

**D**ear Hopies,

*This is an update on information about the Election of Officers and the Chicago Reunion. Please read it carefully as the dates are important.*

*1. Enclosed, you will find the Official Ballot for the Election of Officers to the Project HOPE Alumni Association Board of Directors along with the directions for voting. Please read the directions carefully, as we want your votes to count.*

*Your deadline is September 30, 2012 if you vote by mail or electronically. OR, you may cast your ballot in person during the reunion on Saturday, October 20th in Chicago.*

*2. We have updated the information about the Reunion planned for Friday, October 19 – Sunday, October 21 at the Union League Club of Chicago. There is a brief description of the event, Registration Forms, and Hotel Information (Union League Club of Chicago and the Palmer House Hilton). There is also information on how you can support the Silent Auction.*

*Please note that the phone number for the Union League Club of Chicago has been corrected and we have added the website. The Reservation Desk is 312-435-5015. Go to [www.ULCC.org](http://www.ULCC.org) for details about the facilities being offered.*

*If you send in your Registration Form by August 10th, you will pay less. Also, it would help us with the final plans if you would email me by the end of August and let me know if you are planning to attend. ([ebkooiman@horizoncable.com](mailto:ebkooiman@horizoncable.com))*

*Auction Items should be mailed so that they arrive by October 1st, unless late delivery has been arranged with Nancy Savage.*

*We hope to see you in Chicago!*

*Sincerely,*

*Esther Pierce Kooiman, President*



# Election of Officers

By Valerie Cook, Immediate Past President

Elections of officers will be on the agenda at the general meeting of the alumni association on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012 at the Chicago Reunion. Per the bylaws of the organization, we are publishing the nominees for President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.

There are 2 candidates for President, one each for the other 2 offices. You will only vote for one per office.

Below is a SAMPLE of the election ballot that will be available in your registration packet that will arrive by email in June. Please bring a copy of your ballot with you as you enter the general meeting or if you are unable to attend the reunion you may mail a ballot to me at the following address: **Val Cook, 23005 N 74th St., Unit 1112, Scottsdale, AZ 85255**. Ballots will be counted at the meeting with results announced at that time.

## Candidates for Alumni Board President

**Robert Morrow, M.D., MPH**

Dr. Robert Morrow (known as “Bobby” to the first generation of HOPIES) was on the Ship with his parents Drs. Rufus and Dorothy Morrow and then land-based projects from 1960 to 1978. He was in Peru, Ecuador, Guinea, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Cartagena, Laredo, and Jamaica.

After an early career of international medical service, he re-connected with HOPE as the US Navy representative to HOPE in 2001 proposing collaborative missions using Navy hospital ships. He and Dr. Howe, with HOPE Board endorsement, developed and promoted this partnership, whose first fruition was the USNS Mercy Tsunami Mission of 2005, a collaboration continuing today with over 18 joint missions.

He is a Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine, consultant for Navy Medicine with Battelle Memorial Institute, and is on the faculty of George Washington Medical School. He has been member-at-Large and Vice President of the Board of the Alumni Association from 2006 to the present.

**John L. Wilhelm, M.D., MPH**

Dr. Wilhelm was trained as an obstetrician-gynecologist-endocrinologist in Chicago and has a Masters Degree in Public Health. As a senior medical student, he was with the Ship in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) for three Months (1968).

Dr. Wilhelm’s land-based assignments with Project HOPE include Jamaica as a clinician (1976 and 1977), Brazil as program director (1980 and 1981), San Diego State University School of Public Health as a consultant (1982 and 1983), Grenada as program director (1984 to mid-1987) and HOPE Center as Regional Director for the Americas (mid-1987 to mid-1990).

From 1990 until 2005 he worked with the Chicago Department of Public Health serving as health commissioner for the city of Chicago from 2000-2005. Since July 2005, Dr. Wilhelm has been the executive director of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, is a governor of the Institute of Medicine of Chicago and a member of the Chicago Board of Ethics.

# Candidate for Vice President

## Debbie Reister, RHIA

Debbie is on the Project HOPE Alumni Board as the “at large representative for the Central Region” and is the 2012 Project HOPE Alumni Reunion Committee Chairman.

