

BC HISTORY of NURSING

BC HISTORY OF

NURSING SOCIETY

VOLUME 26 | ISSUE 2 | SUMMER 2015

Fashion Parade

On Sunday April 19, 2015, A History of Nursing in Canada Presentation and Fashion Show, narrated by Glennis Zilm, was presented to a sell out audience at the White Rock Museum. This event was part of a larger White Rock Museum & Archives display - Border Town Health Care: Historical Presentations. January 17 – May 31, 2015

The majority of the costumes were provided by Sheila Zerr from her extensive personal collection. Twenty models graciously agreed to participate. Many were present or former White Rock Youth Ambassadors and the remainder were: HoN members, Sheila Zerr, Michel Eng and Cheryl Entwistle and Bernice Rolls who provided her own RCH student uniform,

As Glennis said in her introductory comments: This mainly Canadian, historical show illustrates some typical attire as worn by nurses from the 1640s to the present. It indicates some of the influences of women's dress on nurses – and some of the ways that nursing influenced women's dress.

Some of the costumes modeled:

A Jeanne Mance dress – Canada's "first lay nurse" circa 1640s, Canada's First Nations Nurses as personified by Amelia Douglas, Florence Nightingale dress circa 1860s, Schools of Nursing uniforms from the Provincial Royal Jubilee, Vancouver General, the Royal Columbian Hospitals and British Columbia Institute of Technology, as well as 2 student uniforms from the Ottawa Civic Hospital. World

War nursing uniforms were featured: a WW1 Red Cross and World War II Nursing Sister. A VON Nurse, circa 1940s - 1950s was also included. And to bring things up-to-date the last model wore the modern look of hospital nurses: "Tailored "Scrubs".

As Glennis said in her closing remarks: *Many still mourn the loss of the nurse's "traditional uniform and cap" that so clearly identified a "real nurse." But times change. Perhaps one of the most important aspects of the uniform was the clear identification of the nurse for patient and family and for working colleagues. The need for identification of the nurse remains as important as ever to the public and fellow professionals. Perhaps this need will stimulate changes we will see in the future – while allowing nurses to enjoy the freedom of comfortable, less formal, working attire.*

A special thank you to Michele Eng, photographer for this event



See more photos from this event on page 2

also in this issue

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Newsletter Committee

Lynne Esson (chair) Beth Fitzpatrick, Naomi Miller, Ethel Warbinek, & Sheila Zerr.

The BC History of Nursing Society Newsletter is published 4 times per year. Submissions are welcome. Deadline for the Fall Issue is Sept 15, 2015.

Please send submissions to:
Sheila Zerr at szerr@telus.net

Photos from the "Fashion Parade"



Michele Eng (photographer for the event) as Ameria Douglas



Ariel Lu & Rachel Woo wearing nursing uniforms



Bernice Rolls in her RCH student uniform



Hannie Hindle as a VON Nurse

EDITORS' DESK

BY ETHEL WARBINEK



When writing this, we are experiencing an incredible period of warm, very dry weather. And according to the experts, will continue throughout the summer.

This edition contains our annual reports, providing up-to-date information on the work of our very busy directors and committee members.

Page#1, features a Fashion Parade, a wonderful event held at the White Rock Museum in April. Glennis Zilm was actively involved in the planning and was the key speaker. Sheila Zerr provided most of the 20 costumes from her extensive collection.

You will enjoy reading about Genelle's incredible experience in Nepal. We are delighted to provide information on Sheila Zerr's nomination for Honorary Life Membership. This award

will be presented at our 25h Anniversary celebration September 20th at Hycroft. We hope to see you there.

As celebrations continue surrounding WW1, 2 articles are included: one Honoring Nursing Sisters, by Glennis and another one about Dr. Margaret Brooke, a nursing sister dietician, whose ship was torpedoed. She valiantly tried to save the life of a fellow nursing sister and for this brave act, a navy ship is being named The Margaret Brooke.

"This edition contains our annual reports, providing up-to-date information on the work of our very busy directors and committee members."

Archival Corner

Treasures from our archival collection By: Nan Martin

This beautiful replica of Florence Nightingale's afternoon gown is one of our special archival treasures. It is shown here modelled by the late Lois Blais, a past president of our group. Lois wore the gown when the UBC Opera Ensemble sang excerpts from the Canadian opera, Florence, The Lady of the Lamp during dinner at the Canadian History of Nursing (CAHN) conference hosted by the BC History of Nursing Group at St. Paul's Hospital in 2006.

In M. Patricia Donahue's book, Nursing, the finest art, she wrote that Florence Nightingale demonstrated her skill as a nurse and administrator during the Crimean War (1854 – 1856). In the Barrack Hospital, she transformed a place of horror into a haven where patients could truly convalesce. In the evenings, she made solitary rounds with her famous lamp. Longfellow immortalized this "Lady with a Lamp" in his poem of 1857, "Santa Filomena." In 1951, Woodham-Smith (p. 179) wrote:

Two figures emerged from the Crimea as heroic, the soldier and the nurse. In each case a transformation in public estimation took place, and in each case the transformation was due to Miss Nightingale. Never again was the British soldier to be ranked as a drunken brute, the scum of the earth. He was now a symbol of courage, loyalty, and endurance, not a disgrace but a source of pride ... Never again would the picture of a nurse be a tipsy, promiscuous harridan. Miss Nightingale had stamped the profession of nurse with her own image ... in the midst of the muddle and the filth, the agony and the defeats, she had brought about a revolution.



