

HoN member Joan Doree - Establishes New Bursary for Aspiring Nurses

Joan Doree was born in England in 1919 and moved with her family at the age of six months to Saskatchewan. Many years later, she held two terms on the RNABC Board. Through her involvement in these activities, she became a founding member of the Registered Nurses Foundation of British Columbia (RNFBC) whose mandate is the education and advancement of nurses.

Last year, Joan established the Mabel and Henry Doree Family Memorial Bursary, an annual bursary with RNFBC, to promote the knowledge, skill, and compassion of future nurses. The bursary is close to Joan's heart for a number of significant reasons, which mirror Joan's life and career as a nurse. The bursary was established in memory and in honour of Joan's parents, Mabel and Henry Doree and the Doree Family.

Joan was the second eldest child of a family of four children. Her siblings were Rosa Lillian Silverlock, Emily Isabel May, and Arthur Henry. Interestingly both Rosa and Emily also became nurses. Joan felt it is important that her parents be remembered through the bursary as they invested in her education in nursing during the 1930s worldwide economic



depression. She credits her mother and father for the financial support she received to enter St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing in Saskatoon in 1937. Joan's father cashed in a portion of his life insurance policy to receive the \$100 needed for Joan to attend the school of nursing.

"My father and brother carried all of my worldly possessions in an old family suitcase for two miles, taking turns, from the outskirts of the city to St. Paul's Hospital." At this time, Joan explains there were limited choices for careers for women. Nursing was called "the career of the poor man's daughter." Three years later, Joan graduated from from St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing.

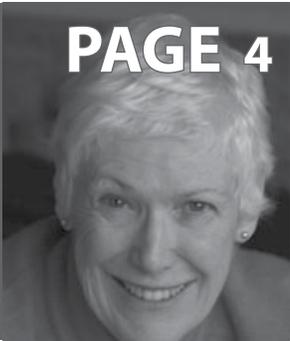
She felt it was important to establish the bursary to ensure an aspiring nurse wishing to complete a degree in nursing have the opportunity to do so despite financial difficulties and the associated costs. She has always been a supporter of advancements in nursing. "Nurses today can now receive a proper education whereas the focus in 1937 for nursing students was staffing the hospital and caring for patients without a focus on the education of the nurse", says Joan. "Hospital nursing schools staffed their hospitals with

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Memories of Life On and Off Duty in a Hospital Training School 1901-1978

Compiled by the Royal Columbian Hospital

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Newsletter Committee

Barbara Bavinton, Beth Fitzpatrick, Naomi Miller,
Ethel Warbinek, Lynne Esson & Beth Fitzpatrick
(co-chairs) and Sheila Zerr

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students and education was secondary. Hospitals and schools of nursing were very undemocratic in attitudes and practice. The biggest problem was the narrowness of nurses' education. It should have exposed students to new ideas and this was not true. It was strictly focused on the needs of the hospital." Students worked seven days a week and sick time was not an option with the exception of adding the missed time. Following graduation Joan worked at Prelate General Hospital, a small hospital in Saskatchewan, and then at St. Michael's Hospital in Lethbridge, Alberta before moving to Vancouver to practice at Vancouver General Hospital. While there, she received a call to go overseas.

From 1944 -1946, Joan served overseas as a Lieutenant Nursing Sister in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps. She nursed at a specialized unit of the Canadian Army, Neurological and Plastic Surgery Hospital and Psychiatric Unit followed by six months at a Canadian military hospital at Taplow, England at the estate of Lady Astor. Following the war, Joan worked for six months at The Canadian Army of Occupation at Oldenburg Germany at #7 Hospital.