Until January 2009, Debbie was an advisor to the Project HOPE Russia/Eurasia Region, her last fulltime position was as Regional Director for that region. Over a period of 25 years she worked in a variety of administrative roles at HOPE Headquarters and in the field. She worked with programs in the Central Asian Republics, Russia, Ukraine, Central and Eastern Europe, Indonesia, China, Grenada, Panama, Egypt and Portugal. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Health Information Management.

When she retired from international work with Project HOPE in July 2007, Debbie became the Director of Health Information Management at the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, a non-profit Maternal Child Health clinic in Chicago, Illinois.

# Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer

## Michele Okamoto, RN, BSN, CEN

Michele is a registered nurse whose career has blended emergency, intensive care, and humanitarian nursing. While living in New York, she was actively involved in the World Trade Center Disaster on 9/11. Michele now resides in the San Diego area.

In Jan 2005, Michele volunteered for 4 months with Project HOPE for the Tsunami Mission in Indonesia. Later in 2005 and in 2006, she volunteered for 2 Katrina missions and since then has volunteered for several other Navy/HOPE missions.

Michele is very dedicated to the mission of Project HOPE and wants to continue to help build a strong proactive alumni association. Currently, she is serving as Secretary/Treasurer and would like to continue to serve in that position for another term.

## OFFICIAL BALLOT

### Project HOPE Alumni Association Officer Election Ballot 2012

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*President*

*Vice President*

*Secretary/Treasurer*

( ) Robert Morrow, MD    ( ) Debbie Reister, RHIA    ( ) Michele Okamoto, RN

( ) John Wilhelm, MD

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# PROJECT HOPE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION

**54TH YEAR CELEBRATION  
OCTOBER 19-20, 2012  
UNION LEAGUE CLUB OF CHICAGO**



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2012 PM

- Registration
- Reception – No Host Bar
- Free Evening out for Dinner

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2012 AM/PM

- Meeting of the Alumni Association with guest speakers
- Followed by a Panel Discussion of the Past, Present and Tomorrow with Project HOPE. There will be an open microphone during the Lunch Break for audience participation.
- Silent Auction
- Banquet, includes Introduction of Guests, Honorary Alumni Awards, Keynote Speaker, and a Memorial to Helen Walsh.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2012

- Free Day

## PLEASE NOTE

We have identified some group activities for Sunday morning, and would like to know what you would enjoy. What would you like to do: boat ride, bus tour of Chicago, brunch at a restaurant with jazz or other music or suggest another activity? Please write your preference on the back of the registration form. These activities would be paid for outside of the Reunion registration.

54<sup>th</sup> PROJECT HOPE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION  
 54<sup>TH</sup> YEAR CELEBRATION  
 OCTOBER 19-20, 2012  
 UNION LEAGUE CLUB OF CHICAGO  
[www.ULCC.org](http://www.ULCC.org)  
 65 W Jackson Boulevard  
 Chicago, Illinois 60604  
 312 435-5015

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Voyages/Programs Served \_\_\_\_\_

Registration for All Activities

General Registration: \$235 per person before 8/10/12 # \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$275 per person after 8/10/12 # \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(includes Friday night reception, Saturday breakfast, lunch and banquet, T-Shirt and bag)

T-Shirt Size S M L XL XXL

Select from the following for the Saturday evening banquet

Beef Short Ribs \_\_\_\_\_

Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Cocktail Attire for Saturday evening

Additional person to attend the Saturday banquet @ \$100 per person # \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Select Beef Short Ribs \_\_\_\_\_

Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you do not want your name listed in reunion materials \_\_\_\_\_.

