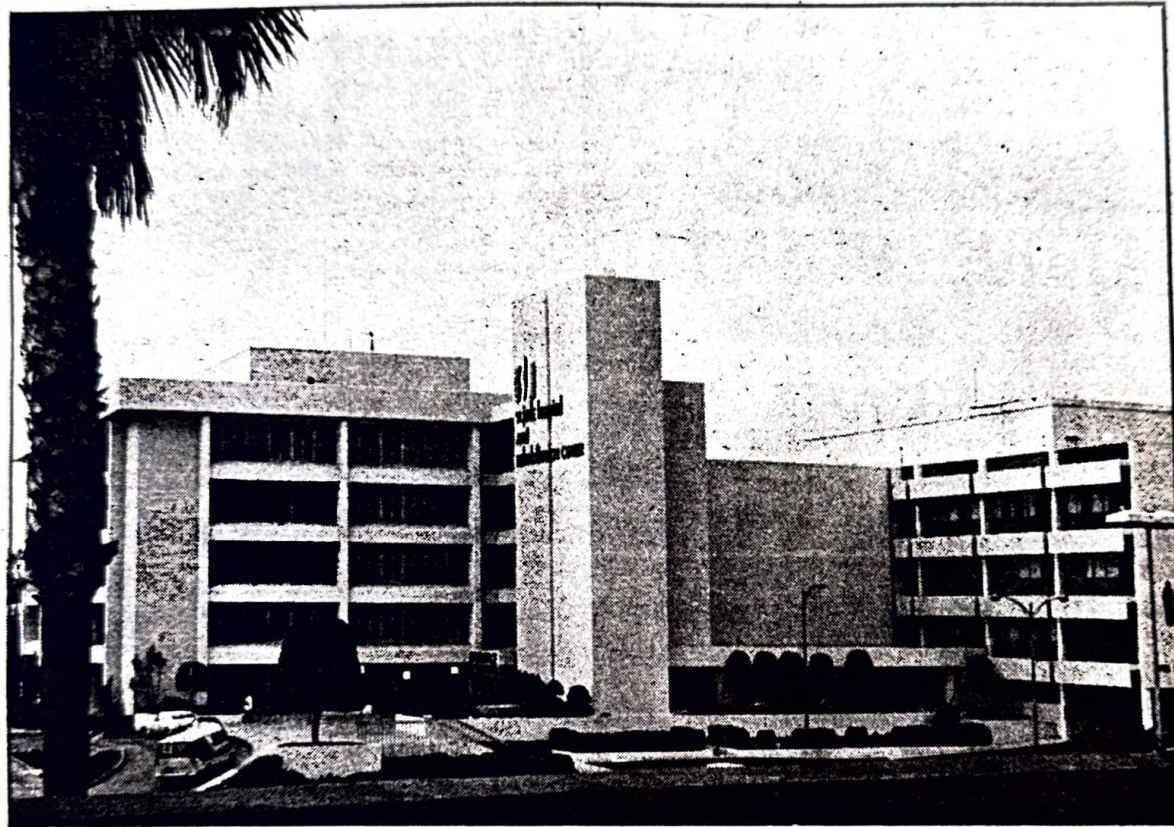
There were three such deaths in 1986, five in 1985 and seven in 1984, according to coroner's office reports.

Resuscibaby is smaller than the dummies used to train for adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The techniques must be adapted especially for small chests and the breathing rates of babies.

The model was needed, Hise said, so parents could be taught in their homes, at their convenience and without the complications of scheduling hospital visits. "We sometimes find they have forgotten what they were taught."



FULLERTON GENERAL HOSPITAL BUILDING BEING CONSTRUCTED
Old facility, circa 1920, was operated by sisters from 1931 to 1953



ST. JUDE HOSPITAL, REHABILITATION TODAY
The good neighbor serves all residents of North Orange County

Meet Sister Jane Frances

Every name evokes a story. Every date prompts the recollection of places and events. To leaf through the pages of a scrapbook of clippings with Sister Jane Frances, C.S.J., president of St. Jude Hospital, is to re-live history.

Sister Jane Frances has known them all: Dr. Fernandez, Dr. Wood, the Bastanchurys, the Muckenthalers — names almost synonymous with North Orange County. Stories of the past however, are rarely told with sad nostalgia. Sister Jane Frances, is an affable, modern woman firmly rooted in the present — and future.

Associates sometimes refer to her as the "flying nun," a nickname she privately dislikes, but always acknowledges with her trademark smile.

As coordinator of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Health System, which oversees the opera-

tion of a group of Sister-owned hospitals, Sister Jane Frances spends several weeks each month "on the circuit," meeting with administrators and boards from eight hospitals located between Eureka, in Northern California, and Lubbock, Texas.

