

HoN

HISTORY OF NURSING NEWS

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remembering *Faye* *a family tribute*

"When I was born Faye was there to greet me. Besides by mom and dad, Faye was my favourite to hold me. As I got older Faye's visits were always special. We would make crafts, blow up balloons, take road trips, play dolls and play lego. When Faye didn't come for visits very often I felt like know one could understand me. When I found out Faye had cancer it broke my heart. I cried for weeks just thinking about her. When I went out to see her I had the time of my life. I didn't know it would be my last time to see her. I couldn't get it through my head Faye wasn't the same anymore. When she passed every one would say 'I'm so sorry' but that made it even worse. Faye was not only a great aunt to me she was my best friend. I miss you Faye."

This letter was written by Laura Fullerton, age 9, about her Great Aunt Faye. Those involved with the History of Nursing will know Faye as a great organizer, problem-solver, mediator, skilled nurse and manager. For those of us fortunate to have her as part of our family, we know her to be all of those plus compassionate, caring and loving.

continued on page 2

FAYE WAS BORN IN NOVEMBER OF 1938 TO AMY AND ANDREW MEUSER. ALONG WITH A SISTER HELEN AND A BROTHER GLEN THEY WERE RAISED ON A SMALL FARM IN MID-WESTERN ONTARIO NEAR THE LAKE HURON SHORELINE.

I asked Faye once why she became a nurse and she told me that she always liked going to the barn and figuring out what was wrong with a sick animal. She would look in their eyes and at their feet and decided she could become a nurse. Faye's father, Andrew, was on the building committee for the local Southampton Hospital and learned that nurses were being accepted out of grade 12 and encouraged Faye to start and therefore get working as soon as she could. Faye considered this seriously, but decided it would be best if she took her grade 13 as it would give her more options in the future for further university studies. Faye went off to nursing school and eventually off to University and then returned again to get her Masters of Nursing. Helen left the farm also, became a hairdresser, married and now lives in California. Glen stayed at home, married, took over the family farm and had four children. We lived on the farm next to Grandma and Grandpa and since Helen and Faye had no children, my brother Norman, two sisters Diane and Mary, and I always felt doted on by our aunts, whenever they came home to visit.

Faye decided that when each of us, her 3 nieces and 1 nephew, turned 15 years old, that she would have us to visit her in Vancouver. When I visited with my husband in about 1993, one of our stops to tour was St. Paul's hospital. Faye was so proud of the hospital and took us to every nook and cranny and introduced us to everyone. Later, in 2004, I brought my children, Laura 7 years old and Faith 5 years old to Vancouver and Faye again marched us all over the hospital and introduced the children to all her colleagues.

Faye was always a part of my life. As I started a career in the health services and proceeded into management positions, we had a common connection in dealing with difficult staff, time management and the pressure of it all. As I married and set up house, our interests seemed to continue to be so similar. I remember one Christmas she was home and stayed with us in our first little house. A storm came up in the night and blew all the next day which snowed us into the house. Realizing we were snowed in, I decided that we would begin a quilt I had been wanting to do and what a wonderful day together we had, cutting blocks, planning the layout and visiting. That day as the snow subsided, it was decided that we would be having company for supper so we busily worked together in the kitchen to get a meal together for everyone and that was the beginning of many sessions in the kitchen.

In the spring of 2000 Faye's mother had a stroke and Faye came home to sort everything out. She moved Grandma into a nursing home and cleaned out her condominium, and then Faye came to live with my family as she continued to settle Grandma into her new place. At the time my daughter Laura was 3 years old and Faith was just one. Faye became truly a part of our family and to the children, Faye was the craft lady, the story lady, the one to have tea with and conversation with. She got down on their level and played with them for hours. She had an answer for any question. Being a nurse she could explain all their body parts, the proper names and what they were used for. She could pretend bandage them with scarves and could play doctor and nurse for hours. She's been caught more than once "dressed up" with the children parading around outside and down the street.

