

# ◆HISTORY OF NURSING NEWS◆

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## NOVEMBER GET-TOGETHER "IN HONOR OF THE GROUP'S NURSING SISTERS"

**T**he next get-together of the History of Nursing Group will be a Tea honouring Nursing Sisters who are members of our Group. The date is set for **November 16, 1996, from 2 PM to 4 PM**, in the "Main Building" of Shaughnessy Hospital, which was formerly the hospital for Canada's veterans. (See story on Shaughnessy Hospital on page 2.)

During this Remembrance Day time, we will honor *Florence Doherty, Joan Dore, Muriel Down, Edith Lees, Marnie MacLean, Ruth McIlraith, Helen Mussallem, and Nina Rumen*. These members of our Group all served with the Canadian Forces. *Ruth McIlraith* also was matron of Shaughnessy Hospital for many years. Some of these members served overseas during World War II; others served in the peacetime forces; still others made military nursing their whole careers. Each will describe one or two memorable incidents.

Moderator for the afternoon will be *Helen Shore*, past president of the Group and professor emerita (nursing), University of British Columbia.

The afternoon will open with tea and pastries, followed by introduction of the Nursing Sisters, who will speak briefly about their careers with the forces. We also have an opportunity to see the exteriors of the Shaughnessy Hospital buildings and the Freize depicting the

Nursing Sister and the Wounded Soldier on the Hospital Grounds (weather permitting). The sculpture is by *Beatrice Lennie*, one of Canada's most prominent artists of the 1940s. The Nursing Sisters have been asked to bring artifacts, scrapbooks, and other memorabilia for display.

This social gathering will also offer opportunities for members to chat informally and do their networking. The Get-Together will also be open to Guests. Please RSVP to **Glennis Zilm (535-3238)** by **November 12th** so catering and car-pooling, if needed, can be arranged.

Shaughnessy Hospital is on the grounds of what is now the Children's Hospital between Oak and Heather streets south of 26th Ave. Use the entrance off Heather Street (watch for "Heather House," which is near this entrance). Follow the drive a short distance and you will go under a walkway, then come to Shaughnessy's



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main doors (the only entrance open that day). There is a parking loop across from this entrance, and there should be plenty of parking on a Saturday. The Board Room is on the main floor near the entrance.

### **Background on Shaughnessy Hospital**

Shaughnessy Hospital was opened by the federal government's Military Hospitals Commission, the forerunner of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, in 1919. The Commission took over Braemar, a private girls' school, and Lanaga, a private boys' school on a beautiful site between Oak and Heather Streets south of 25th Avenue. These provided quarters for rehabilitation and care of injured servicemen following World War I. Despite a fire at Braemar in 1919, the hospital continued and was gradually expanded. A new pavilion was built for 30 tuberculosis patients on the Braemar site in 1922. (TB was a serious and lasting threat for veterans.)

In 1940-1942, at the height of World War II, a new, 250-bed hospital was built on the site to provide accommodation for wounded servicemen being returned to Canada. This was the first permanent, modern hospital for veterans to be built in Canada. (Incidentally, during the construction period, nearby Hycroft Manor was converted into a unit of Shaughnessy to cope with the influx of patients.) A chest unit was completed in 1946 to house the heavy post-war influx of TB patients. This pavilion was named for **Jean Matheson**, matron of Shaughnessy from 1920 to 1939.

Several other support buildings were built between 1947 and 1960, including a steam generating plant that supplied other area hospitals as well. The 324-bed New Wing (the present Main Building) was opened in 1960, with a new Laboratory Wing added in 1968. The George Derby Health and Occupation Centre in Burnaby became amalgamated as part of the Shaughnessy Hospital complex in 1962.

In 1974, as the need for veterans' beds decreased and their care was incorporated in local community hospitals, the federal government

turned Shaughnessy Hospital over to the provincial government. The George Derby in Burnaby continued to be a Veterans' Affairs Hospital.