NAVY SHIP NAMED AFTER MARGARET BROOKE 'NAVAL HERO'

The Royal Canadian Navy announced April 13, 2015, a new offshore patrol ship will be named after Dr. Margaret Brooke, who tried to save her friend when the SS Caribou ferry sank off the coast of Newfoundland during the Second World War. The Caribou was torpedoed by a German submarine in the Cabot Strait on Oct. 14, 1942 and sank in five minutes. 'I darned near drowned there'. Brooke, originally from Saskatchewan but now living in B.C., was a military nursing sister dietician, working in a new naval hospital at the time. She was en route to Port aux Basques, N.L., from North Sydney on the night the Caribou sank.

Brooke's family were visiting her for her 100th birthday and that's when she found about the news. "I had no idea that anything like this was about to occur. It took me completely by surprise, and I'm greatly honoured," said Brooke. "I think it's the first time they ever named a warship after an individual, let alone a woman."

Margaret Brooke and fellow nursing Sister Agnes Wilkie were asleep in their cabin on the way to Port aux Basques when the torpedo hit the ferry. According to Brooke, they woke up when they were "thrown clear across the room," and made their way up to the deck to discover their life boat was destroyed or gone altogether. When the ship sank, Brooke said they went down into the water with it. "We were just busy staying afloat until an overturned lifeboat came along and the people on that helped us climb up on [the side] ... and we just hung there for the rest of the night." Brooke said the two women held on as long as they could, but Wilkie couldn't hold on any longer — and Brooke held fast to Wilkie in an attempt to save the nurse's

life. "She collapsed and I held her as long as I could ... I failed. I couldn't hold her any longer," said Brooke and Wilkie died. The naming of the new Arctic offshore vessels aims to "honour prominent Canadians who served with the highest distinction" in the navy, according to a statement from the Department of National Defence.

Additional information about Dr Brooke

She was born in 1915 in Ardath, Saskatchewan, and studied as a dietician before the start of the Second World War. She enrolled as a Nursing Sister Dietician on March 9, 1942 at the rank of Sub-Lieutenant and was promoted to the rank of A/Lt on July 1, 1946. And then to Lieutenant (Navy) on January 1, 1948 and finally to Lieutenant-Commander on April 1, 1957. Margaret served in the Royal Canadian Navy from 1942 to 1962. For her selfless act in attempting to save fellow nursing Sister Agnes Wilkie, LCdr Brooke was named a Member of the Order of the British Empire.

Following her return to civilian life, Margaret completed her university studies in paleontology at the University of Saskatchewan, where she achieved her doctorate. She is the author of numerous research studies on the subject. Upon retirement she moved to Victoria, B.C. where she still resides today.

Sources: Brooke tried to save fellow nurse's life after ferry torpedoed by German submarine in WWII CBC News Posted: Apr 13, 2015. <http://www.forces.gc.ca/>





The BC History of
Nursing Group - Society is

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!

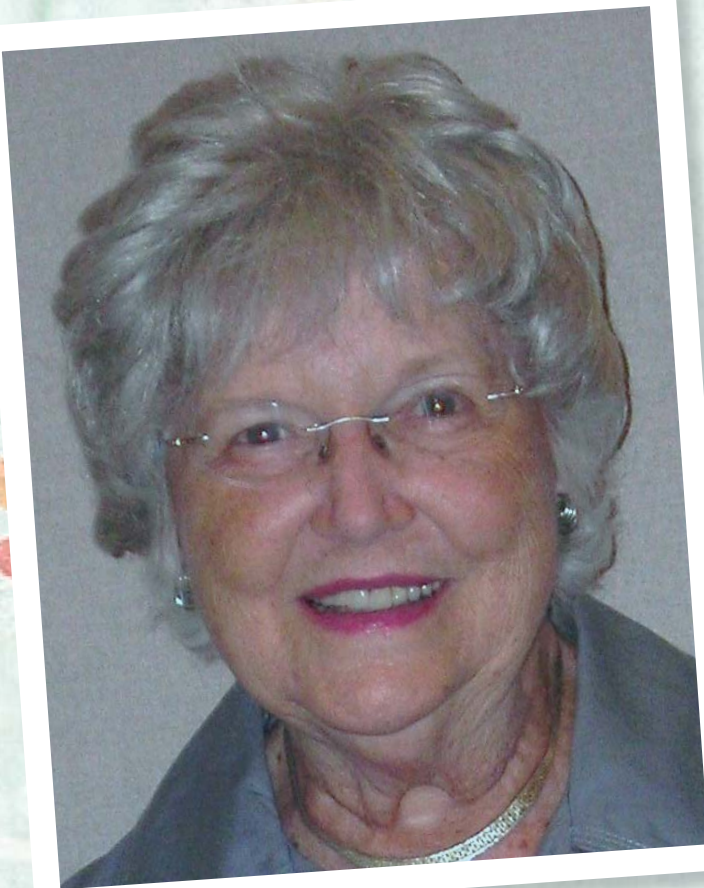
With an Elegant Afternoon Tea
September 20, 2015 | 2PM - 4PM