We were so proud of Faye when she retired from work at St. Paul's. We knew that she worked long days and lots of weekends and were glad that she was finally taking some time for herself. She returned to the hospital for some contract jobs and she joined the St. Paul's Archives and History of Nursing organization. She was not going to be idle, and she did not want to get out of the "loop of information".

In September 2005 Faye was home to Ontario for a couple of weeks and not feeling well. Upon returning home she continued to get worse until October 20th when she had to have emergency surgery for a bowel blockage. That surgery revealed that Faye's abdominal cavity was full of cancerous growths and her prognosis was very poor. It was a tremendous shock to her family in Ontario. Several of us came to Vancouver to visit her over the next 20 months and she managed to come home two more times. She helped me to plan her entire memorial service, buy her headstone, and organize details of her ultimate death. I truly admired her strength, her courage, and her openness.

Her family will forever be grateful to her friend Sheila Oxholm. Sheila was the one constant presence in her life. She ensured her dignity and pride was maintained to the very end and beyond. When her family could not be there, we were reassured by Sheila and comforted to know that she was handling everything.

My children talk about Faye everyday. She is very much a part of us and her things are now everywhere in our home. She touched the lives of so many people and it is so hard to believe that she is not with us anymore. I hope the special place in heaven where nurses go was already well organized so that she could sit and have some peace and relaxation!

SUBMITTED BY
GAIL FULLERTON, LAURA'S MOTHER AND FAYE'S ELDEST NIECE.

(Ed's note: Faye was treasurer of our HoN group and later, chaired the biographical committee. She will be sorely missed by all of us. Faye died peacefully on June 20, 2007)



Faye and her sister Helen



From the editor

ETHEL WARBINEK



THIS ISSUE OF HISTORY OF NURSING NEWS, FEATURES A TOUCHING FAMILY RECOLLECTION OF FAYE MEUSER, WRITTEN BY HER NIECE, GAIL. FAYE DIED EARLIER THIS YEAR FROM CANCER. DURING HER TREATMENT, SHE REMAINED ACTIVE IN HER ROLE AS TREASURER AND FOR THE PAST YEAR, AS CHAIR OF THE BIOGRAPHICAL COMMITTEE. FAYE WAS AN INSPIRATION TO ALL OF US AS SHE BRAVELY FACED HER ILLNESS WITH HOPE, OPENNESS AND A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

It is always a pleasure to receive articles from nurses such as Jane Slingsly, who wrote the article on the History of the Eye Bank and the submission by Eva Clegg, History of Occupational Health Nursing in British Columbia.

We always look forward to receiving submissions by Naomi Miller, a frequent contributor to our newsletter. See her book report on Labour of Love: a memoir of Gertrude Ladner 1879-1976.

An article of interest is Alice Wright's Infant Feeders Online by Glennis Zilm with accompanying photographs. Remember to visit the UBC web site to view the online display.

Mark your calendar - November 17th at 1200 for our Fall Luncheon at the Vancouver Lawn and Tennis Club. You won't want to miss hearing about the preservation of Nursing Military Uniforms & Memorabilia by speaker, Adrian French. See the announcement in the newsletter.

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editorial board

Lois Blas, Diana Bright, Lynne Esson, Beth Fitzpatrick (Chair) Naomi Miller, Ethel Warbinek, Sheila Zerr

The HoN Newsletter is published 4 times per year. Submissions are welcome! Winter issue: Deadline for submissions is November 15th. Please submit articles to Beth Fitzpatrick | E-mail Address bethfitz32@shaw.ca

president's message



SHEILA
RANKIN ZERR

AS MEMBERS OF THE B.C. HISTORY OF NURSING GROUP WE HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN OUR LINKAGES WITH OTHER HISTORICAL BODIES. THOSE ATTENDING THE JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF NURSING (CAHN) AND THE CANADIAN SOCIETY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE (CSHM) IN SASKATOON MAY 31 TO JUNE 2, 2007 ENJOYED NUMEROUS OCCASIONS TO MINGLE AND NETWORK WITH FELLOW MEDICAL HISTORIANS.