In the late 1970s, Shaughnessy was intended to become a key element in the B.C. Medical Centre (although this never developed). Its buildings now come under the administration of the B.C. Children's Hospital and the "Main Building" is used for offices, clinics, meetings, and education. The **Jean Matheson Pavilion** is closed.

*Submitted by Glennis Zilm*

### **The President's Message**

*Report on the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing (CAHN) 9th Annual Conference and Meeting*

I attended this interesting conference, June 14-16, 1996, held at the Prince George Hotel in Halifax. As this was my first visit to Nova Scotia, I really enjoyed Halifax, especially the warmth and politeness of the people. There were 58 registrants at the conference. *Beverly Du Gas* from our group also attended.

It is difficult to describe the many papers and experiences, so I have selected a few memorable ones.

**Dr. Anne Summers**, a curator at the British Library in London, was the Hannah Lecturer. In her presentation "Frameworks or straightjackets? Secular and religious models in nursing historiography." she compared the Sisters of Mercy and *Sarie Gamp*. She made a point of stating that there are many misconceptions and stereotypes of both. For example, the Sisters did promote nursing and instilled levels of cleanliness (contrary to some views). Hospitals were used for the destitute, and standards of cleanliness were much better in hospitals, compared to the cleanliness of homes for the poor. There was a reason for putting more than one patient in a bed: the Sisters could not refuse patients and there were simply not sufficient beds for everyone. *Sarie Gamp*, on the other hand, was not an enigma. Many households hired nurses and some were



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paid well. It is true that they did have limited reading abilities. She mentioned the fact that Dickens also ridiculed physicians, although this has not been publicized. Interesting point!

I attended a presentation by Sharon McMahon, University of Windsor, whose topic was "Using Nursing Memories to Establish a Local Historical Nursing Base". Her study asked questions such as Where are our retired nurses? Who were our early role models? How did their lives change health care delivery? Fifty-two nurses were interviewed, some were videotaped. Many nurses donated photographs, notes and other historical material. As a result, an archive was established. Some of her recommendations were to preserve history by using photographs and notes, to recognize nurses who were innovative, to mount displays in public places, for example, during nursing week, to write about local nursing leaders, display artifacts, and have students complete assignments such as comparing past and contemporary nursing issues.

Another session was by Christine Hallett, University of Manchester, whose topic was "The Good Nurse in the Eighteenth Century: Perceptions of Nursing in the British Printed Tracts". She searched works printed in Great Britain between 1760 and 1800. Three characteristics of good nursing were identified: carry out orders, essential traits of character and skill of observation. She did mention that a limitation of this study was that it was based on physicians' interpretation of printed treatises and therefore may tell only one side of the story. An interesting story was related of a physician who attempted to bribe the nurses, but was unsuccessful because they believed it was against their code of ethics. Remember this was in the 1700's!

The last session I will describe was by Mardi Amirault, School of Nursing, Yarmouth Regional Hospital, who spoke of "The Rise and Fall of Miss Watson", who established the training school at Yarmouth

Hospital in 1911. She was superintendent of nurses for 16 years (1912-1928). During the 1920's she initiated a variety of affiliations for students, such as with the Boston Lying-In Hospital and the VON. But the fascinating story was about a revolt in 1926 by the Yarmouth nursing students who complained about the working conditions at the hospital, for example, the food and the time of classes. The students went over her head to the Hospital Board. Miss Watson resigned in 1928, probably as a result of another student generated complaint. (Some say this was "trumped up"). Anyway, her replacement had reduced power, it being shared by an all male Board.

Also, I presented a paper written in collaboration with Glennis Zilm entitled "Nursing Involvement in Community Efforts to Control Tuberculosis in British Columbia, 1895-1920". The paper was well received.

At the CAHN General meeting a motion was passed to provide \$1,000 to the B.C. Group to assist with the publication of the Hannah Lectures for the International History of Nursing Conference in June, 1997. Glennis Zilm has kindly agreed to edit this publication.