Hycroft Mansion
1489 McRae Ave, Vancouver
Ladies: Hats would be lovely
Gents: No hats required

Program:
Greetings: Nora Whyte
Honour: Joan Andrews
Honour: Sheila Zerr

Speaker: Glennis Zilm
"Nursing in the Battlefields"





Nomination of Sheila Zerr

Honorary Life Membership BCHNS

Sheila's nomination was accepted at our AGM in April. Her Honorary Award will be presented at the Special 25th Anniversary event on September 20, 2015 2-4 PM at Hycroft.

Sheila Zerr's excellence as a professional nurse and the depth and breadth of her expertise locally, provincially, nationally, and internationally make her a wonderful nominee for the B. C. History of Nursing Society Honorary Life Membership Award. She a notable clinician and despite being "semi-retired" remains an outstanding nursing educator, administrator, coordinator, mentor, and researcher. She has had a life-long interest in history of nursing and for the last 30 years has strongly promoted and supported it. She was a founding member BCHNS and remains active in history of nursing activities on a variety of fronts.

A major role early on was her work as chair of the Oral History Committee, both as a skilled interviewer and as a teacher of oral history techniques to other volunteers. This group recorded interviews with notable BC nurses. Sheila established the initial liaison with RNABC Library for storage and maintenance of the audio tapes. This oral history collection is considered one of the finest in Canada and is widely used by nursing researchers. Sheila's main career was as a nursing educator, and was consistently rated

a "best teacher" by students, novice educators, and colleagues. Her knowledge, support, compassion, patience, endurance, and sense of humour have been an incentive to many and appreciated by all.

A native British Columbian, she received her basic nursing education at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, then received a Certificate in Public Health Nursing and her BSN, and MEd degrees from the University of Ottawa. She taught in the University of Ottawa Nursing program (1971-1985), where she received the University's 1981 award of merit for her exceptional teaching abilities. Moving back to her home province of B.C. in 1985, she began teaching clinical courses in distance education programs at the University of Victoria. More recently, she has participated in developing an on-line history of nursing course offered through Malaspina College (now North Island University). Sheila's expertise in clinical nursing is revealed in some of her many writings, including contributions to nursing texts and history of nursing books.

She is an Adjunct Professor for the UBC School of Nursing, and continues to provide guest lectures, usually on history of nursing, at local schools of nursing. A sought-after guest speaker for local groups, she often uses the well-researched, exquisitely-designed, miniature, historical figures and tableaux she created for BCHNS

or her outstanding collection of nursing uniforms and costumes to provide costume parades both for schools of nursing and others. These captivate audiences. Her nursing miniatures have raised more than \$12,000 for BCHNS Scholarship funds.

Throughout her career, Sheila has a reputation as a superb administrator and coordinator. She is frequently the unacknowledged driving force behind an effective project and any enterprise in which she is involved tends to be a great success. An example can be found in her role as chair of an international conference on history of nursing co-sponsored by the BC History of Nursing Society. The superbly successful 1997 International History of Nursing Conference held in Vancouver was due mainly to Sheila's skills. This was one of the largest history of nursing conferences in CAHN's history and attracted 155 participants from around the world. Not only that, it made a profit of \$10,000 to be used by CAHN and BCHNS.

Sheila frequently serves on the executive of professional groups. She was a founding member and served on the executive of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing. Her work in other national organizations, such as the Canadian Association of University Schools of Nursing (CAUSN) and the Canadian Nurses Association, has allowed her to develop a network of colleagues across the country. She has also been active in health care beyond professional nursing organizations. For example, she made significant contributions to St. John Ambulance at the local (Ottawa), provincial, and national levels.

Sheila has been active at the community level in the move to health care reform in British Columbia, serving as a member of the Delta Health Council and chair of the Delta Health Care Service Providers Advisory Committee. She continues to participate in regional health activities and has the respect of community politicians and organizers through her knowledge of health

issues and her excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Sheila has been active since graduation in the Royal Jubilee Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Association and a mainstay of its Lower Mainland Branch, supporting the development of its archives and website. She was instrumental in researching information on heritage buildings for the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada for its project on historic nurses' residences and, as a result of Sheila's efforts, Begbie Hall at the Royal Jubilee Hospital was selected as one of four national historic significant nursing residences and is a protected site.

Sheila has contributed significantly to nursing through her scholarly activities and research. She was Principal Investigator for two major research projects on Child Care in the Home that received major funding from the National Health Research and Development Program (1983-1984). More recently, her research has been in the development of innovative distance education courses for nurses and in history of nursing. Currently she is collecting anecdotal histories from nurses from Canada's northern areas, and has published papers on these topics as well as presentations at prestigious professional conferences.