Joan returned to Canada in 1946 and enrolled in the public health nursing course at UBC. Following this, she nursed at Shaughnessy Hospital and St. Paul's while returning to UBC and received a BASc(N) in 1949. After completing her degree, Joan worked at the Vancouver City Health Department as a staff nurse and later was promoted to Liaison Nurse and then Supervisor overseeing staff nursing. In 1967, through a Federal Health Training Grant, Joan graduated with a Masters Degree in Public Health Administration from the University of California, Berkeley. She returned to Vancouver as a Supervisor while continuing her work in prevention and public health through the Vancouver City Health Department.

Joan refers to "three lucky breaks" of financial support during the course of her nursing education and advancement in her nursing career. She credits her mother and father for the financial support she received to enter St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing, the Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) credits for helping with the completion of her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. Her third lucky break was a Federal Health Training Grant, the only one of its kind in Canada, to pay her tuition and \$200 per month towards basic living costs to complete her Masters degree.

Joan hopes the first Mabel and Henry Doree Family Memorial Bursary and the ones to follow will be the "lucky break" of financial support needed by nurses committed to nursing and aspiring to complete a nursing degree.

Original article published in the RNFBC Newsletter, 2012-2013 Winter Edition and used with permission.

Joan Doree gave permission to have this article edited and published in the HoN newsletter. She is a long standing member of our group and a great supporter of our work.

President's Message

BY KATHY MURPHY



The wonderful summer weather was enjoyed by many and now the colourful autumn is arriving. Despite the seasonal changes, the work of the BC History of Nursing carries on. A successful summer Planning Session was hosted by Glennis Zilm in July. During the sharing time, we reviewed the 2012 Planning session, heard about the current financial situation from our new Treasurer, Sue Forshaw, were brought up to date about the UBC School of Nursing Consortium for Historical Inquiry by Geertje Boschma, and decided to send additional letters regarding the recognition of Ethel Johns as the Ministers of the Canadian government had been changed.

**"THE WONDERFUL
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AUTUMN IS
ARRIVING."**

After a delicious lunch, priorities for the next few years were identified. These included the Archival space and increasing use of the resources, funding, concerns about membership for retired nurses in the ARNBC, attendance at the UBC Consortium event on Nov. 21/13, use of the blog to promote the society.

Future meetings of the Executive will be held on October 10/13 and December 12/13 at 4 pm at the CRNBC building. Any member is welcome to attend or send concerns through the website

Sincere Thanks to Sheila Oxholm

After 6 challenging years as Treasurer, Sheila has retired from this position. Sheila was a careful steward of our operating budget and investment portfolio and provided detailed information on which to base our decisions. She was a guiding member as the group went through the process to become the BC History of Nursing Society and spent many hours clarifying the implications of this transition with the Canada Revenue Agency. In addition she prepared a Treasurer's Manual for use by future people in this role. Sincere appreciation is extended to Sheila for her many dedicated hours to our group.



Introducing Sue Forshaw, Treasurer

Sue joined the Society following the Annual General Meeting in April, 2013. A graduate of UBC, Sue taught Obstetrics at the St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing and, following the closure of the school, moved to Nursing Administration retiring after 40 years as an SPH employee. She is a Patron and Honorary Member of the BC Registered Nurses Foundation where she was active in the Bursary Program. Currently she is an active member of the University Women's Club of Vancouver and also does many volunteer activities in Lions Bay. We welcome Sue to our Executive.



Editor's Message

BY SHELIA RANKIN ZERR

Again, I am honored to co-edit this newsletter with Catherine Haney. She is a talented, valued member of our B.C. History of Nursing team.

Co-editor Catherine Haney is beginning her second year of doctoral studies in Nursing at UBC. She is supervised by Dr. Geertje Boschma and focuses on nursing history and women's health. She would like to thank Helen Shore and the BC History of Nursing Society for supporting her studies through their scholarships and the members of the society for such generous mentorship.

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NEW Publications by Members



Mary (Razzell) Nicol,

one of the BCHNS long-time members, has another book of fiction, this time a novel for adult audiences: *Dreaming of Horses*. This book, after seven young adult novels, was published by Folklore Publishing of Edmonton, and was released in late August 2013. All are published as Mary Razzell.