*Submitted by Ethel Warbinek, President*

#### For Internet Surfers

The American History of Nursing has an internet site, given below, that is worth visiting. Designated the "Cool Web Site" for the week of July 8-14, 1996, the site has an interesting feature exhibit which includes photographs and an extract from an 1890 probationer's diary about night duty. There is also a bibliography for Historical Methodology and a Listing of Resources for History of Nursing.

<http://users.sol.com/nsghistory/AAHN.html>



### Call for Nominations for Honorary Membership

Nominations for honorary membership in the History of Nursing Group are requested. The nominee must be a History of Nursing member who meets one or more of the following criteria:

- ⇒ Provided leadership in the identification, preservation, and/or promulgation of history of nursing materials.
- ⇒ Actively supported and advanced the inclusion of nursing history as an integral part of nursing education, practice, or research.
- ⇒ Significantly contributed to the history of nursing through writing or research.

Please submit nominations to the History of Nursing Executive by January 15, 1997



### Call for Abstracts

Nurses are invited to submit abstracts of their ongoing or completed research to be considered for presentation at the 2nd Annual Ethel Johns Nursing Research Forum, *"Expanding Horizons Through Research"*. The conference is hosted by the Xi Eta Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing and scheduled on Saturday, February 8, 1997 at BCIT, Burnaby, B.C.

Abstracts must be received by November 15, 1996. Please call or e-mail Beth Fitzpatrick, editor, for more information.

### A Request

The Archives of the Vancouver General Hospital (V.G.H.) School of Nursing would love to have your old uniforms (small bibs or laced black shoes), books (especially

procedure books), or any other mementos from training such as dance cards. Please call Laddie Hutchins (463-4888) for more information.

### The Editor's Corner

Included with the Fall Newsletter are two important enclosures. The first is the preliminary program and registration form for the *International History of Nursing Conference* (June 12-15, 1997) to be held in Vancouver. *Sheila Rankin Zerr* and her hard working committee have put together an impressive program featuring noted international speakers, exhibits, and interesting special events. It's not too early to send in your registration! Look for more information on the conference in the next issue of the HON news.

The 1996 Membership List is also in this mailing. *Jill and Bruce Thompson* created a History of Nursing membership data-base on disc assisted by *Anne Karl and Don Ransom*. The membership brochure was designed by *Jill and Bruce* so that it could be used for several years. Congratulations on the excellent layout and choice of color!



## HISTORY OF NURSING GROUP VISITS RIVERVIEW

On a sunny, warm Saturday in September thirty-five members and guests of the History of Nursing Group visited **Riverview Hospital**. The special "program meeting" was arranged by *Glennis Zilm* and hosted by *Anna Tremere*, a member of the History Group. *Anna* is a head nurse at the hospital and chair of the archival committee for **Riverview**. The meeting took place in the lounge of the Administration Building, formerly a nurse's residence. The lounge has been restored to its original splendor.

We were welcomed by *Cheryl Plummer*, Director of Nursing, and invited to enjoy a delicious luncheon. *Kathy Zomar*, secretary in clinical records made sure that our plates were never empty. Following lunch there was time to network and tour the hallways of the building which are decorated with pictures of the Hospital and its graduates.



**Our Riverview Hostesses:** *Kathy Zomar*, Secretary, Clinical Records; *Anna Tremere*, Head Nurse; and *Cheryl Plummer*, Director of Nursing

*Mrs. Tremere* had prepared a display of written materials which highlighted historical dates at **Riverview** and gave specific information on the various buildings. A large pictorial display of photographs traced the history of the various buildings on the site. Each person attending was invited to take a copy of the **1996 Riverview Hospital Historic Calendar** which contains some outstanding photographs.

*Anna* then spoke about the archival center. She and her committee have amassed a large collection of records, documents, photographs, and artifacts which are currently waiting for a home. Given a permanent place for these precious items, *Anna* believes that rooms could be set up depicting various era's from the history of **Riverview** and graphically show the changes in mental health care in British Columbia's history.



## WHY PROTECT THE RIVERVIEW SITE?

The 244 acres of Riverview Lands are viewed by some as prime real estate with developers and government agencies eyeing the land for housing sites.