In addition to all this, Sheila is happily married to Ray, a former senior officer with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They have two wonderful sons and daughters-in-law, and she is delightfully proud of their accomplishments and those of her lively grandchildren.

Sheila has made significant outstanding contributions to nursing in B.C. and especially to history of nursing. She is an outstanding role model and we are pleased to nominate her for the BCHNS's Honorary Life Membership.

Nomination prepared by Glennis Zilm & Ethel Warbinek

“Sheila has made significant outstanding contributions to nursing in B.C. and especially to history of nursing. She is an outstanding role model and we are pleased to nominate her for the BCHNS's Honorary Life Membership.”

NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS

Congratulations, Professor **GEERTJE BOSCHMA** who has attained full Professorship in UBC School of Nursing. She was honoured by her colleagues in a Special Lecture Series in the Faculty of Applied Science on April 21, 2015. A Celebration of Promotion was held to recognize five exceptional people for their promotion to the position of Professor. Geertje's excellent paper was entitled: Nursing and Health: Why History Matters.

GLENNIS ZILM received the 2015 UBC School of Nursing's Community Partnership Award at the School of Nursing Alumni Awards Partnership Awards Gala on May 7, 2015. She was recognized for her dedication and personal commitment to educating, mentoring and supporting future generations of students.

The 2015 CAHN/ACHN Annual Conference at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences May 29- June 1 in Ottawa, ON.

- **LYDIA WYTENBROEK**, who is working on her doctorate at York University, presented a paper: "The nursing problem is acute": American Medical Missionaries and the Development of Trained Nursing in Iran, 1920-1960.
- **CATHERINE HANEY** and **GEERTJE BOSCHMA** also attended the meeting.

NAN MARTIN and **GLENNIS ZILM** attended the B.C. Historical Federation meeting in Quesnel May 21-24.

A Nursing Cafe held by the Nursing Department at Trinity Western University in April featured history of nursing topics. **DR. SONYA GRYPMA**, dean and professor, offered a commentary about the relevance of nursing history to the profession today. The main speaker was Susan Martens Kehler of Abbotsford, who shared stories of her

years (1957—1980) at the Mennonite Christian Hospital Nursing School in Taiwan. She is the author of Journey of Many Steps, a history of the Taiwan School. Members Ethel Warbinek and Glennis Zilm attended the evening event.

MICHELE ENG had a letter to the editor published in the April issue of Canadian Nurse; a comment that she had made on Facebook was picked up and included. Michele, a community health nurse supervisor, works with First Nations people through the Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council in Port Alberni.

Congratulations to **NAN MARTIN** who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Simon Fraser University on June 10th. She says she enjoyed it enormously, especially the opportunities to engage in discussion with the bright young students in her courses.

HELEN VANDENBERG, who defended her doctoral dissertation in Spring, is working as an instructor on the faculty of the new University of Regina Nursing program.

May 13, 2015, the Vancouver Community Nurses held their annual Nurses Week event at Van Duesen Gardens in Vancouver. We were invited to participate and had a display table. **CHERYL ENTWISTLE** wore a 1905 "Walking Out" RJH uniform. **KATHY MURPHY** dressed a mannequin in our Florence Nightingale costume. (see photo last page)

BCNU day at VGH: **SUE FORSHAW** and **KATHY MURPHY** provided a display at the BCNU Day held at VGH on June 11. Many services available to BCNU members were represented and the new BCNU logo was featured on the publications.



Glennis Zilm receiving UBC Nursing award
Photo Credit: vsaranphoto.com



Nan Martin receiving her degree



BCNU Day at VGH

B.C. HISTORY OF NURSING SOCIETY 2014 ANNUAL REPORTS

The following reports were presented at the Annual General Meeting on April 24th, 2014. Due to space restrictions, some reports have been edited. If you wish to see the full report, please contact us or the committee chair.

01. President's Report by: KATHY MURPHY, PRESIDENT



In the 25th year of operation, this Nursing group now called the BC History of Nursing Society, continues to meet on a regular basis and to carry out the objectives of the Society. Following a successful planning session in June, Future Planning ideas were generated and refined at the meetings held in September, October, December and February. Several of the items required financial resources so were included in the Budget for 2015.

Nursing Week and the UBC School of Nursing Woodward Lecture provided opportunities to display the BC History Society as well as the promised Ceremony recognizing Ethel Johns as a person of historic interest. With many other members I was pleased to take part in the Ethel Johns event held on February 10, 2015 at UBC.

The BC Historical Federation Annual meeting and Conference was held in Cloverdale in June and provided many activities to learn about the wealth of history in our province.

As the CRNBC Library was being relocated and Joan Andrews was leaving her position as Librarian in early 2015, an inventory of all historic and donated items to RNABC and CRNBC was requested. Of particular interest was the Schools of Nursing Pin Collection which had been created by our member Irene Goldstone.