The program combined guest lecturers, paper presentations and social activities. Of special interest was a new book launch session with presentation of books published in the past year by nurses and medical historians. Nurse historians presented approximately one third of the conference papers. They also presented a good portion of the new books launched in 2006. B.C. History of Nursing members presented the following papers at the conference.

1. Family visitation in the Post-Anesthetic Recovery Room 1960-1990 – Nerissa Bonifacio and Geertje Boschma. UBC
2. Making Gertrude's Story Public – Glennis Zilm and Sheila Zerr. UBC

The CAHN business session and Annual General Meeting outlined goals set for 2007-2008. CAHN is planning to hold an International Conference devoted to Nursing History Research in Toronto next year, June 5-7, 2008. This conference will be co-sponsored by the major nursing history centres in Toronto. Watch for further details in the coming History of Nursing News.

The 2007 CAHN Hannah Lecture was given by Dr. M.K. Lux of Brock University and was entitled Segregated and Isolated: Institutional Care for Aboriginal People in Post-World War II Canada. This paper provoked conference participants to examine many weak and failed areas of our health care system.

The University of Saskatchewan and the city of Saskatoon rolled out the welcome mat and conference participants were welcomed everywhere in the city. Those attending the paper sessions and the social events came away feeling they had truly been a part of a community of historical colleagues.

The Women's History Network of British Columbia offers another opportunity to share historical interests with those interested in women's history. This conference will meet Friday evening October 12, 2007 at the historic Roedde House Museum then on October 13, 2007 at St. Paul's Hospital Providence Healthcare Learning Centre. B.C. History of Nursing Group members will present three of the conference papers.

For further information check
www.members.shaw.ca/whnbc

the WEB get connected!

Learn about the immigration experience in Western Canada by browsing 15,000 digitalized items, including texts, photos, videos, and audio recordings of the University of Manitoba Archives at
umanitoba.ca/libraries/archives/prairie_immigration

Special Website of Rescued Photos | www.historicphotos.ca

Can you believe a group of 1000 photos, taken by Cyril Littlebury, 1895 – 1940, was on its way to the City Dump! They were rescued and put together by Dudley Booth.



member news

SEND US YOUR NEWS ...
WE'D LOVE TO INCLUDE
YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN
THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

GEERTJE BOSCHMA

Geertje is the new president of CAHN – congratulations. She also received a \$16,770 grant from Associated Medical Association – Hannah Conference for a project titled Borders, boundaries & political context in nursing and health care history

GEERTJE BOSCHMA & SHEILA RANKIN ZERR

Sheila and Geertje are presenting papers at the Women's History Network of BC (WHN/BC) Conference Oct 12-13-2007

"Family visitation & post-anesthetic recovery room nurses in B.C., 1960-1980." Presenters: Nerrisa Bonifacio and Geertje Boschma

"Visualizing Nursing in B.C.: Issues Involved in Selecting Images for a Photographic History." Presenters: Linda Quiney and Geertje Boschma

"Royal Jubilee Hospital Heritage Sites Preserve Healthcare and Women's History." Presenter: Sheila J. Rankin Zerr

BARBARA OWEN

Barbara was the guiding force behind a year long project to build a beautiful garden: The Pemberton Chapel Garden at Royal Jubilee Hospital. The garden is for those who wish to find a corner of peace in the busy hospital complex. This is only one of the projects undertaken by the RJH Nursing

Alumnae who have raised close to \$1 million. Projects include spearheading the restoration of the historic Pemberton Chapel, completed in 2003 and construction of an alumnae archive and museum which opened this year in the chapel's lower level. Congratulations!

(source: Jeff Bell, Times Colonist, Monday July 30, 2007, C1)

DR. BEVERLY LEIPERT

The Editorial Board regretfully received Bev's resignation. She is currently Chair, Rural Women's Health Research, at the University of Western Ontario and is busy conducting research projects, writing research proposals, preparing publications and working with students.