But the lands contain a world-class arboretum with more than 1,500 mature trees from all over the world, left to grow undisturbed for more than 80 years. The lands are a historical heritage site for the buildings which date back as far as 1913. The lands are also a sanctuary for many species—deer, coyote, falcon, eagle and human beings. *Ken Baker*, an environmental activist and our guest speaker, showed us the beauty of Riverview during the four seasons in a magnificent and moving slide presentation emphasizing the site as a unique mix of man-made gardens and a natural west coast ecosystem.



*Ken Baker*, guest speaker, seen with member *Nina Rumien* on the left and President *Ethel Warbinek* on the right.


Following the slide presentation *Ken* read from a recent newspaper article in which he expressed his views about the future of the Riverview lands.

"How else can we view the Riverview lands? As a sanctuary for all people living here or visiting who desire mental peace and tranquillity from the pressures of modern technology. As the last large intact area of green space in the heart of a city exploding with population and industrial growth, as an oasis in a concrete jungle 50 years from today. As containing the first botanical garden in Western Canada and the third in the country.

The potential for this land is as limitless as your imagination. We have a treasure in our backyard and all of us must demand that it remain intact for future generations. If we allow it to be swallowed up into the concrete maze we will live to regret it."



## IN MEMORIAM



**T**renna Grace Hunter, one of Canada's pioneer leaders in nursing, died at the Lion's Gate Hospital in North Vancouver, B.C. on July 26, 1996 after a brief illness. Representatives from the Registered Nurses Association of British Columbia (RNABC) and the History of Nursing Professional Practice group attended the memorial service at the West Vancouver United Church on July 31, 1996.

*Trenna* was born in Brandon Manitoba on March 18, 1906 and had a long career in two professions, teaching and nursing, beginning as a teacher in a rural one-room school at the age of seventeen. After thirteen years in teaching, she applied to the school of nursing at Vancouver General Hospital in 1936. *Miss Fairly* was reluctant to accept a student nurse at the mature age of thirty! *Trenna* was accepted and graduated in 1939 and took the certificate course in public health nursing at the University of British Columbia in 1939-1940. Her first appointment was with the **Metropolitan Health Service for Greater Vancouver** in September 1940. On loan from that organization in 1942, she was assigned to be in charge of the nursing and health services for the Japanese during the internment period in Hastings Park.

Another change in her career was in 1944 when *Lyle Creelman* resigned as Director of the Public Health Nursing Department to join the United Nations Rehabilitation and Re-establishment Agency (UNRRA). *Trenna* replaced *Lyle* as Director of

Public Health nursing. She had a leave of absence in 1946 to complete the requirements for a degree in nursing from the University of Manitoba.

*Trenna's* leadership qualities were apparent through her participation in the RNABC and the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA). She was **President of the CNA from 1956-1958** and led the Canadian delegation at the quadrennial conference of the International Congress of Nursing (ICN) held in Rome in 1957. The Canadian nurses were entertained at a reception at the Canadian Embassy. We were proud of *Trenna's* gracious response in expressing our appreciation for the hospitality.

*Trenna* and her long time friend *Margaret Stanforth* acquired a home in West Vancouver in the late forties. They continued to share that home after retirement in 1966 where they enjoyed respective hobbies of gourmet cookery and gardening.

*Submitted by Esther Paulson*

**N**an Kennedy, former executive director of the RNABC died in July at the age of 82. *Nan* was a native British Columbian whose nursing career spanned 43 years.

*Nan* was a graduate of the Vancouver General Hospital School of Nursing (1933). She spent the next nine years in Vancouver and Bralorne as a general and private duty nurse. In 1945 she earned a diploma in public health nursing from UBC and for the next eight years she practiced public health nursing in Rossland, the upper Fraser



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Valley and the Lower Mainland.

In 1954 *Nan* graduated from UBC obtaining a baccalaureate degree. She then joined the World Health Organization (WHO) for the next four years, acting as a public health nursing consultant in East Pakistan and Iran.