Nicol graduated in nursing from St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver, and worked as an RN in Illinois and Vancouver. She began writing in about the 1970s and her poetry, articles, and short stories have

been published and broadcast internationally. Much of her work draws on her knowledge and experiences as a nurse. Her first young adult novel, *Snow Apples*, was published in 1984 and was a finalist for the Canada Council's Children's Literature Award. Other of her novels have been finalist selections for awards such as the Geoffrey Bilson Historical Fiction Award and twice for the Sheila Egoff Children's BC Book Prize.



Scaia, Margaret R., & Young, Lynne.

(2013). *Writing history: Case study of the University of Victoria School of Nursing*.

International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship 10 (1), 1–8. This article examines the introduction of the "caring curriculum" at the University of Victoria and the associated college partners that participated in the collaborative program; it uses a feminist lens related to the second wave of feminism of the late 1970s / early 1980s.

BCHoN Society Member Awards and Honors

Congratulations to:

Geertje Boshma won the UBC Killam Teaching Prize and the American Association for History of Nursing Mary Adelaide Nutting Historical Writing Award.

Irene Goldstone was honored by the B.C. Centre for Excellence for her policy work in HIV/AIDS.

Catherine Haney won the Presentation Award at the 2013 Graduate Nursing Student Association Conference.

Sally Thorne received an honorary doctorate from Queen's University for her renowned nursing research and teaching accomplishments. Thorne also won the 2013 Ethel Johns Award from the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing.

BC HoN Papers Presented at Canadian History of Nursing Conference June 2013

From Prohibited Taboo to Controversial Professional Practice: Historical Perspectives of Canadian Nurses and Their Abortion Work

Catherine Haney, MSN, RN

First year PhD student, University of British Columbia

Supervisor: Dr. Geertje Boschma

In 1969 and in 1988, major amendments were made to the federal Canadian abortion laws. These changes carried significant implications not only for Canadian women seeking abortion services, but also for the practitioners who provided them with the requisite medical and nursing care. Although nurses were, and remain, fundamental providers of abortion care, their historical contributions to and experiences of abortion provision in this country remain largely undocumented and un-analyzed. This study explores the development of clinical abortion work for nurses in Canada within broader historical legal and social contexts. Using historical discourse analysis, I examine the articles, advertisements and letters-to-the editor that appeared in the primary professional journal, *The Canadian Nurse*, before and after abortion's initial legalization in 1969 and eventual decriminalization in 1988 as primary source material. I trace the challenging progression of abortion nursing work from prohibited taboo to controversial professional practice. This research not only adds to the current body of nursing historiography, but also contributes to more nuanced understandings of the discipline in general and broader Canadian medical, political, and social history.

Writing History: Case Study of the University of Victoria School of Nursing

Margaret R. Scaia & Lynne Young

A historical examination of a nursing curriculum is a bridge between past and present from which insights to guide curriculum development can be gleaned. In this paper, we use the case study method to examine how the University of Victoria (UVic SON), which was heavily influenced by the ideology of second wave feminism, contributed to a change in the direction of nursing education from task-orientation to a content and process orientation. This case study, informed by a feminist lens, enabled us to critically examine the introduction of a "revolutionary" caring curriculum at the UVic SON. Our research demonstrates the

fault lines and current debates within which a feminist informed curriculum continues to struggle for legitimacy and cohesion. More work is needed to illuminate the historical basis of these debates and to understand more fully the complex landscape that has constructed the social and historical position of women and nursing in Canadian society today.

Past and Present Oral Histories Examine the Challenges Faced by the Nurse in Canada's North

Pertice Moffitt

Manager, Health Research Program

Aurora Research Institute

Yellowknife Campus, Yellowknife NT

Sheila J. Rankin Zerr

Adjunct Professor School of Nursing

University of British Columbia

#28 1100 56th Street, Delta, B.C. V4M 2N2

This study examines oral histories of the nurses' experiences and challenges in northern Canada. Northern Canada is defined as the northern most part of the provinces, and the three territories, the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Stories of the experience and challenges of the nurses currently serving in the north form the basis of comparison to oral histories recorded by nurses who served in earlier years.