Bev writes: "Regarding my research, I am working on several projects at the moment. One project is exploring older (65 and older) rural women's health promotion needs and resources using the photo voice method. In this method, the women are each provided with a disposable camera and asked to take pictures of people/things/buildings/hobbies/locations that help them stay healthy and don't help them stay healthy. I develop these pictures and they are then the basis of focus groups with the women to discuss the meaning of their pictures, why they took them, what other participants feel about the pictures, what pictures they would like to have taken but couldn't and why. It's a wonderfully enjoyable, informative, and empowering method, and a method that is quite new and that was developed for research with rural women. So I'm having fun with that.

Another project that I'm conducting is exploring rural women's needs, issues, and solutions regarding pharmacotherapy in rural

communities. Our interviews with rural women in Southern Ontario have revealed some very interesting information. We are now hoping to conduct a province wide study, preparatory to implementing a national study."

For further information on rural Women's Health Research visit:

www.schulich.uwo.ca/ruralwomenshealth

KARI MOORE

Kari is the 2007 recipient of the Valued Elder Recognition Award (VERA). This award, by the Centre of Aging, University of Victoria, recognizes and values individuals who, over their lifetime, have given exemplary service in helping others. Kari will be honoured on October 1, 2007 in Victoria. As well, a tree will be planted in her honour and her name engraved on a plaque at the Centre on Aging.

Kari has been said to be the "heart and soul of the local Ukrainian community". She is president of the Ukrainian Business and Professional Association in Victoria and plays a leading role in community life, including fundraising, celebrations, and the preservation of Ukrainian customs. Kari was the driving force behind the fundraising drive to establish a Ukrainian Studies Endowment at UVic, and has facilitated educational programs for the Ukrainian Congress in Victoria. She also assisted in organizing an exhibit on the internment of Ukrainians during WW1 at the Royal BC Museum. For 11 years, she was a Senior Citizen Counsellor and helped numerous seniors. (source: VERA Tea Program, June 5, 2007)



HISTORY OF

Occupational Health and Nursing in British Columbia

SELECTED SNIPPETS FROM MINUTES IN THE 60s

COMPILED BY EVA CLEGG, MAY 2007

- The earliest minutes dated November 21, 1961 were submitted by Virginia Hedges, secretary. Nine members of the Occupational Nurses Group met in the RNABC building to hear George Kenwood, Executive Director of the BC Division of Mental Health. A Xmas party was cancelled due to a poor response.
- March 20, 1962 – 15 members attended. The Occupational Health Conference will be held May 26 at the Oakridge Auditorium; the Honorable Eric Martin will be chairman. Registration and luncheon will cost \$4.20.
- September 18, 1962 – The OH nurses met at Carling Brewery and were guided on a 'very interesting tour' of the brewery. Mrs. Lane attended a conference in Portland; the 3 themes were 1) women employees, 2) Personnel and medical departments working together, and 3) Alcoholism in Industry.
- June 18, 1962 – Dues are \$2.00 per year, due and payable in September.
- January 21, 1964 – 27 nurses present. Dr. Harry Fahrni, guest speaker, provided some very interesting information on the cause of back disability and a novel approach to treatment of same. The resignation of the president was received; she is leaving to be married in March.
- June 15, 1965 – A box picnic supper and meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Phyllis Walker; 17 members were present. The treasurer reports a balance of \$114.30.
- September 22, 1962 – Miss E. Hood presented data compiled from 34 returned questionnaires. Minimum and maximum monthly salaries by type of industry: Department stores: \$368/\$425 Hospitals: \$413/\$515 Plant (Clerical): \$355/\$596 Public Utilities: \$410/\$547.
- November 8, 1966 – The question of having an Occupational Health Nurses convention or Education day was discussed. It was decided that it would be wise to plan this in conjunction with the Occupational Health Doctors. Two members were to make inquiries.
- February 14, 1967 – After reviewing questionnaires it was decided that an 'all day' session for Education is suitable; April 29th at the Airport Inn was chosen. A \$2.00 registration fee will be charged and it was decided that \$25.00 for room rental was acceptable. Mrs. Phyllis Walker and Miss Norma Keyes agreed to act on a committee to formulate guidelines for the group such as 'qualifications for membership in' and 'objectives of'.
- May 9, 1967 – AGM dinner meeting at Coach House Motor Inn at 6:30 PM. Since there was such a good turnout at the Education Day (34 members), it was decided to elect a new slate of officers for the 1967-68 season. Miss Irene Courtenay, the National Occupational Health Consultant was a guest in attendance.
- September 12, 1967 – The regular meeting of the OHN Group was at the home of Miss Anne Mussallem in Haney. 23 members met at 6:30 PM to enjoy a corn and wiener roast graciously served by the hostess and her father. Treasurer's balance is \$112.56. After adjournment the members proceeded to the Haney Correctional Institute for a very interesting tour by the warden.
- November 14, 1967 – Dr. G.A.Mott, Deputy Minister of Health spoke on 'Immunization Today'.
- September 10, 1968 – Special guest Mr. Joe Leins, Supervisor of Nursing for the 2 residences of the Narcotic Addiction Foundation of BC, spoke on contemporary drug abuses and some treatment methods.