After obtaining a master's degree in nursing from the University of Washington in Seattle, *Nan* joined the RNABC in 1959, first as director of education services and then as executive director, a position that she held for eight years. During her tenure there were many changes in the Association and in health care and *Nan* provided outstanding leadership. In 1978 she retired from RNABC and was recognized for her many contributions to nursing when she received the RNABC Award of Merit.

*From Nursing B.C., August-September, 1996, p. 29*

**D**orothy Ladner, BASc (Nursing, UBC), class of 1944, died on January 19, 1996. She earned her master's degree in public health from the University of Pittsburgh in 1965. In World War II she was a medical nurse in the Royal Canadian Air Force, then a public health nurse throughout B.C. As a public health nurse one of *Dorothy's* principal concerns was children's health. She was an active member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

*From UBC Alumni Chronicle, Spring, 1996*

**R**obert (Bob) Gregory, a former member of the History of Nursing Group, died recently in

White Rock after a long illness. *Mr. Gregory* was the archivist at St. Paul's Hospital, and had spent many years cataloguing the artifacts and records of St. Paul's into a wonderful collection. This latest, post-retirement career was his third; he had also served in Canada's Armed Forces and then had been Director of Materials Management at St. Paul's for several years.

*Submitted by Glennis Zilm*

#### B.C. Nurse Receives Award

*Margaret Neylan*, a dedicated and innovative "nurse pioneer," was awarded Canada's highest nursing honour—the *Jeanne Mance Award*, at the June 1996 biennial meeting of the CNA held in Halifax.

During her 47 year nursing career, *Margaret* has served the profession in many different roles. She was a CNA vice president, and president of RNABC for two terms. She successfully advocated for the integration of psychiatric institutions into the mainstream of Canadian health services. She developed continuing nursing education programs for nurses that are a model for Canadian curricula.

In presenting the award, CNA President *Eleanor Ross* said "*Margaret's* contributions have made a tremendous difference to the health of Canadians. She has advanced the standards of nursing practice and education, and enhanced the stature of the profession in Canada and abroad. *Margaret* was a pioneer in many areas."

*From CNA Today, Special Edition, #2, June 19, 1996*





## Verna and Dick Splane Receive Honorary Degrees at UBC

President David Strangway conferred the degree, Doctor of Laws, honoris causa upon Verna Splane, History of Nursing Group member and Richard Splane at the May 1996 convocation.

The citation below is printed with permission from the President's Office.

*"Mr. Chancellor, we often speak about the whole being greater than the sum of its parts. Verna Huffman Splane and Richard Splane are living proof of this truism. Throughout their separate professional careers in Nursing and Social Work, respectively, Verna and Richard have exemplified public service, scholarship and consultation locally, nationally and especially internationally. Each has held numerous key offices. Verna has been Principal Nursing Officer of Canada, Vice-President of the International Council of Nurses, and a Nursing Advisor to the World Health Organization. Richard has been Assistant Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Canada, was an executive committee member of the International Council on Social Welfare, and has served as President of the International Conferences on Social Development. Individually and together, they have contributed significantly to leader in health and social Canada's stature as a world service policy development. The Splanes forged important international linkages for the globe, and helped reformulate the model by which health and social issues are understood in policy arenas. In addition to their various national and international relationships with the offices, they maintained strong the University of British Columbia, she as an honorary lecturer in the School of Nursing and be as Professor and now Professor Emeritus of the School of Social Work. Verna has received honorary degrees from Queen's University and St. Francis Xavier University, and was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977. Richard has received honorary degrees from Wilfrid Laurier University and McMaster University, and was awarded the Centennial Medal of Canada in 1967. Both received the Order of Canada in 1996. Since their supposed retirement well over a decade ago, the Splane team has continued on a voluntary basis to sustain a level of international social policy and health consultation that has made Canada a visible presence in world health policy. Further, at a time when many would be slowing the pace of their activities, the Splanes have applied their considerable influence, global networks and personal resources to conducting interviews and research in over 50 countries. The result is an important book that examines the historical development of Chief Nursing Officer positions and their influence on health services policy development. On the basis of this exemplary team contribution to public service, following exceptional individual professional and academic careers, Mr. Chancellor, I would ask that you confer the degree, Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, upon Verna Marie Huffman Splane and Richard Beverly Splane."*