The early experiences and challenges of northern nurses, from the 1920s to the 1990s, are examined using oral histories recordings, many of which are part of the College of Nurses of British Columbia oral history collection. The current experiences and challenges are examined using interviews and recordings of nurses currently working in the Territories.

The findings demonstrate the evolving role of the nurse in northern Canada and how the challenges faced have changed over the years from the 1920s to present day. This research provides the basis for further study into the expanding role of the nurse in northern Canada.

DRESSING UP HISTORY

A NURSING COSTUME PARADE

BY SHELIA RANLIN ZERR

The Canadian Association for the History of Nursing and the Association for the History of Medicine held a joint conference at the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of Victoria May 30 to June 3, 2013. The conference organizing committee invited Sheila Zerr and Glennis Zilm to present a nursing costume parade. The costumes focused on the nursing history of Victoria, British Columbia and Canada and was open to all conference participants and to the Victoria public. The presentation took place May 30th in the Maltwood Gallery of the University of Victoria McPherson Library. The eighteen historical costumes presented were mainly from Sheila Zerr's personal collection. Glennis Zilm authored the script and served as the parade moderator. Dr. Margaret Scaia, as chair of the conference organizing committee, made the arrangement for the costume parade and recruited six models from the University of Victoria Nursing Faculty. Sheila Zerr served as a model and recruited models from her family and from members of her Royal Jubilee Hospital graduating class. Other models included Dr Cheryl Warsh from the Vancouver Island University Faculty of History along with one of her students, An eighty-two year old nurse, who is the mother of the acting Director of the University of Victoria School of Nursing, modeled the WWII nursing field uniform. The following pictures give a glimpse of the costume parade and the some of the models who "walked the plank".



Glennis Zilm, moderator and model Sandy Stone as Amelia Douglas



Model Irene Milton as Mary Cridge



Model Cheryl Warsh as Florence Nightingale



L to R Models : Madeline Walker as Res Cross WWI. Beth Rogers as 1910 Nursing Administrator. Olga Petrovskaya as Victorian Order of Nurses 1920s. Margaret Scaia in Royal Jubilee Hospital 1905 Wlaking Out Uniform. Nadine Stone as 1940s Vancouver General Graduate Nurse



Pertice Moffitt in her Northern Nursing winter gear



Ann Bruce as 1970s Nursing Instructor with her mother Sophie Bruce in WWII Field Uniform

NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS

Congratulations, Dr. Scaia!

Long-time BCHNS member Margaret Scaia has successfully defended her dissertation for her doctor of philosophy in Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Victoria. Her research on Working Professionalism: Nursing in Western Canada 1958-1977 involved oral history interviews with 37 nurses who graduated during that period and had long-time nursing careers.

Her study challenges some prevailing assessments of nurses and nursing of that period and she argues, based on her research, "that nurses skillfully balanced work and other social responsibilities, primarily domestic care-giving, and also were active in unionization and professionalization in advance of other Canadian women workers." She proposes that nurses' abilities "to maintain a prominent position in health care, to advocate for the conditions needed to provide the best nursing care possible, while also fighting for improved working conditions and higher professional status provide an impressive story of how women in these decades used gender, and class, as tools to enact social change."

Scaia suggests that these "efforts are all the more impressive when considered within the context of social opposition faced by nurses as they both resisted and conformed to expectations that their primary role was as wives and mothers." She found that nurses negotiated these challenges from both "practical necessity" and "gendered suitability" to a caring, professional careers. As she concludes in her abstract, her position is that nursing and nursing education of the period "exemplifies [all] employed women's struggles to promote fairer wages, better working conditions, and access to the full benefits of economic and social citizenship for all women" – often in advance of other women's groups. Her work is not only informative to nursing and health care history but also to labor and women's history research.