As the Society celebrates many years of discovering, disseminating and preserving nursing history, the members are also facing the reality of reduced human resources. Sincere appreciation is extended to all those dedicated members who carry out the work of our group.

02. Treasurer's Report by: SUE FORSHAW, TREASURER



The financial status of the History of Nursing is very stable. The membership increased slightly from 2013, approximately \$500.00 worth and donations went up considerably thanks to a generous donation from Nina Rumen.

The following activities are complete or will be before the end April:

- 2014 BCHoN Income Tax
- 2014 BCHoN Financial Statement
- 2014 financial review by Wendy Orvig (paid consultant)
- 2014 T4A tax forms filed with the CRA and scholarship recipients have received the short T4A forms for their income tax returns

Two scholarships of \$1000.00 and \$6000.00 were awarded.

The bank account was \$9,952.21 as of the end of December 2014.

The investment total was \$120,206.06 as of the end of December 2014.

The 2014 budget was revised and presented for approval at the annual meeting.



03. Archives By: MARJORY RALSTON, CHAIR

Members: Ethel Warbinek (oral histories and Biographies) Nan Martin, Marjory Ralston (Chair)

The major work has been related to the UBC School of Nursing Historic Collection and is being carried out by Ethel Warbinek with the assistance of our Archivist Francis Mansbridge. The collection contains both archival documents and artifacts. The School of Nursing has contributed to the project by donating money for special archival containers. Other ongoing projects are updating the biographies and expanding the information posted on the website. One ongoing project relates to the oral histories and the discussion with CRNABC as to the appropriate storage, ownership and legal copyright. A further meeting is being arranged with CRNABC. Since September, because of illness, the Committee has been functioning with only two members. This has resulted in a delay in the task of archiving our artifacts.

Throughout the year we increased our storage capacity. Our large glass display cabinet was transported from CRNABC to UBC School of Nursing and is now situated on a main corridor. It contains a display of Sheila Zerr's miniature dolls and attracts much interest. Room #271, in the School, was acquired for our artifacts and a set of shelves has been dedicated to the Display Committee. Finally, to solve the problem of housing the UBC School of Nursing Collection, we have acquired a wooden bookcase from UBC.

We continue to add small items to our documents. Ethel contributed more information about Madeline Harrower which has been added to Lois Blais' fond. Some small new artifacts have also been donated. We continue to have visitors seeking information. Additions to the Web Site are ongoing. After much research about the value of the Inuit sculpture, gifted from Dr Margaret Campbell's estate, it was decided it should be donated to the School of Nursing. It was presented to Dr Susanne Campbell for the Director's office.

The process of acquiring our new computer continues. We are working with Bob Wilson in the School of Nursing and Evan Burrows of Technical Services who will order the computer. When it arrives, Technical Services will install, transfer data and hook us up to the UBC system. The final project still outstanding is the security locks for Room #271 and Room #T260. We will continue to work on this.

Major tasks for the coming year are archiving the artifacts, completing the School of Nursing Historic Collection which will have a Finding Aid (catalogue) dedicated to collection and a separate division on the Archives Section of the web site.



04. Biographical by: ETHEL WARBINEK, CHAIR

Members: Linda Lister, Ethel Warbinek – chair

In 2014, CRNBC as part of their reorganization, decided to no longer keep duplicate copies of our biographical files in their library. These files were destroyed. New files have been added to our collection as well as additional items to existing files. We have started posting summary information along with photographs on our website. This will take time. A special thank you to Linda Lister who was so helpful in assisting with photocopying and to our archivist for all his work with the biographies.

05. Oral History by: ETHEL WARBINEK, CHAIR

MEMBERS: Marjorie Ralston, Sheila Zerr, Ethel Warbinek -chair

One oral history interview was submitted. Gloria Stephens interviewed Julie Roach, formerly Sister Scholastica in Halifax. A biographical file and several photographs were also submitted by Gloria. At the request of Joan Andrews, CRNBC librarian, we completed copying all the interview summaries which are kept in a binder in their library. Back-up copies are now available in our Archives.



06. Newsletter BY: LYNNE ESSON & SHEILA ZERR

Members: Lynne Esson (chair) Beth Fitzpatrick, Ethel Warbinek, Naomi Miller, Sheila Zerr
Meetings: At the call of the chairperson, few meetings were held and mostly by email.

Committee Activities: Three full issues of the history of nursing newsletter were published in 2014. All issues were guided by Anita Petersen's design and graphics. We thank Julie Lapinsky for her assistance with labels and membership lists. Also thanks to Lenore Radom who works with the printer and facilitates the mailing for those who do not have e-mail and Lynne Esson who sends out the newsletters electronically.

Editors for 2014

- Spring: Enewsletter by Beth Fitzpatrick | Summer: Ethel Warbinek | Fall: Glennis Zilm

Future Plans:

We will continue to issue 3 newsletters per year with the winter issue being replaced by a special membership mailing.