**TOTAL PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION**

Please make check payable to Project HOPE Reunion

Return this form with your check to:

Irene Machado

4770 Wellington St

Hudsonville, MI 49426

616-669-0596

[machado.irene@gmail.com](mailto:machado.irene@gmail.com)

**PROJECT HOPE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION  
54TH YEAR CELEBRATION**

**HOTEL INFORMATION**

**BLOCKS OF ROOMS HAVE BEEN RESERVED AT THE FOLLOWING TWO HOTELS FOR  
OCTOBER 19 AND 20:**

**THE PROJECT HOPE REUNION EVENTS ARE BEING HELD AT THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB:**

**UNION LEAGUE CLUB OF CHICAGO  
65 W. JACKSON BLVD.  
CHICAGO, IL 60604**  
[www.ULCC.org](http://www.ULCC.org)

Room Rate: \$175 plus 20% tax, the same rate is good for 3 days before and 3 days after the event. Reserved rooms are King (1 King bed) or Double/Double (2 Queen Beds). Type of room is based upon availability on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Please call 1-800-443-0578 or 312-435-5015 to make a reservation, refer to the "Project HOPE Alumni Association".

Reservations must be made prior to September 20, 2012.

Please see the following website for more information on the Union League, including dress code, parking, directions, and transportation: <http://www.ulcc.org/>

**ALTERNATIVE ROOMS HAVE BEEN BLOCKED AT:**

**THE PALMER HOUSE HILTON  
17 EAST MONROE STREET  
CHICAGO, IL 60603**

Make reservations directly with the Hotel room reservation department by calling 800-HILTONS (800- 445-8667) remember to ask for the group rate by referring to the Group Code: PHR "Project HOPE Reunion".

Room Rate: \$199 plus 20% tax - the same rate is good for 3 days before and 3 days after the Reunion. All rooms are 2 Double beds, 1 bath.

Reservations must be made prior to September 19, 2012.

The Palmer House is approximately a 2 block walk from the Union League.

Please see the website for more details on this hotel: [http://www1.hilton.com/en\\_US/hi/hotel/CHIPHHH-Palmer-House-a-Hilton-Hotel-Illinois/index.do](http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/CHIPHHH-Palmer-House-a-Hilton-Hotel-Illinois/index.do)

**PLEASE NOTE**

We are looking for group activities for Sunday morning; we will supply further information at a later date. If you have suggestions, let us know. These activities would be paid outside the Reunion registration.



# Silent Auction Update

I hope you all have been going through old trunks and closets and finding some things that may be good buys for all you HOPIE shoppers. Please let me know what treasures you are willing to donate. Some suggestions include airline (frequent flyer ) miles - a weekend/week in your lovely time share or vacation beach cottage or big city condo - hotel discount vouchers - autographed copies of best selling books by authors in our HOPE family - art work from Africa, Asia and Latin America, Navajo rugs, etc. This is a good time to downsize and donate items you have enjoyed for years but now would love to share with your fellow HOPIES. And our more recent volunteers have no doubt brought home memorabilia from Haiti, Indonesia, and other ports of call on HOPE missions with the Navy. These are sure to be popular with all reunion goers.

Proceeds from the Auction will be used to fund HOPE programs

Please let me know what you will be donating and if you have any questions. I can be reached by email at [nancy.savage@uc.edu](mailto:nancy.savage@uc.edu) and by phone at **513-621-3504**. My mailing address is:

**Nancy Savage  
427 Oregon St. #18  
Cincinnati, OH 45202**

Donated items may be mailed or shipped in advance (August 1st to October 1st) to:

**Ms. Debra Reister  
Infant Welfare Society of Chicago  
3600 W. Fullerton Ave.  
Chicago IL 60647  
773-782-5006**

Please note "Auction" on the outside of the wrapper. Each donated item must be accompanied by a completed Donation Form. You may photocopy the form if needed. Please give complete information as we will use it after the Reunion to send out thank you notes with the tax-deductible status included.

If you are bringing items with you, please let me know in advance so that we can arrange to have them displayed as soon as possible. Grace Tucker, Michele Okamoto, and Diane Speranza have volunteered to work with me in Chicago. There will be items to price, tables to be set up and then the exciting purchasing and picking up by the Auction winners. I hope a few more of you will volunteer a couple of hours during the reunion to help.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and seeing you all in Chicago. Thank you in advance for helping make this a fun and successful activity.

*Nancy Savage*

SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM  
PROJECT HOPE ALUMNI REUNION  
CHICAGO  
OCTOBER 19-21, 2012

One form must accompany each item. Please print legibly.

Name of donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Donated Item (include where it is from if appropriate)

Value \_\_\_\_\_ (estimated dollar value if possible)

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