### News About History of Nursing Members

**Ethel Warbinek** and **Glennis Zilm** travelled to Kamloops in mid-September to do some research into their project on early TB nursing in B.C. at the Kamloops Archives and to visit Tranquille, site of the Provincial Tuberculosis Sanatorium and its supporting Ranch. The San opened in 1907 and ran until 1958, when it was converted into a Provincial Hospital for Mentally Handicapped Children. Many of the heritage buildings were still in wonderful condition at that time it was closed in 1987. The provincial government then sold it to developers; their project never materialized, however, and the matter now is before the courts. Ethel and Glennis were able to see some of the buildings.

While in Kamloops, they also met with **Karen Abbott**, one of our HoN Group members who is working on a history of the nursing program at Cariboo University College.

In the August/September issue of *Nursing B.C.* **Ferne Trout** writes a letter to the editor (p. 7) commenting on clothes worn by nurses today and the important role played by aesthetics in patient care outcomes. In the same issue (p. 5) **Arlen Bruce**, RNABC President, uses a quote written by Honorary member, **Esther Paulson** to emphasize what the past has to give to the present.

**Verna Splane** has been nominated for the International Council of Nurses **Christiane Reimann Award**. She was vice-president of ICN from 1973-77.

At the 9th Annual CAHN meeting two of our members were elected: **Ethel Warbinek** as Member at-Large and **Beth Fitzpatrick** as a member of the publication committee.

### Alumnae Branch Dissolves

A luncheon on May 28, 1996 was a farewell occasion as well as the final meeting of the Vancouver branch of the *Royal Columbian Hospital (R.C.H.) School of Nursing Alumni*. The branch is being dissolved because of a lack of younger alumnae to augment the aging members to carry the executive positions. Social contact

will be maintained through two pot-luck luncheons annually—in November and May. Representatives from the parent alumni, based in New Westminster, extended an invitation to continue the connection through individual membership in that source.

Both the parent and branch alumni have contributed financial support for nursing education. The **Agnes McPhail** fund was established to assist R.C.H. graduates taking post-basic courses. In addition a donation of \$1,000 to Douglas College assists students in the final semester of the basic nursing course. This past year a contribution of \$500 each was awarded to two R.C.H. staff members (not alumnae) to continue their programme with the University of Victoria toward the nursing degree.

The R.C.H. School of Nursing celebrated the 75th anniversary and closure of the school in 1976. A history of the R.C.H. school and nursing education was written by me for that occasion and concluded with the following observation:

"Although hospital schools will be discontinued, the Alumni Associations might continue to fulfill a useful and necessary role as suggested in this eloquent quote by **Ethel Johns** in 1955:

"The faculty members and students of the new regime might need and be grateful for the understanding interest and support of the alumnae members who could provide that link with tradition and all that was good in the rich soil of the past".

*Submitted by Esther Paulson*

### Did You Know?

Toronto Western Alumnae members are busy planning for their centenary celebrations in 1998.

The Kingston General Alumnae celebrated its 100th anniversary this past June. Alumnae records and artifacts are in the Queen's University Archives and the Museum of Health for Eastern Ontario.



**Book Review**

*A Woman of Valor: Clara Barton and the Civil War*, by Stephen B. Oates. New York: Free Press/Macmillan, 1994. x, 527 pp., illustrated, hardcover. Reviewed by Glennis Zilm.

**THE SIDE HISTORY NEVER SHOWS**

*"If I were to speak of war, it would not be to show you the glories of conquering armies, but the mischief and misery they strew in their tracks; and how, while they march on with tread of iron and plumes proudly tossing in the breeze, some one must follow closely in their steps, crouching to the earth, toiling in the rain and darkness, shelterless....with no thought of pride or glory, fame or praise, or reward: heart breaking with pity, faces bathed in tears and hands in blood. This is the side which history never shows."*

These are the words of **Clara Barton**. But now American historian **Stephen B. Oates** has taken the life of one of the most extraordinary Americans ever and shown "the side which history never shows." In a magnificent and moving biography, he draws upon a superb collection of primary documents to show the formative years of the remarkable woman who later went on to found the **American Red Cross** and serve for 23 years as its president.