During those weeks, she spends as much time aboard airplanes (always in the coach section) and in airport terminals as she spends in hospital board rooms. With a book of airline flight schedules in her top desk drawer, the "flying nun" nickname, like it or not, is easily applied.

Should Sister Jane Frances ever find her aircraft diverted over Fullerton, she'd notice a large number of changes in the community since St. Jude Hospital was opened 25 years ago at its pre-

In retrospect, life complicated. Presiding a second term in with a new toy called jaunty "Colonel Bog Academy Award with the River Kwai."

The Korean war had not yet dawned moving to the suburb Dream. Orange County suburban migration affordable, jobs avail

The city of Fullerton in 1957. It was a city convenient, recreational brand new not-for-operated by the Sisters would soon be providing the local community.

It was an unexpected 1957 when the late Sister Jane Frances, then head of the County) arrived in Fullerton the new 125-bed St. Jude.

It was an especially the old Fullerton General Hospital by the Sisters of St. Joseph four years earlier because of space.

St. Jude occupied a But in size it was dedicated; within weeks ed away for a lack of Frances initiated expansion

It took five years, a state grant application projects and disappointing building costs. Building was finally completed would now be able County community care facility.

Yet there was still tion unit which would disabled to their fullest and social ability. A: no such hospital-based

The vision became dition of the "North Orange" which now houses neuromuscular and cardiac rehabilitation respected oncology unit

In-patient rehabilitation clude physical and occupational therapy, audiology workers, psychologists and dietitians. The center at St. Jude Hospital increased the bed capacity

The year 1974 saw a ment structure at St. Jude became the hospital Sister Jane Frances year 1981 saw a successful opening of St. Jude Hospital as executive vice president general corporate director and Yorba Linda facility

In addition, he coordinates between the two hospitals Richard Skillman is director of St. Jude, Fullerton, while capacity at Yorba Linda

Unchanged through the dedicated work of

Meet Sister Jane Frances

From Page 10

sent site. In these years, she personally has guided the growth of St. Jude from a 125-bed suburban hospital to a 304-bed multi-service health care facility which is highly regarded throughout Southern California.

A native of Detroit, raised and educated in Los Angeles, Sister Jane Frances has had nearly 44 years of experience in the health care field. As a medical record administrator decades ago, she was instrumental in changing legislation to permit photostatic copies of medical records, rather than the originals, to be introduced in courts as legal evidence.

As first administrator at St. Jude, she worked with planners, architects and civil authorities toward the completion of the west wing expansion in 1962. And it was her vision and perception of future health care trends which resulted in the completion of the hospital's five-story North Tower, which now houses, among other services, the north county's largest center for the rehabilitation of patients who have suffered stroke, head injury, spinal injuries, arthritis and neurological diseases.

Now serving as hospital president, she remains optimistic about the future of the hospital's growth and its outreach into the community at St. Jude Hospital-Yorba Linda, an area which is experiencing a rapid growth of young families.

Widely known for her expertise in the hospital field — from surgical procedures to pharmaceuticals to financing and word processing systems, she has expressed some concern about increasing government regulations in health care.

"Imperialization often results from those regulations," she notes. "We must always remind ourselves of the need to maintain Christian values in our hospital setting."

In addition to her many duties with St. Jude and the Sisters' Health Care System, Sister Jane Frances has served as president of the Hospital Council of Southern California, the California Association of Catholic Hospitals, and California Medical Record Association. Last year, she was honored by "Hospital Forum," the official journal of the Association of Western Hospitals, as one of its "Women of the West."

When asked about the pace she keeps, Sister Jane Frances (a name she took when she professed her vows as a Sister of St. Joseph of Orange) admits that Sunday is her rest day.

"After morning mass, I sit back and read the whole Sunday paper — front to back. That's a real luxury." She also loves movie musicals: "Camelot," "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" and, what else, "The Sound of Music" — "except, she adds, "for some of those silly nuns."

Hospital growth since 1957

When St. Jude opened in May 1957, there were 60,000 square feet of space in the new hospital. That space has increased more than eight times — or more than 485,000 square feet — in 25 years.



SISTER JANE FRANCES
President of St. Jude Hospital

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Sister Jane Frances — A Woman for Every Year!

It's certainly no mystery around St. Jude — nor in the surrounding community — that hospital President Sister Jane Frances is truly a woman for every year. Recent awards and citations from groups as diverse as the Boy Scouts and the Hospital Council of Southern California attest to that.