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

Sarah C. Cook of Langley BC is a graduate student in MSN program at Trinity Western University. She is doing a directed study course with Dr. Sonya Grypma in the fall on Historical Nursing Research Methods. My overreaching area of interest is in nurses historical role in health care provision for aboriginal people, focusing on B.C. I would like to discover the historical context of nursing in the different eras with aboriginal people. I also have a special interest to researching nurses in Bella Bella as my great grandma and her two sisters trained and nursed in this community in the 1930s.

Melissa Suzuki of Langley is working as the Clinical Nurse Educator for Child, Youth, and Young Adult Mental Health & Substance Use in the Fraser Health Authority. I am clinical supervisor of the nursing and youth care counseling staff at Adolescent Psychiatry in Surrey Mental Health, as well as involved in meeting learning needs of other programs that care for children and youth with mental health concerns. My work experience includes being a nurse at Adolescent Psychiatry and nurse clinician at Child and Youth Mental Health.

I am originally from a farm in Alberta, but moved to Langley to start my nursing career. I graduated from TWU Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in 2007, and started the MSN program in 2010. If all goes well, I will graduate in 2013. In my personal life, I enjoy hiking and baking, especially making wedding cakes. Currently she is editing her thesis work which is on the work of Josephine Kilburn, a leader of the Child Guidance Clinic in the 1930s and 1940s and educator in the public health nursing program at UBC at the same time. I can see parts of myself in who she was, and hope to hold the lessons I have learned from her about leadership and education in my own practice.

SAVE THE DATE!

**2013 Marion Woodward Lecture:
November 7, 2013:
7-8 pm with reception to follow at UBC**

Robson Square. Dr. Josephine Etowa presents: "Strengthening Leadership in Community Health Nursing and Collaborative Partnerships." Dr. Etowa is Associate Professor and Loyer DaSilva Research Chair in Public Health Nursing in the School of Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa.

Anna's Story

BY MARJORY RALSTON

This article was to be the description of a glass and metal hypodermic syringe but the underlying history of the owner became the compelling narrative. It is a very Canadian saga about the journey of a family from the USSR during the 1920's to find a new life in a new land. This story is about Anna, the mother of the family and her traditional role in her community.

Both Anna and her husband, David, were born in Mennonite communities in the late 1800's within what was then the Imperial Russia Empire. At this time there were over 2 million ethnic Germans settled across Russia. There were many Mennonite communities in Northern Europe from South Eastern Russia to the Baltic States. From the 13th century, the German Hanseatic League, which traded from Russia to the Baltic and beyond, led to German communities living in foreign lands. Territorial and trading disputes resulted in constantly changing national borders. After the rise of Protestantism, many German-speaking people outside German borders followed Mennonite teachings. They set up new communities across Russia and Northern Europe in territories where they could live in peace.

Anna met David, a school-teacher, in 1914. They married the same year and continued to work in a Mennonite community. Family history places them deep in the Russian empire in a district called Orenburg between the Ural Mountains and the Caspian Sea. Anna was already established as a midwife in her own community. She was following family and Mennonite traditions of healing and midwifery. Her mother, Susana, was also a midwife or in German a Hebaume. Before her marriage, Anna had also taken further education in current midwifery practice. This education was becoming increasingly available across the Continent.

Anna's happy marriage was disrupted by the First World War. On the advent of the Russian Revolution in 1916 life became harsh and turbulent. As members of a different ethnic group there were often special hardships. David was not allowed to teach and was sent from his family to a distant forestry service. Anna, ever resilient, packed all their worldly goods in sleighs and with her infant son journeyed to her parent's farm near Donskoj. There she practiced midwifery again, working with her mother in a community where homebirths with the Hebaume was common practice. Even though it was a difficult and rigorous life Anna was able to support her family. Eventually David was allowed to teach again by order of one of the ever changing temporary governments. In the early 1920's the family struggled to survive through power and ideological battles as the USSR endeavoured to establish a stable leadership.