- March 12, 1969 – The highlight of the past year was the visit in April of Miss Irene Courtenay, Nursing Consultant, Occupational Health Division, Department of National Health and Welfare who spoke on 'Occupational Health Nursing Programs and Absenteeism Rates'. Under the sponsorship of the OHN group, Mrs. Bea Lane is conducting 6 weekly classes at the RNABC building to prepare 8 nurses for their Industrial First Aid certificates. She also plans First Aid refresher courses twice a year for nurses who plan to take the WCB examination. Average attendance has been 32 members, a gain of almost 50% since the previous year.
- November 18, 1969 – Dr. Lederman, the tentative guest speaker for the February meeting has requested that the individual nurses propose a specific problem as a question dealing with the medico-legal aspects of their work. He felt generalizations would not be too helpful to the group. UBC has been approached about an April seminar; they would be happy to set up a program suitable to the group. The registration fee would probably be around \$10. Topics and speakers were discussed but no decisions made. Coffee was served. A discussion period followed on the feasibility of a project utilizing workers from the Mental Health Center working more directly in Industrial settings. Bank balance \$114.39.

Virtual CNA Memorial Book *available in 2008*

In 2008, CNA will launch a virtual memorial book on its website that will replace the existing paper version. As a result, the book will be available to nurses and the public around the world. The current nomination and selection process will not change and CNA will continue to publicly recognize nursing leaders at biennial meetings. To date, 126 names have been accepted for inclusion in the book, which is on display at CNA House in Ottawa.
(source: CN (May, 2007))

History of the Eye Bank

JANE SLINGSBY RN, BSN

EDUCATOR FOR THE EYE BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Blindness from corneal scars and infection has been documented since 2000 BC. One common treatment involved rubbing soot onto the eye! The Greek physician Galen (AD 130-200) first suggested the concept of restoring the transparency of an opaque cornea. In 1905 in a town near Prague, Edward Zirm performed the first successful corneal transplant where the graft remained clear.

Today the Eye Bank of British Columbia performs approximately 400 corneal transplants and 200 scleral grafts per year. How do we get the tissue? How did the idea of an Eye Bank come about? Dr. R. Townley Paton, an American corneal surgeon, came up with the idea that living persons could agree to give their eyes upon death. He started the Eye Bank for Sight restoration in New York in 1944.