07. Pages of History By: Sheila J. Rankin Zerr, Chair

MEMBERS: Sheila Zerr (chair) Lenore Radom,

Pages to date:

There are 87 pages of history, 80 hard copies and 10 on the web site. An additional 2 web site pages are currently under development. There are three sets of albums. Two are used for History of Nursing Society displays. One set is archival and contains consents. Consent forms have been revised to obtain consent for web site and future digital access.

Recommendations:

- We recommend that we complete the pages of history of our executive members and place them on our web site. Currently, we have 4 executive member pages on the website.
- The web site pages have been slow to catch on but interest is growing so we recommend continuing the project.



08. Scholarship by: KATHY MURPHY, CHAIR

The Spring 2014 Scholarship Award was given to Sandra Hlina, a Masters student at UBC. Her study was "To explain and understand the transition of nursing education from the hospital based education model to the academic model using the biographical framework of Mary Lewis Richmond". There were no Scholarship applications in the Fall.

The Spring 2015 Scholarship Award will be given to Lydia Wytenbroek, a PhD student at York University. Her dissertation examines the role of American missionary nurses in Iranian medical institutions from 1920 to 1960. This study will investigate the transcultural dimensions of international nursing work.



09. Program by: LENORE RADOM

May 17, 2014 a lovely luncheon was held at the Vancouver Lawn Tennis club, which turned out to be our last one under the good care of George Walker. It featured our guest speaker, Margaret Scaia on "Working Professionalism: Working in Calgary & Vancouver in 1958 – 1977" and was enjoyed by 33 guests.

A September workshop directed by Jennifer Stephens on how to navigate social media was cancelled. November 20, 2014 was the 2nd annual Nursing History Symposium Fall event at UBC. It was well attended with two interesting topics. Presenters: Mona Gleason: "the healthy child" & Linda Quiney: her investigation of Canadian women as Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) nurses during and after World War One.

Plans for 2015 are under way for our 25th Anniversary on Sept 20th at Hycroft.

Suggestions:

- We will honour Joan Andrews
- Hear from Nora Whyte who was the first speaker at the inaugural meeting of the History Group
- Glennis Zilm will present "Nursing in the Battlefields"

10. Membership by: JULIE MARIE LAPINSKY



The membership went up slightly from 2013.

2014 Numbers were as follows:

- Honorary Members 6
- Full Members 59
- Affiliate Members 10
- Student Members 3
- Total 7

11. Nominations By: SHEILA OXHOLM

The following Directors were elected for a one-year term ending after Annual General Meeting in 2014

President	<i>Kathy Murphy</i>	Vice President	<i>Vacant</i>
Secretary	<i>Lynne Esson</i>	Treasurer	<i>Sue Forshaw</i>
Membership	<i>Sue Forshaw</i>	Member-at-Large	<i>Nan Martin</i>

12. Parks Canada Nomination by: NAN MARTIN



Ethel Johns (1879 - 1968)

Delighted to report that Ethel Johns, first Director of the UBC School of Nursing, has been honoured by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Parks Canada, as a "Person of National Historic Significance."

A recognition ceremony on February 10, 2015 at Cecil Green Park at UBC was attended by 40 guests. The bronze plaque will likely be mounted in the patient park near the Acute Care Hospital Pavilion, which now houses the UBC School of Nursing. There are plans to renovate the patient park prior to installation of the plaque.

Please check the Blog on our website www.bcnursinghistory.ca for further information and links to a full report and photos of this memorable occasion.

Canada's Military Nurses as a National Historic Event.

Nominated August 2010 by Canadian Association for the History of Nursing with the support of BCHNS. Glennis Zilm wrote the proposal on behalf of CAHN and BCHNS. No further news to date.

13. Website by: LENORE RADOM, CHAIR

Core Members: Beth Fitzpatrick, Jennifer Stephens [Facebook & Twitter], Lenore Radom [Chair].

- Our Maintenance fee has increased to \$966.00
- Fee for additional hours ie biographical files is \$50/hr.
- 2014 Newsletters being added [hasn't appeared yet]
- Blog & Events pages being kept current & added to by Beth & myself.
- Facebook & Twitter have been kept current by Jennifer Stephens
- Training session for Beth & myself being scheduled with Anita for end of April hopefully to add /change photos , and to add pdfs to online exhibits / monuments.[not confirmed yet]
- Page of history sponsored by Michelle Rooney added, as well as Karen Steward
- Jennifer reports that there are 169 Twitter followers & 28 likes for Facebook.
- Anita reports: 16 people that have filled in the 'sign up' section at bottom of menu bar, giving us permission to send notice etc, so we are double protected with this & the statement we have on the membership application form.

14. Memorial Book by: LYNNE ESSON, CHAIR

There were no nominations this year for the Memorial Book. This was due to the CRNBC Memorial Book transition to the ARNBC. This has now been fully moved over with a new submission deadline of October 1, 2015.

Follow up is needed with the CNA regarding submissions for the CAN memorial book, due to administrative changes; there were no submissions this year. If you know of or hear of someone who should be nominated please let the Chair of the Committee know.