In 1924 there was a famine and, to survive, the family became farmers in Kamenko. By 1926 they had finally managed to get both funds and authorisation for passage to Canada. With their three sons, David, 10yrs, Herbert, 5yrs and 1 year old

Waldemar, they made the long journey across Russia and Northern Europe to the Baltic port of Riga. They travelled on Russian passports and at Riga obtained Transit Visas for Canada. They are stamped by the Canadian Pacific Empress Line and the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. From Riga they sailed to the port of London. David and the two older sons sailed to Quebec in May 1926 and travelled on to a Mennonite community near Winnipeg. Anna was delayed for four weeks with an eye infection but sailed to Canada with baby Waldemar on the Empress of France and arrived in Quebec on June 5th 1926 to join the family again in Manitoba.

Finally the family were together in Canada to start a new life in Mennonite Communities. As a qualified midwife Anna was particularly welcomed by the expectant mothers. The tradition of home births was common practice in Canada at that time especially in country areas and religious communities. Over the coming years the family lived in Manitoba and Alberta and then settled in British Columbia. Anna continued to practice as a much respected midwife in Mennonite communities until the 1940's. She probably worked closely with the local doctors. Expectant mothers would book Anna to attend them during the delivery and perinatal period. It was usual for the midwife to live in with the family and attend to many duties related to care of the mother and infant. During this period a close bond of friendship was often established. Anna would deliver the babies independently unless there were complications and the doctor would then attend. According to family history and as evidenced by the scarifier in the hypodermic syringe box, Anna also administered smallpox vaccinations. Infants of about 1 year old were given this vaccination until about 1970. She also administered Diphtheria inoculations. Diphtheria was a major cause of infant and child death and the advent of inoculation in the 1920's reduced deaths dramatically. It is not clear whether Anna could administer analgesics. By the late 1940's many babies were delivered in hospitals or at home with a doctor in attendance. Legislation related to nursing practice continued to change and Anna's practice diminished.

Anna had a long career on two continents following her traditional vocation. With her husband David, raised a family of five children and carried on with her career when she could. Their daughters Ann and Margaret were born in Canada. She had a long and busy life and lived to see her family thrive. Anna died at 87 years of age in 1977.

Permission to write Anna's story was given by Hanna Guenther and her family.

BOOK REVIEW

BY HELEN SHORE

A Call to Nurse: Memories of Life On and Off Duty In a Hospital Training School 1901-1978

Compiled by: The Royal Columbian Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Book Committee. Distributed through: RCH Auxiliary Gift Shop

This book is an accomplishment for the alumnae group who has collected stories, illustrations, and history to illuminate their memories of their nursing school experience. The stories have been skillfully dropped into a larger context of history and community and growth.

A book written by a committee is pretty hard to imagine. In order for it to be successful it needed strong resolve and steady leadership. It is somewhat akin to herding cats. Undaunted to the end, and/or passing through stages of hope and despair, publishing has been accomplished and much, much more. This book is a serious reporting of the history of a small community hospital's early beginnings and its growth over the years to later become a regional trauma centre. The story highlights young women who have entered a hospital school of nursing and who have been transformed by their education and experience, the drama, and tribulations, and the humdrum of routine into responsible professional nurses. It is a story eternal and personal, factual and nostalgic.