The Canadian story has a little different twist to it. Thousands of WWI soldiers returned home blind due to injury or disease. One particular soldier, colonel Eddie Baker along with Dr. Hugh Ormsby, a University of Toronto physician, began to talk about forming a bank to collect corneas from people postmortem. The immediate challenge was to educate Ontario residents about tissue donation. This was a new concept in 1955. The crusader for this task was Anne Wolf who became the first administrator of a newly formed Eye Bank.

In the Toronto General Hospital in 1955 the 20-bed ward had a "dragon" of a nurse at the end of it according to Wolf. I would walk back to the nurse and say, "Do you think that when Mr. So and So dies you can ask the doctor to ask the family about eye donation?" Sizing patients up before they were dead was reason to order Wolf off the floor! Needless to say it was nearly impossible to get eyes in the mid 1950s. After massive speaking engagements Wolf found a supporter in Stratford Ontario. It is no surprise that the Eye Bank's first two donations came from Stratford and restored sight to Eddie Baker, blinded by mustard gas in WWI. For Ormsby and the others it was a moment of triumph when a man who had lost his sight 40 years earlier and whose last images were of the mud and barbed wire of no man's land opened his eyes to the bustle of 1956 Toronto.

As eye banking continues to grow internationally it has earned a legacy of fine service to humanity. People from many walks of life have made this possible including scientists, surgeons and crusaders. The most important group is the donors and their families who have made a personal contribution to restoring sight to thousands of grateful recipients.

book review

BY NAOMI MILLER

**LABOUR OF LOVE:
A MEMOIR OF GERTRUDE
RICHARDS LADNER
1879-1976**

**SHEILA RANKIN ZERR, GLENNIS ZILM & VALERIE GRANT.
ZGZ PUBLICATIONS 2006. 113 PAGES ILLUS. \$30**

This is a fascinating book. The co-authors found a memoir dictated by Gertrude Ladner prior to her death in 1976. Her daughter, Edna Ladner, prepared a nine page booklet for family members. Valerie Grant inherited Edna's papers in 2002. These included a notebook containing Gertrude's handwritten recordings of lectures to her class in 1903-1905.

The Memoir by Edna is presented in Chapter two for nine pages in French Script. Chapter three is a typed copy of those words with a multitude of footnotes. Those footnotes are definitely useful explanations but make for stilted reading.

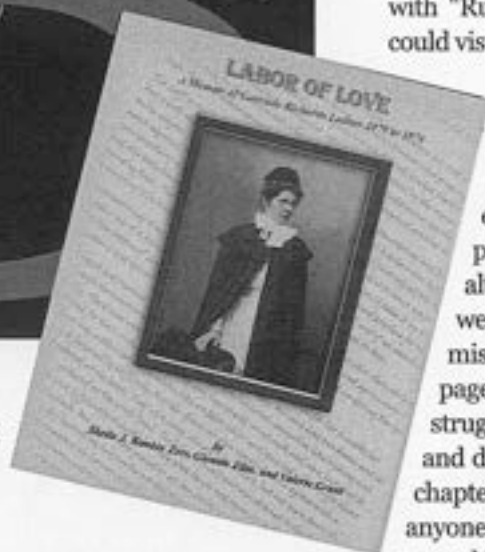
Chapter four is "History of Provincial Jubilee Hospital and Admission Booklet." The history names many early

figures in Victoria, and describes the steps taken to provide nursing or medical care until PRJH was established in 1891. The text does not state which of Queen Victoria's Jubilees was commemorated in the naming of this hospital (It must have been the Golden Jubilee in 1887). The contents of the admission Booklet provided for those who might apply to the Training School for Students Royal Jubilee Hospital is on a par with "Rules for Teachers" in the same era. Your reviewer could visualize the scenario in those early years- and was very thankful that circumstances were more comfortable fifty years later.

Chapter five, "Gertrude Richard's Notebook", consists of verbatim notes made by a conscientious, sometimes struggling student. Fountain pens were relatively new in those years. Gertrude alternated between red ink and dark blue ink. There were spaces in the notes where she had obviously missed something said by the lecturer. Many of the pages would be classified as *Materia Medica*. Oh the struggle to spell correctly and to understand similarities and differences of the listed medications. Sections of this chapter might be daunting for some readers, but for anyone with a nursing, pharmaceutical or medical background it is a delight.