Sister Jane Frances, who has served as Administrator and is now President of St. Jude, has been a catalyst in the Fullerton institution's evolution from a 125-bed community hospital to the 304-bed regional medical and rehabilitation center it is today. Along the way, her sense of commitment to providing the best in medical and spiritual care to residents of North Orange County has been communicated to the thou-

sands of employees and volunteers who have worked at St. Jude over the years. This commitment has also been communicated to professional peers, to friends and supporters of St. Jude, and most important, to the people who use and depend on the hospital's many health services.

Within the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Health System, Sister Jane Frances has been a leader for nearly ten years. As the Health System's coordinator, she has traveled tirelessly among eight hospitals in two states nearly 1,200 miles apart to meet regularly with administrators and

Boards of Trustees. At their most recent general meeting in March, the Health System's Boards of Trustees indicated that a simple "Thank-you" was not enough as Sister stepped down as the organization's coordinator after ten years. At a gala banquet in her honor, the Boards presented Sister Jane Frances with a trip to Australia and New Zealand — a vacation Sister intends to take starting in May.

Sister Jane Frances has also been a leader within the professional organizations to which she belongs. A past president of the Hospital Council of Southern Cal-



St. Joseph Hospital's Communications Coordinator Debra Conkey (l) and President Sister Frances Dunn (center) outline the inner workings of a new 35-mm camera for Sister Jane Frances. The camera, which Sister intends to use on her upcoming trip to Australia and New Zealand, is a gift from the St. Joseph Board of Trustees in gratitude for her years of service to St. Joseph Hospital through the Sisters' Health System.



Ronald W. Harper, St. Jude Executive Vice-President, takes his turn at the rostrum during the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange tribute to Sister Jane Frances at the Newporter Inn. Chief executive officers from the eight Sister-owned hospitals joined in praising Sister Jane Frances' devotion to "the best in patient care."



Diane D. Dailacis (l), chairman of the YWCA's 1983 "Recognition Luncheon," presents Sister Jane Frances with the organization's Silver Achievement Award for her accomplishments in business and industry. The "Y" honored Sister and five other women at a special ceremony in April.

ifornia, the California Association of Catholic Hospitals, and the California Medical Record Association, Sister was named as one of the Association of Western Hospital's 1982 "Women of the West."

Of Sister Jane Frances, the Hospital Council of Southern California has said: "There are many hospital administrators who have made excellent individual contributions in health care — there are far fewer who have consistently made contributions in nearly every area." This is one reason why Sister Jane Frances was selected in March to receive an Honorary Lifetime Membership with the Council. She was one of only three hospital administrators recommended by the organization's staff and Board of Directors for this special designation, based on an individual's overall, long-term achievements in health care in Southern California.

And, finally, Sister Jane Frances is a leader — and strong supporter — in the hospital's neighboring community. Whether it's providing meeting space for organizations like Alcoholics Anonymous or offering assistance with community activities like last summer's YMCA 10-K Run, Sister has emphasized the importance of retaining strong ties with area residents.

In naming Sister Jane Frances

their Honorary "Camp-oree" Chairman last month, Fullerton and La Habra's Los Amigos District of the Boy Scouts of America noted that Sister had "extended herself toward humanity and people in the community." And, the North Orange County YWCA recently singled out Sister Jane Frances for her "leadership through achievement" in business and industry in Orange County. The "Y" annually honors one woman in each of the following categories — business and industry, communications, voluntary community service, the arts, public affairs, and the professions — at its yearly "Recognition Luncheon."

In presenting Sister with the Silver Achievement Award at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel program, YWCA representatives praised her record of accomplishments and noted her range of expertise — "from building codes to surgical procedures, from on-line computers to pharmaceuticals, and from Church law to government regulations in the field of health care."

The nomination papers for Sister Jane Frances' YWCA honor concluded with a statement that reveals one of her most important qualities: "Active as she is, she is

never too busy to stop and console the relative of a sick or dying patient, to listen to someone's concerns, to share a laugh. It is her real caring for people which has allowed her to accomplish all that she has."