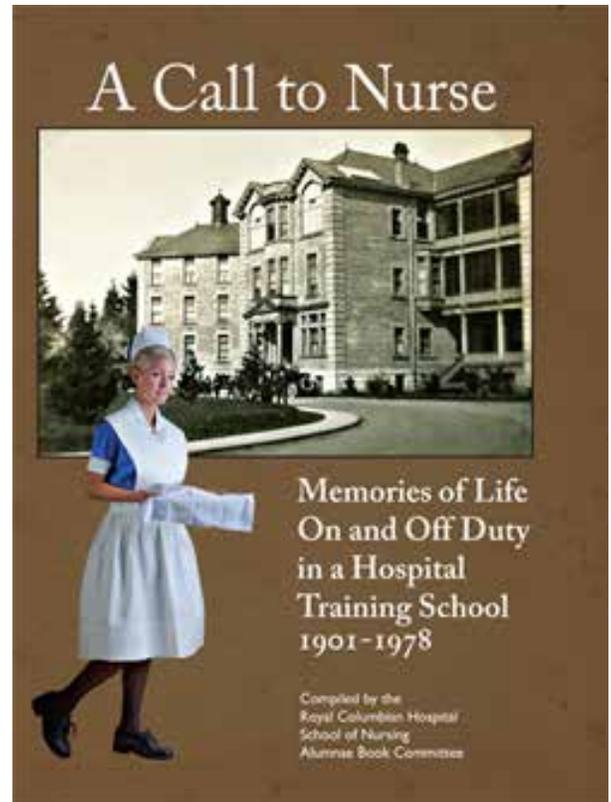
History buffs will enjoy seeing the early days of New Westminster in illustrations and text depicting the growth and historic impact of the region.

We are taken back sixty years before this class graduated and shown their lives and times. The memories of the student nurses are rich with details showing lecture notes, letters to families at home sharing the good and the bad, cartoons depicting nurse dilemmas, and nursing in the wards. Nurses, patients, families, historians and citizens will find something interesting and novel in this book.

I found this book delightful in so many ways. Many were personal reflections and memories. Other thoughts came from a wider perspective. I remembered New Westminster as "the Royal City" and its legacy to the history of a province. I was a hospital school of nursing graduate in my early days and I was transported to my earlier much younger self. I was a nursing arts instructor at the Royal Columbian Hospital School of Nursing for ten years in the 1950s. As a result I was again transported to the classrooms and corridors where I had spent so many hours. I found such rich detail in the context of the story and in the depiction of student nurses' lives that happily became mixed with my own fond memories. They were good times and became a foundation for all of us in later life.

Many congratulations are due to the Alumnae Book Committee for achieving their very worthwhile goal and to their leadership group for its strength in showing the way through to publication and distribution. I understand that the first edition has been sold out.

For readers wishing to obtain a copy of the second edition, please contact The Royal Columbian Hospital Auxiliary Gift Shop: 330 East Columbia Street, New Westminster; Phone: 604.520.4253. The cost of the book is \$45.00.



Langley Museum Exhibit

The BC History of Nursing Society contributed to the display of nursing costumes at the Langley Centennial Museum "From Bedpans to Bandages: The History of Medicine in Langley" July 16 to September 8. The uniforms shown, Mrs. Miller, Northwest Rebellion by G. Zilm, 1905 Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital Walking Out Uniform S. Zerr, 1918 Vancouver General Hospital Student K. Murphy and VGH School of Nursing Alumnae. *Photo by K. Murphy.*



ARNBC Membership

The Association of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (ARNBC) is a professional organization that provides a voice for Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners in the development of health, nursing and public policy that advances the health of British Columbians. It was launched in May 2010 and incorporated under the B.C. Society Act in July 2010. (From the ARNBC Website)

In August Jennifer Stephens wrote to ARNBC on behalf of the History of Nursing Society to ask for clarification of their membership criteria. She queried:

"As many members of the BC History of Nursing Society are retired nurses, we wonder: Does a retired/non-practicing membership in the CRNBC constitute an automatic membership in the ARNBC? If a retired nurse is not paying for her non-practicing membership in the CRNBC, can this person still be considered a member of the ARNBC?"