Chapter six, "Nursing Uniforms- Early 1900s" is a great piece of history with some novel illustrations. Last but not least are detailed pages, "References, Bibliography and Index."

The authors capitalized on the available reference material to tell the story of a student training in the first School of Nursing in British Columbia. Also, Gertrude typifies "an average nurse" who worked for a few years, married, moved with her husband's job transfers, and settled to participate in community affairs. Gertrude Richards had a famous sister, Eveline, who founded the Pitman Business College in Vancouver. Her husband's family name is perpetuated in the community of Ladner. *Labour of Love* is a nice story presented well under the presenters own banner.



BC History of Nursing

Fall Luncheon

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2007

TOPICS:

1. Preservation of Nursing Military Uniforms & Memorabilia by Mr. Adrian French
2. A Current Military Nursing Career By Speaker TBA

PLACE: Vancouver Lawn Tennis and Badminton Club
1630 West 15th Avenue, Vancouver

TIME: 1200 - 1400 [2pm]

COST: \$30.00 Make cheque payable to:
BC History of Nursing Group

RSVP by November 12

Mail cheque for reservation to
Lenore Radom - 10095 No.5 Road
Richmond, BC, V7A 4E4

alice wright's infant feeders online

BY GLENNIS ZILM

DEVICES TO ASSIST WITH THE FEEDING OF INFANTS - DOUBLE-ENDED NURSING BOTTLES, INGENIOUS FEEDING POTS, TEAT SPOONS, PAP BOATS - DATE BACK TO ANTIQUITY AND SUCH DEVICES ARE SOUGHT-AFTER COLLECTIBLES.

Recently, the collection of Infant Feeding Devices held by the University of British Columbia's Woodward Memorial Library was put online and is well worth a visit. The collection, which shows some 40 devices, was sparked by the donation in 1966 of her own treasures by Alice L. Wright, former executive director of the Registered Nurses Association of B.C. (now the College of Registered Nurses of B.C.).

Alice Wright (1894-2000) was a 1918 graduate of the Vancouver General Hospital School of Nursing and taught pediatric nursing early in her career. When she went to take her nursing degree at Teachers College, Columbia University, in New York, she began to collect antique baby bottles and other infant feeders. She searched second-hand stores and attended auctions. She wrote an interesting article for Parent's Magazine (1943) on these devices, which included at that time a rare 18th century pewter pap boat. She continued this hobby throughout her career and on her travels in retirement.

She donated her collection in 1966 to the then-newly-opened Woodward Biomedical Library. Other physicians and nurses added rare items to the collection, which now includes a a feeding pot from Cyprus that dates back to about 300 BC.



The online display was put together by UBC Library staff: Lee Ann Bryant, nursing librarian; Jill Pittendrigh, photographer and Web designer, and Eugene Barsky, technical advisor. You can visit the site at www.wdmem.blogspot.com. You can also click on various parts of the display to obtain more information; for example, if you click on Alice Wright's name you will find a brief biography and early portrait photograph drawn from the Alice Wright Fonds kept in the B.C. History of Nursing Group's Archives. You can also access the information on the article in Parent's Magazine.



in
print

1

AN OFFICER AND A LADY: CANADIAN MILITARY
NURSING AND THE SECOND WORLD WAR
by CYNTHIA TOMAN

NOVEMBER 2007, 320 PAGES
ISBN 978-0-7748-1447-8

During the Second World War, more than 4,000 civilian nurses enlisted as Nursing Sisters, a specially-created all-female officers' rank of the Canadian Armed Forces. They served in various medical and surgical settings, all three armed force branches, and all major theatres of war as well as in Canada, Newfoundland, the United States and South Africa. Yet, in spite of their importance, military nurses and nursing as a Form of war work have long been under-examined.