*A Woman of Valor: Clara Barton and the Civil War* tells how a small, 39 year-old federal clerk became a one-woman relief agency and battlefield nurse during the American Civil War (1861-1865). In 1862, **Clara Barton**, driven by her sense of duty to the young soldiers she saw passing through Washington, made her way to the front lines with supplies. Through her work, unofficial and unpaid, she helped define a new role for nurses. This readable story of her amazing courage and indomitable spirit excites readers. Using **Barton's** own letters as the main resource, **Oates**, the author of 13 other popular histories, writes a heart-touching, memorable, readable story.

A copy of the book can be borrowed from the RNABC Helen Randal Library.

**A New Book**

The latest publication in the *Canadian Social History* series is a new book by **Kathryn McPherson** entitled *Bedside Matters: The Transformation of Canadian Nursing, 1900-1990*.

The book traces four generations of Canadian nurses to explore changes in who became nurses, what work they performed, and how they organized to defend their occupational interests. Combining archival resources and oral histories, the author shows how nurses, in their work, activities, and social and sexual attitudes, sought recognition as skilled workers in the health-care system.

**Dr. McPherson**, a professor of History at York University, Toronto, is on the Board of Directors of the *Margaret M. Allemang Centre* for the History of Nursing. Nursing history has been the focus of her research to date and her book is a major contribution to Canadian nursing and women's history. *Bedside Matters* (343 pp. paper, CAN. \$18.95) may be purchased from:

Oxford University Press Canada  
70 Wynford Drive  
Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 1J9  
Telephone: (416) 441 2941 Fax: (416) 441-0345  
Toll free telephone for orders only:  
1-800-387-8020 or fax: 1-800-665-1771

*Information from Oxford University  
Press Canada*



**SAVE THESE DATES!**

November 7, 1996 **History of Nursing Executive Meeting**, Room 2, RNABC Building, 4 PM. All members welcome!

November 16, 1996 **Special November Get-Together Tea in honor of our Nursing Sisters**, 2-4 PM, Main Building, Shaughnessy Hospital.

December 5, 1996, **Christmas meeting and Get together at Nina Rumen's**. (Call Nina at 733-7529 for more information).

**HISTORY OF NURSING PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE GROUP OF  
THE REGISTERED NURSES ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH  
COLUMBIA**

The History of Nursing Professional Practice Group provides a forum for those interested in the history of nursing to exchange ideas and information. The Group, formed in 1990, strives to stimulate interest in history of nursing and promotes study of and research into history of nursing in British Columbia. The Group also encourages the teaching of nursing history in educational programs and can assist in the preservation of historical nursing materials.

**R.N.A.B.C.  
NURSING HISTORY**

Membership categories are honorary, full, affiliate and student. If you would be interested in joining us, please get in touch with any member of the executive. Full (voting) Members must be paid-up practicing or non-practicing members of RNABC. Non-nurses may join as Affiliate Members. Student Members must be enrolled in a nursing education program or be Registered Nurses enrolled in a graduate program.

Dues for 1996 are: Full and Affiliate \$20; Students \$5. Membership year is January 1 to December 31. Send name, address, telephone number, and RNABC registration number or name of the educational program. Make cheques to "History of Nursing Group" and send to: Anne Karl, Membership Coordinator, #1-2880 West 33rd Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V2C 1N7.

**THE HISTORY GROUP'S NEWSLETTER**

The History of Nursing News is published irregularly four times a year by the History of Nursing Professional Practice Group of the Registered Nurses Association of British Columbia. Unsolicited material is welcome, but the Editor reserves the right to shorten, reject, or edit materials in consultation with the author(s). APA style preferred. Editor Beth Fitzpatrick, Box 444, Brackendale, B.C. VON 1H0 1-604-898-3156

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