A lifetime of achievement

BARBARA HOLZMAN of Arizona writes: “When I attended the 50th SSA reunion at the University of Chicago in October 2015, I was honored to receive The Milestone Achievement Award for the Class of 1965. I was nominated for this award by my classmate and dear friend Susan Rosenson. This was the first year that this award was given and its goal is to recognize SSA alumni from milestone reunion classes for contributions to the field of social work. The award ‘honors exemplary social work values, exceptional performance in clinical or administrative practice, and strong commitment to our profession; and provides an opportunity to honor some of our ‘unsung’ colleagues who strive daily for (or past career reflect) social justice, healthier communities, and the support of vulnerable individuals.’ Being chosen to receive the Milestone Achievement Award was a career high point. Being honored by one’s peers is priceless.”

BARBARA’s connection to the association goes back to the mid-1980s, when she was chair of the Arizona Behavioral Health Credentialing Task Force, a coalition of a number of professions seeking legislative regulation. She recalls that many ASWB colleagues whose states already had established regulation gave invaluable assistance helping the coalition write its legislation. She also represented her state at ASWB meetings and served on a number of ASWB committees, including co-chairing the Exam Committee. BARBARA continues to write items for the Clinical exam. Since 2002, when she became an item writer, she has submitted more than 1,500 items for review by the Exam Committee.

“I have always valued the competence and the professionalism of ASWB and continue to hold the organization and its members, in the highest regard,” she continues. “I am also proud to share with my Arizona colleagues information about ASWB and the significant contributions it makes to our profession.”

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In memoriam

DAVID HAMILTON, executive secretary of the New York State Board for Social Work, notified ASWB of the passing of Norm Cohen, LCSW, a former executive secretary of the New York board, on December 21, 2015. Hamilton wrote: “I had the pleasure of working with Norm when I was at NASW New York State and as a colleague in the Office of the Professions. I was honored to be chosen as his successor for social work when he retired in 2003. Norm touched many lives in his career as a musician, a practicing clinical social worker and Board administrator.”

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ASWB says good-bye....

ANNE RICKETT, New Brunswick

MICHELLE LAMORIE, Wyoming

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ASWB welcomes new jurisdictional staff members...

EMILY CRONBAUGH, Wyoming, as interim director

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Best wishes!

SHEILA McKINNON-OKE, Nova Scotia, will be leaving as executive director and registrar effective April 30. ASWB wishes her well as she begins a new chapter in her life.

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Missouri board welcomes new members

TOM REICHARD, executive director of the Missouri State Committee for Social Workers, reports that four new members were appointed by the state’s governor in December: JUSTIN BENNETT, FRANCES KLAHR, RACHELL LaROSE, and TJITSKE (TISH) TUBBERGEN-MAGLIO. The good news: “I shouldn’t have to cancel one of our quarterly meetings each year,” says TOM. The not so good news: He lost two members, including ASWB President M. JENISE COMER.

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ASWB travels begin

ASWB staff have been invited to present at numerous conferences in 2016. Starting off the year, staff member JENNIFER WARD, education and training specialist, was a panelist at the Alliance for Continuing Education in the Health Professions 41st annual conference in January, where she discussed ASWB’s Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program and the importance for health care employers to include social work-related courses for social work staff when offering CE. In February JAN FITTS, education and training senior manager, presented the closing plenary, “Answering the Call To Be a Professional Social Worker,” at the annual conference of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Alabama chapter. JAN also was the guest speaker at a dinner hosted by the chapter during the conference for area social work faculty, where she presented on ASWB’s Path to License program.

Jan Fitts presenting at the NASW-AL Chapter conference in February

Jennifer Ward speaking at the Alliance for Continuing Education in the Health Professions 41st annual conference