The response she received was quite helpful. Alix of ARNBC wrote:

- *"Active members of ARNBC include both practicing and non-practicing nurses who are registered with CRNBC.*
- *A retired nurse who no longer maintains a registration with CRNBC is eligible to be an Associate member. We have not yet determined what the annual fee will be for Associate members.*
- *In the meantime, retired nurses are welcome to participate in our activities, sign up for the distribution list and attend events such as the AGM. We also have this page that you can have a look at that has some ideas for how to get involved, <http://www.arnbc.ca/network-leads/arnbc-network-leads.php>*
- *In the case of any ambiguity or doubt as to whether a Person is eligible, such ambiguity or doubt will be resolved by the Directors and their decision will be final and binding."*

Thanks to Jennifer for taking the time to connect with ARNBC. For more information you may wish to email ARNBC at admin@arnbc.ca or phone them at: 604-737-1304.

Messages from Members

On June 17th, I defended my PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Victoria. My research focused on the experiences of women who entered nursing between 1958 and 1977 in Calgary and Vancouver and included, in Vancouver, former students of St. Paul's, UBC, The Royal Columbian, Vancouver General Hospital, and in Calgary, The Holy Cross, The Foothills Hospital, and the Calgary General Hospital. In my dissertation I argue that in this time period, nursing offered a rare opportunity for young single women to obtain an advanced education, career opportunities, to partake in the rising power of unionism, to make a meaningful contribution to society outside their dominant role as wives and mothers, and to develop life-long friendships that other young women did not have the opportunity to form. These arguments contradict the portrayal of nursing as a gendered default occupation for women of low social status.

My special thanks go to the women from these schools of nursing who shared their experiences of becoming a nurse in this influential period of change for women. Also, thank you to my external examiner Dr. Sonya Grypma, my committee members Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis, Dr. Lynne Marks, and Dr. Annalee Lepp as well as my former masters supervisor Dr. Geertje Boschma for her mentoring and encouragement. Special thanks to Dr. Glennis Zilm, Ethel Warbinek, and Sheila Rankin Zerr for their scholarship and wisdom over what felt like a very long time. Finally, thank you to the BC History of Nursing Society for financial support and for access to primary and secondary resources for my study which were so valuable and demonstrate the value of preserving documents related to the history of nursing in BC.

Margaret Scaia

2012 Donations to the Society

A special thank you to the following who so generously made donations to the Society in 2012

- Lisa Adams
- Barbara Bavinton
- Laura Davidson
- Beverly Du Gas
- Connie Evans
- Marilyn Gilbert
- Beth Fitzpatrick
- Sharron Higgins
- Sandra Hilina
- Priscilla Lockwood
- Jessie Middleton
- Naomi Miller
- Kathy Murphy
- Sheila Oxholm
- Lenore Radom
- Shirley Ridalls
- Harriet Sloan
- Verna Splane
- Karen Steward
- Glennis Zilm

UBC CONSORTIUM FOR HISTORICAL INQUIRY IN NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

Recently the School of Nursing at UBC has established a Consortium for Historical Inquiry in Nursing and Health Care with generous support from patron and Associate Professor Emerita Helen Shore. The consortium, led by faculty member Dr. Geertje Boschma, aims to bring together students, faculty, members from the UBC scholarly community, such as the UBC library, as well as members from the wider community to support the development of knowledge and resources in nursing and health care history. The initiative is supported by a steering committee of faculty members, an advisory committee, and involves students in its work. A first annual nursing history symposium will be held on November 21, 2013. Other activities include a speaker series, partnership initiatives in nursing history, including a digital oral history collection on public health, visiting scholarships, and student projects.

Please join the Consortium for an exciting Symposium on November 21 from 10:00 until 2:00 at UBC with talks from Dr. Sonya Grypma, Dr. Laurie Meijer Drees, and Dr. Geertje Boschma. There will also be a poster competition and presentations by students. Registration is \$20.00 or \$10.00 for students and retirees and can be completed online.

For further information visit the Consortium blog at blogs.ubc.ca/nursinghistory or e-mail nursinghistory@nursing.ubc.ca

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