15. BC Historical Federation by: NAN MARTIN

The 2014 activities of the Federation include:

- The Federation, in partnership with the Surrey Historical Society, hosted the two day annual conference in historic Cloverdale on June 6th and 7th, 2014. Glennis Zilm and I attended as voting delegates on behalf of our society. Kathy Murphy, Ethel Warbinek and Mary Watt attended on behalf of Vancouver General Hospital, School of Nursing Alumnae Association – Kathy as voting delegate and Ethel and Mary as Alumnae recipients for the 2013 Best Newsletter Award! Congratulations!

The conference was a huge success. The Friday evening Opening reception, held in Surrey's excellent Museum, welcomed historians from throughout BC. Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Judith Guichon, presented the annual book awards at the reception. The AGM on Saturday morning was well attended and the hosts for the 2015 conference invited all members to Journey to the Cariboo to Quesnel (May 21st to 23rd, 2015).

- Publication of their quarterly British Columbia History Magazines and Newsletters. The Newsletters were sent electronically to our President, Kathy Murphy, then forwarded to our on-line members, thus reaching out to more readers. The Newsletter is also available on their excellent website www.bchistory.ca which is well worth viewing.
- The Federation's latest project - B.C. History Online – continues in the creation of an online encyclopedia of British Columbia History.
- Johnson Inc., a corporate member and partner continues to support the Federation with special member rates for Medoc travel insurance and home insurance. As a Member Society, our members are eligible for coverage.

16. Displays by: CHERYL ENTWISTLE, CHAIR

Members: Margaret Saunders assisted by Glennis Zilm, Nan Martin, Catherine Haney, Bruce Holvich. Margaret Saunders has resigned

Over the past year the History of Nursing belongings were dismantled and removed from CRNBC to the School of Nursing. All the display cabinets are now located on the 3rd floor.

Cabinets in the School of Nursing are as follows:

- Cabinet # 1: The large glass display case moved from CRNBC, features a delightful display of Sheila Zerr's Portrait Miniatures, 2 porcelain nursing figures plus a Florence Nightingale figure. It looks terrific and is well recognized by faculty and students. Our hope is it will remain for some time.
- Cabinet # 2: A table was delegated for History of Nursing displays in the Learning Resource Centre. It featured photos, artifacts and information related to Ethel Johns' tenure as head of the UBC School of Nursing. The UBC-owned mannequin displayed a mini-uniform loaned by Ethel Warbinek over the spring and summer.
- The Learning Resource Centre is currently being remodeled thus displays will not be arranged for this area at this time.
- Cabinet # 3: The long glass cabinet, located in the hall across from the School of Nursing Administration Office, is presently honouring Ethel Johns as a successful nominee as a "person of national historic significance" by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Parks Canada.

A meeting of the Display and Archives committees will be held in May to discuss display items in the Archives office. Extra space has been allocated for displays on the 3rd floor of the School of Nursing. This will facilitate the work of this committee. Access to this space allows us to gather display materials into one area, have easy access and keep an up-to-date inventory.

Honoring Nursing Sisters

BY GLENNIS ZILM

Many ceremonies are being held this year to honor Canada's Nursing Sisters, especially those who served in World War 1. The BC History of Nursing Society is fortunate to have a number of Nursing Sisters among its members, including Joan Doree and June Newton, who served overseas in World War II, Nina Rumen, who served with the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps from 1951 to 1974, and Shirley Ridalls, who has helped organize recent events for Vancouver's Memorial Day services. The BCHNS also had close ties with the Nursing Sisters Association of Canada, Vancouver Branch, until it disbanded a few years ago because of the dwindling number of overseas Nursing Sisters from WW2.

The Society has also been active in promoting memorials to honor Canada's Nursing Sisters. One of the first activities was to assist in restoring and maintaining the Nursing Sister (N/S) Window in the Canadian Memorial Church at 15th Avenue and Burrard Street in Vancouver. Working with the N/S Association, the Society established its first note card in 1990 to help raise \$4,400 for the restoration. At that time, Nina Rumen wrote a short news item for *The Canadian Nurse* on the project. The short article below is adapted, with approval of Nina, from that and from additional notes prepared at the time.

The Canadian War Memorial Church was the dream of Army Chaplain Rev. (Lt.-Col.) George D. Fallis, who had officiated at a service to bury 54 Canadian Military personnel, including four Nursing Sisters, who died in the bombing of a military field hospital in Etaples, France. Most of those dead were from British Columbia. While trudging back to the destroyed hospital site, one of the surviving nurses suggested to Rev. Fallis that there should be a memorial chapel erected to honor those who died during the War. Earlier, a soldier had also suggested that the dead deserved a lasting memorial "at home" and not just a row of wooden crosses. Rev. Fallis resolved that, if he survived, he would build just such a chapel as a memorial for peace.

When Rev. Fallis arrived in Vancouver in 1920 he found a congregation already imbued with the same ideas. The Church



wanted to involve Canadians from coast-to-coast and plans went ahead quickly. Specifications involved ten stained glass windows; one for each province and the Territories, as well as a Chancel window and an All-Canada window. The entrance section would house four stained glass windows, depicting a soldier, sailor, airman, and nursing sister. Money for these four windows was raised by the service personnel who had served overseas; the funds for the N/S window were raised by the Vancouver N/S Unit, who asked each Sister across Canada to donate \$2. The chapel was dedicated in November 1928, exactly 10 years after the Armistice was signed ending the War.