Friendly Hearts "Go Country" in June

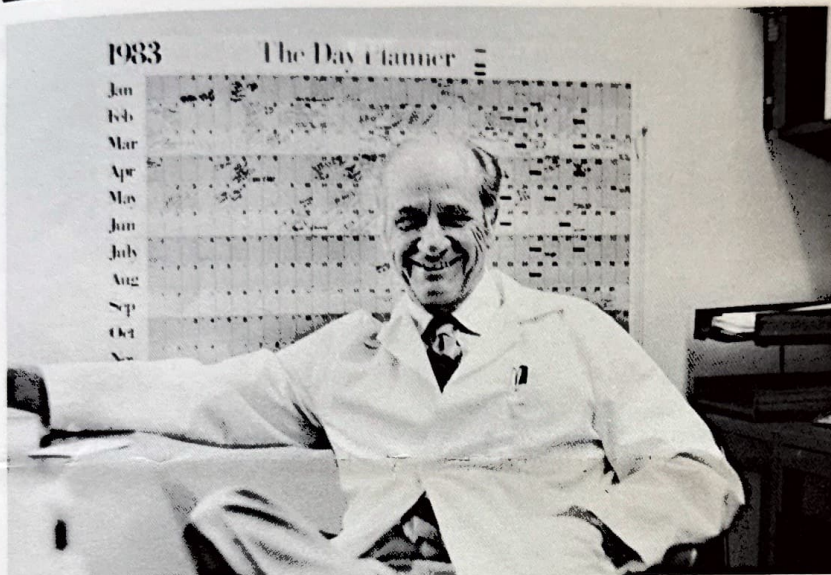
St. Jude Hospital and Rehabilitation Center's Friendly Hearts will renew old acquaintances and perhaps strike up some new ones during a "Sunday in the Country" on June 26 when the hospital holds its Friendly Hearts Party from 2 to 4 p.m. The get-together, which takes place annually on the hospital's East Lawn, is planned and hosted by the Community Affairs and Cardiac Rehab Departments for patients who have had open heart surgery at St. Jude.

This year's Friendly Hearts Party will follow its "Country" theme with special light refreshments and entertainment with a definite "down-home" flavor. Cowboy boots, checkered shirts, and denim skirts and pants will most certainly fit in with the "Western-wear" option noted on party invitations.

Hospital Week "Family" Theme

The St. Jude "Family" Speaks Up!

This year's National Hospital Week theme — "We Treat You Like Family" — could have been written with St. Jude Hospital in mind. Like any large family, the "heart and soul" of St. Jude are its members — employees, volunteers, supporters, and patients. Their individual personalities, roles, and needs merge to create a special institution like St. Jude.

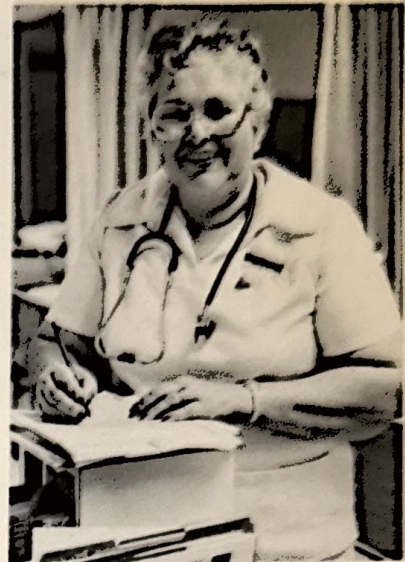


When Dr. Francis G. Mackey left his private practice as an internist to join St. Jude as the hospital's Medical Director, he could not foresee the changes that would take place at the hospital or within his own career. "It's ever-changing, ever-challenging," he says of his role. "I would like to believe I have been helpful as a liaison between the hospital's professional and administrative staffs while involved in hospital-wide program evaluation and development."

"The greatest pleasure of my job is the people I work with — especially their enthusiasm and dedication," he says. "Our greatest challenge? I think it's trying to be innovative and creative, while maintaining quality patient care, in an environment that is changing dramatically both nationally and here at St. Jude."



"What — no potatoes today?" Cafeteria Cashier Nadine Mosquida (right) gets to know some people at St. Jude so well that she automatically knows what they're going to eat for breakfast. This kind of easy-going familiarity and contact with people is "why I love to cashier!" Nadine says. "We get all kinds of people — people who are sometimes going through a lot," she observes. "Occasionally, there are one or two 'bad' ones, but you know, a smile or joke with the next person makes it all worth it!"



"There's a lot of 'public relations' work" to Jean Cornett's job as an Outpatient Surgery nurse. "We try to make our patients comfortable about having surgery" by talking about what's happening and what to expect, the LVN explained.

"I like this kind of nursing," Jean says. "There's lots of patient contact, lots of talking to people." Since most of the surgeries are minor, elective procedures, "there's not too much bad news."



Administrative Secretary Dawn Gettman likes the "See what you can do with this" attitude of her boss, St. Jude-Yorba Linda's Administrator Charles Culp. Along with handling correspondence, typing, transcribing dictation, and other secretarial duties, Dawn deals "with the questions and problems that come up during the course of a day."

At a hospital the size of St. Jude-Yorba Linda, "I have the chance to work with just about everyone — from patients and physicians to department heads and salesmen," says Dawn. "That's the most stimulating thing about my job."