An Officer and a Lady examines nurses' experiences and their contribution toward "winning the war" through the salvage of sick and injured soldiers. From feminist and social history perspectives, Cynthia Toman explores how gender, war, and medical technology intersected to create legitimate feminine spaces within the masculine environment of the military. She interrogates the incongruities and ambivalences involved in military nurses' work, including conflicting gendered expectations as "officers and ladies," and the contingency of military nursing "for the duration" only.

Nurses' experiences offer alternative perspectives on persistent debates about the causes, politics, and strategies of war. Their stories will interest diverse audiences: students and professionals in the healthcare fields; nursing and medical historians; and scholars and readers of women's history, military history, and Canadian history.

Cynthia Toman is an assistant professor of nursing and is Associate Director of the Associated Medical Services Nursing History Research Unit at the University of Ottawa. To order: contact UBC Press Toll-free: 1-800-668-0821 Tel: (604) 822-5959 | E-mail: frontdesk@ubcpress.ca | Online: www.ubcpress.ca



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LYLE MORRISON CREELMAN AND NURSING'S NEW FRONTIERS, 1931-1945
by SUSAN ARMSTRONG-REID

Armstrong-Reid, Susan. (2007, September). Lyle Morrison Creelman and Nursing's New Frontiers, 1931-1945. Newsletter: Margaret Allemang Centre for the History of Nursing, pp. 1-6.

Dr. Susan Armstrong-Reid, an historian and independent scholar from Guelph, Ontario, is one of our new Affiliate Members and is working on a biography of Lyle Creelman. This interesting, insightful, and in-depth article deals with Creelman's nursing education and her early years in public health nursing in B.C. before she joined the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and, later, the World Health Organization. Susan is co-author with David Murray of Armies of Peace: Canada and the UNRRA, to be released in 2008.

beth fitzpatrick's FAMOUS CHEESEBALL

- 2 8 ounce packages of cream cheese at room temperature
- 2 Cups of chopped pecans (Reserve one cup)
- 1 8 ounce can crushed pineapple, WELL drained
- 1/4 Cup chopped green, red, yellow or orange pepper. I've also used celery
- 2 Tablespoons chopped onion
- 1 Clove garlic, crushed.

In a large bowl, blend together all ingredients. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Then roll into one large ball or 3 small ones. Roll the ball(s) into the remaining chopped pecans. (It's messy!)

Decorate the outside however you choose. At Christmas I often use red and green candied cherries.

Place in foil for storage. This keeps very well if frozen.

The secret is to drain the crushed pineapple until it's dry. I usually put a couple of holes in the can lid, turn it upside down and drain overnight. Then open the can and press the pineapple until it's almost dry....



these are a few of my *favorite* things

June Newton, Past President of the Nursing Sisters and well known by many HoN members sent the following to Sheila Zerr. Julie Andrews, to commemorate her 69th birthday, performed the following at a benefit concert to the well known song - "My Favourite Things." Thought you may find it amusing

*Maalox & nose drops & needles for knitting
Walkers & handrails & new dental fittings
Bundles of magazines tied in string
These are a few of my favorite things*

*Cadillacs & cataracts, & hearing aids & glasses
Polident & Fixodent & false teeth in glasses
Pacemakers, golf carts & porches with swings
These are a few of my favorite things*

*When the pipes leak
When the bones creak
When the knees go bad
I simply remember my favorite things
And then I don't feel so bad*

*Hot tea & crumpets & corn pads for bunions
No spicy hot food or cooked with onions
Bathrobes & heating pads & hot meals they bring
These are a few of my favourite things*

*Back pains, confused brains, & no need for sinnin'
Thin bones and fractures & hair that is thinnin'
And we won't mention our short, shrunken frames
When we remember our favorite things*

*When the joints ache
When the hips break
When the eyes grow dim
Then I remember the great life I've had
And then I don't feel so bad*





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