That same year, the Montreal Unit proposed a nation-wide Overseas Nursing Sisters' Association of Canada (ONSAC). A planning meeting was held during the International Council of Nurses meeting in Montreal in 1929 and the inaugural meeting of the new national association was held in 1930, with annual dues set at 10 cents a member. At the end of the year, finances were short by \$31 and dues were increased by 50 per cent to 15 cents a member. Even before World War 2 was declared in 1939, the ONSAC executive was raising funds for war work. Following the declaration, among

the first to volunteer for service were its members.

When the Nursing Sisters Association of Canada, Vancouver Branch (the "Overseas" had been dropped in 1944), set out to raise money for repair and restoration of the N/S window in 1990, the members, with the aid of the BCHNS, commissioned a Note Card depicting the window. Once the funds had been raised, monies from the sales went at first to support a NSAC scholarship, then went to support the scholarship funds of the BCHNS.

Now, with the rise of internet communications, note cards sales have dwindled and there are only a few remaining cards for sale. Orders can be placed through the BCHNS website at www.bcnursinghistory.ca.

Journey to the Cariboo

BY GLENNIS ZILM

BC History of Nursing Society was among 23 society members represented at the BC Historical Federation's annual general meeting and conference in Quesnel May 21-14. Nan Martin, who is the Society's official representative to BCHF, and Glennis Zilm were among the 82 delegates to the conference, which was titled "Journey to the Cariboo."

The meeting included a day-long side-trip to historic Barkerville and to Cottonwood, historic pack-train stop on the Cariboo Trail. It also included a brief tour of the former gold-field town of Wells, complete with knowledgeable guides and background history sessions while on the bus. During the visit to Barkerville, Nan and Glennis took part in the tour of the significant (and well-funded) Barker-ville Archives.

Most speakers at the main and concurrent sessions reported on historical research related to the Cariboo Gold Rush years of 1858 to 1868 when the Quesnel-Barkerville area was a significant economic sector of what would eventually become British Columbia. Tours of the Quesnel Museum and Archives were also included, as well as other optional events, such as a movie night showing history documentaries of the region.

Each year at the banquet, the Federation awards the BC Lieutenant-Governor's Medal for Historical Writing, along with money prizes, to the authors of the top three books that make the most significant contributions to the historical literature of British Columbia. The book awards are usually presented by the Federation's Patron, the Lieutenant-Governor of BC; unfortunately this year the Honorable Judith Guichon was unable to attend. Greg Dickson and Mark Forsythe took home the \$2,500 top cheque for *From the West Coast to the Western Front: British Columbians and the Great War* (Harbour Publishing). Awards are also given for best newsletter and best website, prizes that in past years have been received by the BCHNS. An essay scholarships and an award for the best article published in the BCHF's journal *BC History* were also given.

The Historical Federation represents about 300 member historical societies throughout the province, including affiliate and corporate members. Members of each historical society are automatically members of the BCHF and eligible to attend such conferences. Next year's meeting and conference are scheduled for Revelstoke.



Nan Martin (left) and Glennis Zilm with BCHF Past-president Barry Gough. Nan Martin (left) and Glennis Zilm with BCHF Past-president Barry Gough.

NEWS FROM NEPAL FROM GENELLE LIEFSO

Genelle – a long-time member of our group, is in Nepal working with a Canadian Red Cross team in a hospital in the earthquake zone. The Canadian Red Cross is operating a field hospital with an operating theatre.

On June 17, Genelle emailed her experiences: "We are supporting (not replacing) the Rasuwa District Hospital at Dhunche. The location is tiered on a mountain with 5 different levels. Getting to the hospital from town is an amazing "Stairmaster" workout. All ... hospital activities are occurring in tents. And I will be relocating with the other team members to the team tents once our handover is complete. Nepalese hospital staff are also living in tents....right beside the Red Cross delegates.

"If the roads are open, the drive from Kathmandu to Dhunche is 5 hours. One third of the road is subject to landslides, and these were visible when we drove up.... Some of the Red Cross team had to wait 2 hours for the road to be cleared.

The devastation once one leaves Kathmandu is obvious. Of concern is the imminent monsoon season. It is apparently 5 days late....but already the nightly rains are very heavy. For the homeless families, living in tents, it is bound to be an increasingly difficult period.

"Since we are now here, the idea of getting out and coming back to Canada has not really crossed my mind. There are 2 helipads nearby our location, so if it comes to that – well, I expect to be able to get home.

"At our security briefing we were told there have been 20,000 aftershocks of greater than 4 magnitude since the earthquake..., 311 aftershocks also greater than 4. On average there have been 3-6 per day. So far, I haven't felt anything."





Cheryl Entwistle at Community Nurses Week display at Van Duesen Gardens. Photo credit Bruce Holvick

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