Hospital Guild Names New Officers at April Luncheon

Mrs. Helen Weddle, honored in 1982 as St. Jude Hospital's first Guild member to accumulate 10,000 volunteer hours, has been elected as the Guild's President for 1983-1984.

Mrs. Weddle and 12 other new officers were installed at a Guild Luncheon on April 11 at the Hacienda Country Club in La Habra. At the luncheon, outgoing President Kay Donovan presented St. Jude President Sister Jane Frances with checks for over \$102,000, representing funds raised through major Guild projects in 1982-1983.

The Guild's new officers include Mrs. John Wertzberger, First Vice-President; Mrs. Leon Hildebrandt, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Joe Gillespie, Third Vice-President; Mrs. Edwin Broyles, Fourth Vice-President; Mrs. Pierre Delissalde, Fifth Vice-President; Alice Enright, Recording Secretary; Mrs. William Bradford, Corresponding



Outgoing Guild President Kay Donovan (l) presents Sister Jane Frances with checks for over \$102,000 - the result of a year's fund-raising activities - along with (l to r) Edna Gibbs, Ways and Means Chairman; Carla Nelson, Gift Shop Chairman; and Helen Weddle, the Guild's new President.

Secretary; Mrs. Doris Archibald, Financial Secretary; Mrs. Harold Galbraith, Treasurer; Mrs. George Ryan, Parliamentarian; Mrs. Leonard Koch, Junior Guild Chairman; and Mrs. John Fullerton, Rehabilitation Chairman.

New Hospice Volunteer Coordinator

Roberta Connolly, RN, an oncology nurse with several years' hospice experience, has been named St. Jude Hospital's new Hospice Volunteer Coordinator. She joined the Hospice staff in early April.

Mrs. Connolly most recently served as co-coordinator of the Hospice Volunteer Training program at Martin Luther Hospital Medical Center in Anaheim. In this role, she helped recruit and interview potential hospice volunteers and also coordinated their training programs. Mrs. Connolly also helped to establish and supervise Martin Luther's Oncology Department and, between 1979 and 1982, served as the hospital's Director of Nursing/Medical, Surgical, and Oncology Services.

A diploma graduate of Presbyterian University Hospital in Pitts-



burgh, Mrs. Connolly holds a degree in social science from Cal State Fullerton.

Trauma Services for St. Jude-Fullerton

The result of nearly two years' work in developing the staff, protocols, and documentation necessary for providing the highest possible level of emergency care, the designation "Regional Trauma Center" has been awarded to St. Jude Hospital and Rehabilitation Center in Fullerton. St. Jude-Fullerton's Administrator Richard J. Skillman announced the appointment by Orange County's Department of Emergency Medical Services in early April.

There are only five hospitals, including St. Jude, in Orange County that have this designation, Skillman added.

"Appointment is based on many criteria," the administrator explained. Among the most important is 24-hour, on-site availability of specially trained emergency room physicians and nurses, surgeons and operating room personnel, and laboratory and radiology staff. St. Jude has already been active in supplementing personnel in these areas.

Diabetes Program Set for June

Diabetes — a disease that affects over 10 million Americans — is the subject of a free four-week Teaching Program beginning Tuesday, June 7, at 7 p.m. at St. Jude-Fullerton. The 90-minute classes will meet in the hospital's 4 Main Classroom.

Using a multidisciplinary approach, St. Jude Hospital's Diabetes Teaching Program is designed to enable diabetics and their families to become self-sufficient in the daily management of this disease.

Classes are limited to 15 persons. Although the St. Jude Diabetes Teaching Program is free, pre-registration is necessary by calling (714) 871-3280, Ext. 3837.



Created by freelance designer Richard Seekin, AIFD, and modeled by Mrs. Pierre Nicolas, the floral headdress "Space Mountain" was awarded the 1983 Bal Masque's Grand Sweepstakes Trophy. La Paz Party Mixes sponsored the entry. Organized by Damas de Caridad, the Bal's theme was "Salute to Disneyland."

Health System Boards Meeting



LEFT. St. Jude Trustees (l to r) Bob Clark, Carl Kalbfleisch, and Stuart Davidson relax over coffee during lunch at the annual meeting of Boards of Trustees within the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Health System.



LEFT. St. Jude administrators (l to r) Wally Flores, Director of Fiscal Services; Joan Furman, Assistant Administrator/Patient Care Services; and Duane Wolsky, Assistant Administrator/Business Office also attended the two-day meeting at the Newport Marriott.

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C.L. Culp, Administrator — Yorba Linda

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