Blood Drives on Campus: Some Historical Tidbits Over the Years

Blood donations in SJU’s Great Hall, 2011
From IA Photo collection
Blood Drive!!
St. John’s University
Great Hall
Tuesday, February 19th, 2013
&
Wednesday February 20th, 2013
10:00AM-4:00 PM
Just show up if you don’t have an appointment!

Blood donation email, 2013
From *With Lamps Burning*:

When the disturbances of two world wars broke in upon the normal life of the college, students and faculty cooperated with the government's war efforts. During World War I sisters and students did all they possibly could in sewing and knitting for soldiers. In World War II the college was permitted to establish its own Red Cross unit — one of the first college units to be set up in Minnesota. The output of this surgical dressing unit doubled that of any other unit of the county.

Faculty and students signed up as blood donors each time the mobile blood donor unit came to St. Cloud. On one occasion seventy sisters from the college and the convent responded. Several of the sisters were so generous that they were enrolled in the gallon club. Some sisters and students joined in first aid classes; others conducted the sale of war bonds and stamps.

If not the first, St. Benedict's was one of the first colleges in the state to organize a separate unit of the Red Cross during World War II. Sisters Irma, Jeanette, Remberta, Estelle, and Grace received the Red Cross silver pin for their donations to the Blood Mobile.

Documentation of early CSB involvement with the Red Cross

*With Lamps Burning*, p. 193

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchives/id/2600/show/2523

*With Lamps Burning*, footnote 20 to chapter 15, p. 313

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchives/id/2600/show/2591
Photos from St. Ben’s blood drives
SBMA College collection, 674 and 678 (circle)
Nurses were more scarce at SJU: Sabina Diederichs, St. John’s resident nurse, 1920s-1940s
1924 *Sagatagan*, p. 34
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/SJUArchives/id/17379/show/17311
1925 *Sagatagan*, p. 26
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/SJUArchives/id/17469/show/17394
1940 *Sagatagan*, p. 48
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u?/SJUArchives,28489
1948 Feb. 12 *Record* supplement p. 1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/30124/show/30120
1953 SJU blood drive: including the Abbot
March 13, 1953 p. 2 The Record
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31028/show/31025
SJU competes with the Tommies for blood donations – and not just in athletics
The Record, Dec. 4, 1953, p. 1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31240/show/31232
Bottom photo: 1953 Bloodmobile Unit, Negatives Collection v. 5 no. 72
1954 photo; 2013 appeal to competition
1954 – Negatives Collection v. 4-96
College Seeks Record Repeat

Reminding CSB that it set a unique record in the state last year, the Red Cross plans to return here with its Bloodmobile on Nov. 9. Minnesota’s smallest college could hardly expect to set any quantity records but it has proved itself to have high-fidelity guarantees. It was the only place in the state where every person that had agreed to give blood for defense was actually a donor. There were no rejectees and no last-minute rejections; CSB will attempt a repeat performance Nov. 9.

“the only place in the state where every person that had agreed to give blood...was a donor.”

CSB bloodmobile, 1954
1954 October The Benet, p. 1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchives/id/1766
An SJU student provides an extra incentive
1960 The Record April 8 1960 p. 4
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31661/show/31656
CSB’s paper is serious
1972 Nov. 8 The Torch p. 1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/543/show/539
AIDS concerns are raised in the 1980s

_Cable_ Nov. 9, 1983 p. 10

Greetings!

As you may have heard, the Bloodmobile will once again be visiting St. John's on Oct. 24 and 25. The American Red Cross has informed us that there is a severe shortage of blood in the St. Cloud area blood banks. Therefore, the need for donations is at an all time high!

So stop by, have some cookies and orange juice, and help save a life!

Thursday, Oct. 24
11am - 5pm

Friday, Oct. 25
9am - 3pm

St. John’s Old Gym

For further information or appointments call 2790.

Blood drive appeals, ca. 1990s
A little humor in a spoof issue of *The Record*
May 16 1985 p.2 *The Rumored*
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36549/show/36542
First time donors are noted
(Alex Schleper says this was from 1989)
Campus Ministry sponsors the blood drives and provides details 1990 & 1992
Thank You to the Bloodmobile Donors

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the 261 individuals who volunteered to donate blood May 6 and 7, at the 1996 Spring SJU Bloodmobile. Two hundred twenty-three pints of blood were collected. Over 50 individuals, many who also gave blood, volunteered their time to make the Bloodmobile a success. SJU was successful in defeating the University of St. Thomas for the fourth time in the "Battle for the Blood." SJU (223 pints) collected 31 more pints than St. Thomas (192 pints).
Some donors give a lot!

*The Record*, Nov. 18, 2004, p. 5

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/32244/show/32238
Compiled in February 2013 from resources in the SJU and CSB Archives
by Peggy Landwehr Roske,
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Credits
“Nursing 1980s” photo from CSB Archives